

Minutes of a meeting of
the Arts, Culture and Events Committee
Held on Thursday 3rd April 2025
at School Green Centre commencing at 19.30

Present: Cllrs James, Jones, Matic (Chair) & Montgomery

Attending: B Winton (Clerk)

25/ACE/29 Public Questions

29.1 There were no public questions

25/ACE/30 Apologies and declarations of Members' Interest

30.1 There were apologies from Cllrs Jahromi, Peer & Tatla

30.2 There were no declarations of members' interests

25/ACE/31 Minutes of the previous meeting

31.1 The minutes of the committee meeting of 6th March 2025 were approved as a correct record and signed as such by Cllr Matic.

Proposed: Cllr Jones
Seconded: Cllr Montgomery
Approved: Unanimously

31.2 Actions and Matters Arising

11.3 Clerk to investigate the potential for a funfair on Frensham Green

The funfair operator who uses School Green had conducted a site visit and advised that Frensham Green would not be a viable site for a funfair.

23.1 Clerk to convene a Working Party (including Cllrs Montgomery and Tatla) meeting in May to start the planning for the 2026 Art Exhibition event

This will be done.

ACTION – Clerk to convene a Working Party (including Cllrs Montgomery and Tatla) meeting to start the planning for the 2026 Art Exhibition event



- 23.1 Clerk to develop proposal for a children's art exhibition
This was on the agenda at Item 4.1
- 23.2 Clerk to work with WBC to co-ordinate Christmas events in the north of the parish
This was on the agenda at Item 4.3
- 23.3 Clerk to develop proposal for the potential acquisition or leasing of a minibus
This was on the agenda at Item 4.4
- 23.4 Clerk to develop a plan for delivery of the miniature garden competition
This was on the agenda at Item 4.1
- 24.1 Clerk to ensure that there is active promotion of the cinema programme
This was on the agenda at Item 5.1
- 24.1 Clerk to arrange a panel for the council van promoting the cinema
This was on the agenda at Item 5.1
- 26.1 Clerk to continue to plan delivery of the VE80 event
This was on the agenda at Item 6.1
- 26.1 Clerk to investigate the possibility of a laser display to augment the VE80 event
This was on the agenda at Item 6.1

32.1 **Childrens' Exhibitions**

At the last meeting members discussed having a childrens' art exhibition (separate from the February Art Exhibition) and also to having a miniature garden competition. The Clerk now proposed to run both of these in the summer holiday period and also include a young photographer competition.

Each would then run for a two-week period (3 x 2-week periods consecutively) with help and work sessions leading up to a weekend "exhibition".

Submissions to be made by a specified time then, after judging, the exhibitions would open to the public for the Saturday and Sunday of exhibition weekends.

Members agreed to offer Amazon voucher prizes to winners in each category (£25/£15/£10 with three age categories 4-7: 8-12: 13-16).

It was also agreed that schools would be encouraged to get their students to take part by offering a voucher for art supplies (£250) for the school that gets the best take up (based on relative size of the school's student numbers).

ACTION – Clerk to arrange series of summer holiday activities

The Chair asked the Clerk to include budget reports as a standing item for future meetings.

ACTION – Clerk to include budget reports as a standing item from the July 2025 meeting

32.2 **VE80 Celebration**

The Clerk advised that the planning was progressing with a flyer going out, signature block on emails, a banner for School Green Centre and in the newsletter.



32.3 Possible Events for Shinfield North

The Clerk and Deputy Clerk met WBC (Shabina Maher and Lisa Hookway) on 12th March. Items discussed included:

- Supporting the HAF summer event as we did in 2024
- More co-ordination for a larger scale event to switch on the Christmas tree lights at Frensham Green. WBC are checking to see if Reading Lions can vary their date to coincide.
- Donating some eggs for an Easter event
- Talked about how some locations have Scarecrow trails or similar. We could do something linked to public art e.g. decorate a window, create a sculpture in your front garden

We will continue to develop closer links with WBC

ACTION – Clerk to continue to build links with WBC for events in Shinfield North and elsewhere in the parish

The Clerk also suggested that contact should be made with the Shinfield Players Theatre to see if they could become involved with events especially the Christmas events linking to their pantomime season

ACTION – Clerk to contact Shinfield Players Theatre to establish potential interest in working together on Christmas events

32.4 Potential Acquisition of a Minibus

The Clerk advised of the research undertaken by the Finance Manager regarding options for acquiring a minibus. Costs for a 5-year period would be in the region of £70,000 including insurance and maintenance depending on whether a purchase or rental option was taken.

