

Motions and Amendments

Culture and Communities Committee

10.00 am Thursday, 16th May, 2024

Dean of Guild Court Room - City Chambers

Motions and Amendments

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Addendum by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 7.1 – Summer Festivals scorecard

Committee regrets:

1. The environmental damage and emotional harm to veterans, people with war experience and others of the military jet flypasts noted on p.7
2. That there are a limited number of indicators under the Net Zero part of the scorecard, and none of these include air pollution, even though air monitoring facilities are in place and generating data

Council welcomes:

1. The £50,000 funding identified for power point upgrades, to reduce the need for diesel generators
2. The intention to set up a working group on the Sustainability of the Summer Festivals, but regrets this has not been done earlier

Committee therefore:

1. Requests that the Net Zero indicators are reviewed with a view to expansion in time for the next edition of the scorecard.
2. Agrees the highest possible priority is given to implementing the proposals of the Sustainability Working Group
3. Agrees that the proposals of the Sustainability Working Group are reported to the Committee

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Amendment by the Conservative Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 7.1 – Summer Festivals Scorecard 2023

Inserts the following as 1.1.2 and renumbers accordingly:

1.1.2. Regrets the action plan does not include target dates for completion of each item of the plan; therefore, requests a revised action plan with completion dates to be provided to Committee as an additional briefing document.

Moved by: Councillor Phil Doggart

Seconded by: Councillor Marie-Claire Munro

Addendum by the SNP Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16th May 2024

Item 7.2 – Events in Public Spaces – Revised Charging Model

Adds:

1.1.4 Requests a further report outlining the possibility of providing a proportional park hire reduced rate for Council-supported and Community/Charity/Civic/Ceremonial (with and without commercial activities) in non-premier parks who may wish to use a smaller geographical area than the whole park for the event.

Moved by: Cllr Finlay McFarlane

Seconded by: Cllr Fiona Glasgow

Addendum by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 7.2 – Events in Public Spaces – Revised Charging Model

Adds:

1.1.4 Agrees to receive a further report (in two cycles) detailing what the ring-fenced funding gathered from the parks ticket levy could be spent on.

Moved by: Cllr Hal Osler
Seconded by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Addendum by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 7.2 – Events in Public Spaces – Revised Charging Model

Surcharge for large commercial events

Committee notes:

1. That charging for public events is an opportunity for commercial organisations to contribute positively to the city:

Committee therefore approves recommendations with the following amendment:

In 1.1.1, add new subpoint 1.1.1.b

“With the addition of a surcharge (percentage to be decided by officers and reported to Committee) for large commercial events (definition to be decided by officers and reported to Committee), with additional funds raised provided to the Community Grants scheme.”

Charges for events on The Meadows

Committee notes:

1. Organisations seeking to hold events on different parts of the Meadows are charged different rates, and that this has been problematic for the Meadows Festival and other organisers

Committee therefore approves recommendations with the following amendment:

Insert at end of recommendations:

“1.1.4 Requests officers harmonise charges for events held on all parts of the Meadows, down to the lowest rate currently charged.”

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Addendum by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 7.3 – Kings Theatre Refurbishment Project

Committee notes:

1. The potential for the King's Theatre project to tackle climate change through energy efficiency and other measures

Committee therefore approves the report with the following amendment:

Add to recommendations new recommendation 1.1.5

“1.1.5 Requests that all future updates contain information on the contribution of the project to the city's Net Zero and other climate, nature and environmental aims and targets.”

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Amendment by the SNP Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16th May 2024

Item 7.4 – Community Centre Strategy

Deletes 1.1.2 and 1.1.3 (re-number accordingly) and insert:

1.1.2 Does not agree this version of the strategy.

1.1.3 Agrees that council officers will undertake further engagement with community centre management committees on the principles of the strategy to ensure that communities can shape the policies that will affect them.

1.1.4 Agrees that council officers will begin engagement with community centre management committees on individual lease renewal as this report does not set out a definitive or consistent approach and recognises the urgency with which this must be undertaken.

