

Minutes of a meeting of
the Arts, Culture and Events Committee
Held on Thursday 9th January 2025
at School Green Centre commencing at 19.30

Present: Cllrs Jahromi, James, Jones, Matic (Chair)

Attending: B Winton (Clerk)

25/ACE/1 Public Questions

- 1.1 There were no public questions

25/ACE/2 Apologies and declarations of Members' Interest

- 2.1 There were apologies from Cllrs Montgomery & Peer
2.2 There were no declarations of members' interests

25/ACE/3 Minutes of the previous meeting

- 3.1 The minutes of the committee meeting of 28th November 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed as such by Cllr Matic

Proposed: Cllr Jahromi
Seconded: Cllr Jones
Approved: Unanimously

3.2 Actions and Matters Arising

- 63.2 Cllr Montgomery to arrange for Cllr James to be second signatory on the Shinfield North Community Fund account

Cllr Montgomery had advised that he has obtained an additional signatory for this account and so no longer required Cllr James to fill that role.

 ZM

- 92.2 Clerk to see if it would be possible to arrange an event for Frensham Green

The Clerk advised that it had not been possible to arrange an event in advance of the organised trip to the pantomime. Shabina Maher had reported a visit by Santa to Frensham Green on 19th December (arranged through the Lions Club of Reading).

- 93.1 Clerk to investigate suitable alternatives to Filmbank Media for licensing films

This was on the agenda.

- 94.1 Clerk to arrange the meeting with Arts4Wokingham

This was on the agenda

- 96.1 Clerk to investigate possibility of having a "permanent" Christmas Tree

It was agreed that there would be no change to the current arrangement of buying in a tree for 2025 and the situation would be reassessed once the new public plaza had been completed.

25/ACE/4

Meeting schedule 2025/26

- 4.1 At the Full Council meeting held on 18th December 2024 it was agreed that each committee consider the number and frequency of meetings required for 2025/2026.

Members considered options including recombining with the Facilities committee.

The committee **AGREED** that ACE should continue as a separate committee but meet on a bi-monthly basis (in May, Jul, Sep, Nov, Jan, Mar). These meetings would remain on a Thursday evening with a 7.30 p.m. start time.

Proposed: Cllr Jahromi
Seconded: Cllr Jones
Agreed: Unanimously

ACTION – Clerk to add to the agenda of the next Full Council meeting

Developing Arts & Culture in the parish

5.1

Art Exhibition**Artists**

There had been 55 artist's expressions of interest received up until the end of 2024. The detailed sign-up form had been issued to those artists on Wednesday 8th January and since then 10 artists had completed the form proposing to display 53 paintings with a combined sales price of over £6,000. The Clerk displayed samples of the artworks.

Workshop Developments

A programme of supporting events was being developed with the following items definitely happening:

Friday 14th Feb – Cinema screening of "Loving Vincent"

Friday 21st Feb – Crumbs art bag + drink and cake – Tower Room

Saturday 22nd Feb – Talk on public art in Bracknell and Wokingham

Date TBC – Paint and Prosecco evening to be organised by Crumbs

Advertising the Event to the General Public

The programme for general advertising will include

- Communicating with Art groups
- SPC Newsletter
- SPC Social Media
- Signage on site
- Other parish councils and WBC
- Advertising in local newspapers

5.2

Possible Events for Shinfield North

It was agreed that Shabina Maher, Community Engagement Officer for WBC to attend a future meeting of the committee to explore what events could be arranged for that part of the parish and how there can be closer co-operation between the councils.

ACTION – Invite Shabina to attend a future meeting of the committee

5.3

Christmas Activities

The larger tree and the lights across the panels on the Green worked well. Numbers for the Christmas Fayre were down but most likely due to the adverse weather (Storm Darragh). There were still reasonable numbers in the School Green Centre and over 70 attended the Rockin around the Christmas tree element. The intention was to repeat the event again in 2025 (Friday 5th December).

25/ACE/6

School Green Centre Cinema

6.1

Charged for admission started in December (89 sold in total for the month). Numbers for January were however low. There was a general discussion regarding which types of movies are most likely to attract audiences which will be fed back to the film selection panel.

It was also the intention to look how else the screening equipment could be used including at quiet times such as Monday mornings (particularly for special screenings) and Saturday mornings. This would be in addition to the option of gaming sessions.

ACTION – Clerk to develop additional uses for the screening equipment

6.2

The Clerk had revisited the film licencing arrangements which currently cost a minimum of £91 per film via Filmbank Media (for the Friday screenings this would equate to approximately £9,000 p.a.). An alternative option was to obtain a blanket film licence for £440.

There were restrictions with a blanket licence which was geared more for a Film Club type arrangement (no external advertising of the specific movies to be screened, no charge for the viewing of a film).

After discussion it was agreed that there should be a move to a Film club arrangement after the existing run of advertised films had been completed (i.e. from March 2025).

ACTION – Clerk to develop the arrangements for a Shinfield Film Club

6.3

A blanket licence would also make a daily summer holiday screening a viable option

ACTION – Clerk to develop proposals for a summer holiday film club

25/ACE/7

Public Art

7.1

Arts4Wokingham had attended a very positive meeting on 10th December. The agreement has been signed and payment of the fee has been made.

The target timetable for unveiling of a finished artwork had initially been set as summer 2027 which would allow time for thorough development of the design principals and selection of the artist. It would also enable grant applications to be made to relevant bodies.

A provisional identification of the best location was to the east of the café patio at the School Green Centre.

ACTION – Clerk to arrange the next meeting with Arts4Wokingham

- 25/ACE/8** **VE Day 80th Anniversary Event**
- 8.1 The Clerk advised that there was nothing to add on this event at present.
- 25/ACE/9** **Correspondence**
- 9.1 There had been no correspondence received.
- 25/ACE/10** **Date of Next Meeting**
- 10.1 The next meeting of the Arts, Culture and Events Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, 6th February 2025 at 19:30

The meeting ended at 20.45

List of Actions

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| 25/ACE/4.1 | Clerk to add the committee's decision on meeting schedule to the agenda of the next Full Council meeting | Clerk |
| 25/ACE/5.2 | Invite Shabina Maher to attend a future meeting of the committee | Clerk |
| 25/ACE/6.1 | Clerk to develop additional uses for the screening equipment | Clerk |
| 25/ACE/6.2 | Clerk to develop the arrangements for a Shinfield Film Club | Clerk |
| 25/ACE/6.3 | Clerk to develop proposals for a summer holiday film club | Clerk |
| 25/ACE/7.1 | Clerk to arrange the next meeting with Arts4Wokingham | Clerk |