Members agreed to recommend the acquisition of a minibus to the next Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting but left the decision on purchase or rental to that committee.

ACTION – Clerk to add to the agenda for the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting on 16th April



25/ACE/33

School Green Centre Cinema

- 33.1 Members discussed the ticket sales for the cinema which had remained very low despite efforts to vary the programme and the increased promotion of the films on offer.

It was agreed that films in May would be themed around the World War II to tie in with marking VE80.

That would be followed by working with University of Reading regarding their students programming a season of films.

Members would then consider whether to continue in the current operating format or to move to a Film Club arrangement.

ACTION – Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk to schedule the May programme of films

ACTION – Consideration to be given at July meeting on whether to convert to a Film Club arrangement

- 33.2 The Clerk advised that he had registered an interest in signing up to the National Theatre Live scheme. This would give Shinfield residents a chance to see plays filmed in front of a live theatre audience.

SPC would be expected to commit to show the programme for the year (8-10 performances per annum). These performances were normally distributed via Blu-ray with an option to schedule screenings for up to 12 weeks after the release date which then allows the option of subsequent screenings being captioned. National Theatre charge a percentage of ticket sales but there is no minimum fee.

ACTION – Clerk to follow up registration with National Theatre Live scheme

25/ACE/34

Public Art

- 34.1 There had been meetings on
- 7th March – Main Group meeting with Arts4Wokingham
 - 21st March – Internal SPC Group to discuss the information required for the launch to artists
 - 28th March – Clerk and Charlotte Haitham-Taylor to discuss the detail required for the project timetable and the Gantt Chart

Next meeting of main group was Friday 4th April.

25/ACE/35

Correspondence

- 35.1 The Clerk advised that SPC had been asked if they wished to have a presence at St Mary's Church Fete on School Green on 28th June between 12.00 and 4.00.

It was agreed that SPC would accept the offer and used the opportunity for community outreach particularly promoting the public art project.

ACTION – Clerk to confirm SPC attendance at the St Mary's Church Fete on 28th June

25/ACE/36

Date of Next Meeting

- 36.1 The next meeting of the Arts, Culture and Events Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, 8th May 2025 starting earlier (18.30) and running for no more than one hour to allow delivery of the VE80 event that evening.

There was no meeting scheduled for June.

The meeting ended at 20.45



List of Actions

25/ACE/23.1	Clerk to convene a Working Party (including Cllrs Montgomery and Tatla) meeting to start the planning for the 2026 Art Exhibition event	Clerk
25/ACE/32.1	Clerk to arrange series of summer holiday activities	Clerk
25/ACE/32.1	Clerk to include budget reports as a standing item from the July 2025 meeting	Clerk
25/ACE/32.3	Clerk to continue to build links with WBC for events in Shinfield North and elsewhere in the parish	Clerk
25/ACE/32.3	Clerk to contact Shinfield Players Theatre to establish potential interest in working together on Christmas events	Clerk
25/ACE/32.4	Clerk to add to the agenda for the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting on 16 th April	Clerk
25/ACE/33.1	Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk to schedule the May programme of films	Clerk
25/ACE/33.1	Consideration to be given at July meeting on whether to convert to a Film Club arrangement	Clerk
25/ACE/33.2	Clerk to follow up registration with National Theatre Live scheme	Clerk
25/ACE/35.1	Clerk to confirm SPC attendance at the St Mary's Church Fete on 28 th June	Clerk