1.1.5 Agrees that no community centre will be closed based on the agreement of this strategy.

Moved by: Cllr Amy McNeese-Mechan

Seconded by: Cllr Finlay McFarlane

Amendment by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16th May 2024

Item 7.4 – Community Centre Strategy

Committee notes Recommendation 1.1.1, deletes the remaining recommendations, and replaces with;

1.1.2 Notes the Next Steps outlined in 5.1 of the report

1.1.3 Agrees to receive a further report in two cycles, concerning the development of the Community Centre Strategy once the meetings with management committees and discussions around individual programmes of work highlighted in 5.1 of the report have taken place.

Moved by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Seconded by: Cllr Hal Osler

Amendment by the Conservative Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 7.4 – Community Centre Strategy

Deletes 1.1.5 and replaces it with:

1.1.5. Retains oversight of the work proposed within this committee.

Moved by: Councillor Phil Doggart
Seconded by: Councillor Marie Clair Munro

Addendum by the SNP Group

Culture and Communities

16th May 2024

Item 7.6 – Proposals to End Library Overdue Fines

Adds:

1.2 Regrets that implementation of this administration budget commitment has resulted in an unmet budget pressure of £0.114m which is stated will be met from the wider Place directorate revenue budget.

1.2.1 Refers this report to GRBV for examination into how policies such as permanently ending overdue library fines can be pledged whilst resulting in additional directorate budgetary pressures.

Moved by: Cllr. Finlay McFarlane
Seconded by: Cllr. Amy McNeese-Mechan

Addendum by the Administration

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 7.7 – Uses of West Princes Street Gardens and the Ross Bandstand

Adds at the end of 1.1.1

1. And agrees that provision to manage the Ross Bandstand be moved inhouse.

Moved by: Cllr Val Walker

Seconded by:

Addendum by the SNP Group

Culture and Communities

16th May 2024

Item 7.7 – Use of West Princes Street Gardens and the Ross Bandstand

Add:

1.1.5 Agrees that it should be a key priority of the council to further promote and facilitate usage of the Ross Bandstand throughout the year for events taking place within the curtilage of the existing hardstanding. Requests a further report to culture and communities detailing the activity that has taken place in 2023/4 and that is scheduled for 2024/5 including identifying potential barriers restricting community and cultural use of this nature.

1.1.6 Agrees that when discussing 'event days' in policy around major events in West Princes Street Gardens and the Ross Bandstand CEC should also aim to disclose an estimation of 'get-in' / 'get-out' and construction to give a fuller picture regarding total impact on access to the gardens where possible.

1.1.7 Understanding that it will be necessary for some major events due to health and safety concerns, agrees that where possible hoardings obscuring the view into the gardens along Princes Street should be minimised or eliminated entirely.

1.1.8 Further agrees that with the impending enforcement of the Low Emission Zone major events in Princes Street Gardens and the Ross Bandstand should display all efforts to minimise or eliminate the use of Diesel Generators.

Moved by: Cllr Finlay McFarlane
Seconded by: Cllr Amy McNeese-Mechan

Amendment by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16th May 2024

Item 7.7 – Use of West Princes Street Gardens and the Ross Bandstand

Committee:

Notes that the present terms, parameters and number of major events for the use of West Princes Street Gardens was only agreed in October 2022

Deletes 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 and replaces with

1.1.1 Agrees to continue with the present terms, parameters and number of major events as agreed by Committee in October 2022

1.1.2 Agrees to a public consultation of proposals as set out in paragraph 4.13 for consideration of 2025 onwards

Agrees 1.1.3 and 1.1.4

Moved by: Cllr Hal Osler

Seconded by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Addendum by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 7.7 – Use of West Princes Street Gardens and the Ross Bandstand

Gardener's Cottage

Committee notes:

1. The Quaich Project's successful renovation of the Gardener's Cottage
2. The Cottage is no longer being used by them as an office

