

Item 4.1 – Minutes

Culture and Communities Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 30 January 2018

Present

Councillors Wilson (Convener), Ian Campbell (Vice-Convener), Bird (substituting for Councillor Kate Campbell), Brown, Doran, Graczyk, McNeese-Mechan, Miller, Mitchell, Mowat (item 1 only), Osler and Staniforth.

1. Tourism in Edinburgh

Details of the Edinburgh Tourism Strategy 2020 and actions of the Edinburgh Tourism in Action Group (ETAG) in relation to ensuring a positive visitor and resident experience were presented in response to a motion by Councillor Mowat, approved by Full Council on 24 August 2017.

Councillor Mowat spoke to the Committee under special interest. She highlighted that the actions highlighted in the report had not to date addressed the concerns of several groups in the city who were concerned about the impact of tourism in the city. It would be necessary to engage with these groups to create a proper strategy.

Decision

- 1) To note the contents of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 2) To note that the current city tourism strategy, Edinburgh 2020, was developed by the Edinburgh Tourism Action Group (ETAG), and that implementation of the strategy was overseen by a Strategy Implementation Group.
- 3) To note that the theme of the ETAG 2018 Conference was to be “Managing Success”.
- 4) To note that the Council and ETAG would work together to develop and produce a new Edinburgh Tourism Strategy by 2020.
- 5) To refer the report by the Executive Director of Place to the Housing and Economy Committee for information.
- 6) To agree that proposals to establish a joint elected member working group (including members from Culture and Communities, Housing and Economy and Transport and Environment Committees) be reported back to the March 2018 meeting of the Committee.
- 7) To agree that the Council would recommend greater resident representation on the Edinburgh Tourism Action Group.

(References – Act of Council No 23 of 24 August 2017; report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

2. Minutes

Decision

- 1) To approve the minute of the Culture and Communities Committee of 14 November 2017 as a correct record.
- 2) To approve the minute of the Culture and Communities Committee of 5 December 2017 as a correct record.

3. Key Decisions Forward Plan

The Culture and Communities Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan was presented.

Decision

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan for January 2018.

(Reference – Key Decisions Forward Plan January 2018, submitted.)

4. Rolling Actions Log

The Culture and Communities Committee Rolling Actions Log for January 2018 was presented.

Decision

- 1) To approve the closure of actions 2 and 4.
- 2) To otherwise note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log January 2018, submitted.)

5. Business Bulletin

The Culture and Communities Committee Business Bulletin for January 2018 was presented.

Decision

To note the information set out in the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Business Bulletin 30 January 2018, submitted)

6. Ross Bandstand – Presentation

Andy Neal and David Ellis, Ross Development Trust, provided an overview of the development of the Ross Bandstand in Princes Street Gardens.

Decision

- 1) To thank Andy Neal and David Ellis for their presentation.
- 2) To agree that the Outline Business Case would be presented to the March 2018 meeting of the Committee for information, before going to Finance and Resources Committee for approval.

7. Managing Our Festival City – Report and Scorecard

An overview of visitor and resident experience in Edinburgh including a summer performance scorecard was submitted.

Decision

- 1) To note continuing work by relevant partners, to address specific challenges noted around festival times.
- 2) To note that lessons learned from summer festival period in 2017 had been shared with relevant services, partners and partnerships, to improve approaches in 2018.
- 3) To agree to continue to work with citizens, relevant services, partners and ward councillors to further develop an annual combined Festival City performance scorecard and Festivals highlight report, including values, status/trend benchmarks and management actions and to investigate the feasibility of establishing a citizens' panel to consider these issues.
- 4) To agree that a report would be brought back to Committee outlining the work of the Festivals to support employment and encourage skills development.

(References – Culture and Communities Committee 25 October 2016 (item 8); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

8. Update on Museums and Galleries Transformation – Opening Hours

A review of changes implemented by the Museums and Galleries Service to opening hours of six museums and galleries in response to the Council's Transformation Programme were submitted. The impact on visitor numbers, income and visitor experience was included.

Decision

- 1) To note the findings of the review and the impact the new hours have had on visitor numbers, income and the visitor experience.
- 2) To convene two review meetings with Councillor and officer representation to consider options for the future opening hours across the museums and galleries service.
- 3) To request a report to the 20 March 2018 Culture and Communities Committee on the proposed future opening hours for museums and galleries.

(References – Culture and Sport Committee 23 August 2016 (item 5); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

9. CCTV Working Group

A proposal to create a CCTV Working Group to develop a strategy for the upgrade and integration of services in Edinburgh was submitted.

Decision

- 1) To approve the establishment of a multi-agency CCTV Working Group to develop a strategy for the upgrade and integration of CCTV services in Edinburgh.
- 2) To appoint the membership of the CCTV Working Group as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report by the Acting Head of Safer and Stronger Communities.
- 3) To request an update on the CCTV Working Group progress in six months' time.

(Reference – report by the Acting Head of Safer and Stronger Communities, submitted.)

10. Lauriston Castle Lodge House and Garden – Proposed Lease

Approval was sought for a 25 year lease of Lauriston Castle Lodge House to the Edinburgh Forget-Me-Not-Garden Trust to create a community sensory garden and 'drop in' centre for people with dementia, and their carers.

Decision

- 1) To approve the location of the Edinburgh Forget-Me-Not sensory garden and 'drop in' centre within Lauriston Castle Lodge House and garden.
- 2) To recommend the approval of a 25 year lease to Edinburgh Forget-Me-Not-Garden Trust (EFMNGT) of Lauriston Castle Lodge House and its garden on the terms outlined in the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 3) To refer the report by the Executive Director of Place to the Finance and Resources Committee for approval.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

11. New Meadowbank Update

An update on the Meadowbank sports centre project including financial overview was submitted.

The existing sports centre's last day of operation was 3 December 2017. Alternative arrangements had been put in place for user groups and the building had been handed back to the Council by Edinburgh Leisure.

Decision

- 1) To note the update on progress with the project to deliver a new Meadowbank sports centre and the wider regeneration of the area.
- 2) To note the update on current estimated costs for the sports centre.
- 3) To note the main construction contract for the sports centre would also include delivery of key infrastructure for the wider regeneration site.
- 4) To note the update on the proposed funding package and that a further update to Committee would be provided to the Finance and Resources Committee before the main construction contract was awarded.

Declarations of Interest

Councillors Osler, Staniforth and Wilson declared a non-financial interest in this item as Directors of Edinburgh Leisure.

(References – Act of Council No 2 of 9 February 2017; report by the Executive Director of Communities and Families, submitted.)

12. Code of Best Practice for Volunteers and Volunteering – Motion by Councillor Staniforth

The following motion by Councillor Staniforth was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

“Committee notes:

- 1) That there has been a recent controversy surrounding Underbelly’s use of volunteers during the Hogmanay celebrations.
- 2) That there is currently no Code of Best Practice for volunteers and volunteering which is applied to council procurement contracts.

Committee agrees:

- 3) That the introduction of a Code of Best Practice for volunteers and volunteering would act to prevent such controversies in future and would ensure that the rights of volunteers are protected and no paid jobs would be lost to volunteering.

Committee therefore resolves:

- 4) To receive a report within one cycle which will:
 - 4.1) Propose a Code of Best Practice for Volunteers and Volunteering.
 - 4.2) Investigate how best to incorporate the code into all future procurement contracts.
- 5) That the report’s consultation should include, but not necessarily be limited to, the relevant unions, Better Than Zero, Volunteer Scotland and the Fair Fringe. It should also be developed in tandem with the forthcoming Fringe guidelines as much as possible.”

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Wilson.

Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Staniforth.