Committee therefore agrees report with the following amendments to the recommendations

1. Requests officers look at what the options are to get best use of the building, with ideas, including but not limited to, providing access to a historic building and information on the gardens

Prevention of blocking public viewing of Ross Bandstand events

Committee notes

1. With regret that some Ross Bandstand events have blocked public from briefly stopping to enjoy music by erecting large hoardings and other infrastructure to block events from public view and hearing
2. That the Ross Bandstand is a public space, and so the actions noted above are concerning

Committee therefore agrees report with the following amendments to the recommendations

1. Officers examine the scope for avoiding this issue by only taking bookings that do require view blocking

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap
Seconded by:

Addendum by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 7.8 – Remembering Together – A Covid Memorial for Edinburgh

Committee notes:

1. The educational and other potential benefits of visiting the trail

Committee therefore agrees recommendations with additional recommendation as follows:

1.1.5 Develops plans to help advertise the trail and promote public engagement with it, including through school visits."

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Addendum by the SNP Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16th May 2024

Item 8.1 – Busking Management

Adds:

1.1.3 Requests that the lamppost wraps and signage are deployed from March to October from next year reflecting constituents reports that busking activity starts to massively increase prior to May each year.

Moved by: Cllr Finlay McFarlane

Seconded by: Cllr Fiona Glasgow

Addendum by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16th May 2024

Item 8.1 – Busking Management

Committee adds:

1.1.3 Notes in 5.2.2 a workshop will be held for elected members prior to the summer recess to discuss the development of the management rules and next steps. Agrees to use this workshop to identify data to be collected over the summer to assist with the preparation of the management rules in a way that is fair, robust and transparent.

Moved by: Cllr Neil Ross

Seconded by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Amendment by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 8.3 – Edinburgh 900 Update

Committee notes with concern:

1. High levels of poverty and inequality in city.
2. The dangers posed by climate change.
3. The potential reputational risk to the Council of spending £0.5m on a celebration of the anniversary of an essentially administrative event (the granting of Royal Burgh status in 1024) at the same time as rising poverty.
4. That the report notes the contribution of Edinburgh 900 to the city's Net Zero target without any explanation of the nature or scale of the contribution.

Committee therefore:

1. Requests officers make efficiency savings with respect to elements of Edinburgh 900 other than those noted in 4.3 and 4.4 (except for 4.4.1 and 4.4.3) and put this toward grants to organisations doing work to tackle poverty, promote equality and tackle climate change in the city, through existing grants schemes, and using the banner of *Edinburgh 900 Equality and Climate Fund*
2. Requests that no funds from the £500,000 allocated are spent on events of a substantially or purely corporate hospitality nature
3. Any unspent contingency fund is directed to the *Edinburgh 900 Equality and Climate Fund*
4. Agrees that updates on Edinburgh 900 are included in the business bulletin until the end of Edinburgh 900

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Addendum by the SNP Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 8.3 – Edinburgh 900 Update

Adds:

1.2 Reiterates the prior decision by committee that any monies set aside for the Edinburgh 900 including unspent £15,000 contingency funds should be redistributed to Strategic Partner Organisations.

1.3 Agrees that councillors should have sight of the tender specification once drafted for the outdoor projections and that in reflecting Edinburgh's 900 year history due attention must be made to portray the cities full diverse history including our city's role in colonialism and slavery.

1.4 Regrets that councillors were not informed of the outcome of the National Lottery Heritage Funding Bid in December 2023 and requests detail to be provided to Culture and Communities members on discussions that happened between council officers and Elected Members prior to the budget setting process that led to £500k being allocated for Edinburgh 900.

Moved by: Councillor Finlay McFarlane

Seconded by: Councillor Amy McNeese-Mechan

Addendum by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16th May 2024

Item 8.6 – Park Lighting Project Update

Notes the decision of the committee on 11th May 2023 to receive annual updates on progress with Park Lighting Projects, but that the next of these will fall after the 2025-6 Budget process.

Therefore requests an additional update report to committee's December meeting, including on the state of agreed funding for park lighting projects, that groups may consider that in developing their budget proposals.

Moved by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Seconded by: Cllr Hal Osler

Addendum by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16 May 2024

Item 8.8 – Temporary Toilet Facilities (in parks)

Committee:

1. Welcomes that temporary toilets will return to Straiton Place Park, Portobello, for the summer;
2. Notes that last year an accessible toilet was not provided due to supplier shortages;
3. Regrets that an accessible unit has not yet been secured for 2024 despite repeated requests from the Community Council and ward members that this be resolved as soon as possible;
4. Requests an update be sent to ward members and the community council before the end of the month detailing progress to date on securing units and information about planned generator use, opening hours, cleaning arrangements and signage.

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Addendum by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16th May 2024

Item 8.9 – Use of Council Sports Facilities

Understands that new criteria has now been added to the booking form to enable a better understanding of individual use of facilities

Adds

1.2 Agrees to an update in a year's time to take into account new profile information

Moved by: Cllr Hal Osler

Seconded by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Addendum by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16th May 2024

Item 9.5 – By Councillor McKenzie – Pansy Walk

Adds new third paragraph;

“Notes that issues similar to those experienced in Pansy Walk occur throughout the city, such as in Gyle Park or at schools during drop-off time.”

Adds new fifth paragraph;

“Understands that, in addition to strategic tree planting, other methods such as knee-rail fencing have been proven successful in reducing parking on grass verges, such as at Gyle and Clermiston Parks.”

Notes the requests laid out in the motion, and advice from officers that they spread across the remits of Culture & Communities, Transport & Environment and Finance & Resources committees.

Therefore requests officers engage with Sighthill/Gorgie ward members to provide an update on plans to improve the noted issues on Pansy Walk, with future updates to be brought to the appropriate committee should that be necessary.

Seeks reassurance that this engagement will take place, and agrees to receive a business bulletin update on progress in resolving noted issues within the remit of Culture & Communities committee within two cycles.

Moved by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Seconded by: Cllr Hal Osler

Emergency Motion by the SNP Group

Culture and Communities Committee

16th May 2024

Future of Summerhall

Committee:

1.1 Expresses concern at the recent news regarding the potential sale of Summerhall to new owners (albeit with leases intact) which is an important cultural institution in our city.

1.2 Commends Summerhall's founder and director Robert McDowell and the entire team and staff for their contribution and impact on cultural life in Edinburgh since opening it's doors in 2011.

1.3 Believes in the importance of Summerhall's role to the cultural fabric of Edinburgh as a capital city and recognises it's wider impact on culture across the country.

1.4 Is reassured that this potential change will not affect their annual programme of events and upcoming Fringe 2024.

1.4 Recognises the groundswell in public support for Summerhall continuing long into the future as a cultural institution and the live petition that has received over 3000 signatures in the first few days.

1.5 Requests that the City of Edinburgh Council opens a dialogue with the current owner and management of Summerhall to ascertain what support the city council can offer that would help secure the sustainability and future of Summerhall and its vibrant programme of events, community projects, visual arts and exhibitions with an update brought to the August Culture and Communities Committee.

Moved by: Cllr. Finlay McFarlane

Seconded by: Cllr. Amy McNeese-Mechan

Emergency Motion by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee 16th May 2024 Summerhall

Committee notes

1. The incredible contribution of the Summerhall to culture and enterprise in Edinburgh, as the home to many cultural events and businesses
2. With concern the prospect of the Summerhall site being sold.
3. That sale of the building to be developed for other purposes would be a severely negative development
4. The welcome precedent of the Filmhouse building being saved for film in the city

Committee therefore

1. Asks the Convenor and Leader to meet urgently with the owners of the building to explore how they can ensure Summerhall continues to provide outstanding culture and events space, and homes to businesses
2. Asks that a nominee from other political groups are invited to attend the meeting

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap
Seconded by:

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