

# Minutes

## Culture and Communities Committee

10.00am, Thursday 16 May 2024

**Present:**

Councillors Walker (Convener), Lezley Marion Cameron, Doggart, Glasgow, Heap, McFarlane, McNeese-Mechan, Munro, Osler, Ross (substituting for Councillor Osler for Item 14), Staniforth and Thornley.

**Also present:**

Councillor McKenzie (item 28)

### 1. Deputations

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**a) Patriothall Artists Group**

**(In relation to items 9.2 and 9.3 on the agenda – Motions by Councillors Osler and Heap – WASPS Patriothall Studios)**

The deputation indicated that they were very supportive of the WASPS, management of the studios throughout Scotland and the work they did for artists, but had a few misgivings regarding the direction the organisation had taken in recent years, as an overall rent increase of 32% over the past two years had caused some grave concerns for the tenant community of Patriothall. They understood the requirement of WASPS to be financially agile in an ever changing economy, but remained dismayed at the singular direction being taken towards marketplace development and creative hubs rather than constructive curation and development of its artists.

They urged the Committee to support their efforts to engage in a constructive conversation to gain clarification from Wasps as to why this was happening, to seek some assurance regarding the future of the building and to ensure that they could move onto a successful future together.

(see items 25 and 26 below)

**b) Muirhouse Millenium Centre/LIFT**

**(In relation to item 7.4 on the agenda – Community Centre Strategy)**

The deputation indicated that they were proud to be included in the community

centre strategy as they did not get any funding from the Council and felt that it showed the hard work they had put in over the past 8 year to get the reputation it now had.

The deputation stressed that they thought that it was important for every Community Centre to have a family support team and that non-funded centres struggled to provide this service. They felt that community centres needed to be welcoming places with an open door policy rather than door entry systems, receptionists and appointment systems.

(see item 9 below)

**c) Sandy's Community Centre**

**(In relation to item 7.4 on the agenda – Community Centre Strategy)**

The deputation indicated that Sandy's was crucial to the community in Craigmillar and stressed how important it was to have community centres in Edinburgh to reach people from all walks of life, intergenerational projects and people who had had to leave their country as refugees and were made to feel so welcome as part of a community. They said that the management at Sandy's did a fantastic job, and that part of that was that they were local people who knew what was going on, knew the people and knew the needs of the community.

The deputation urged the Committee to ask people what they wanted as they felt it was important to give people empowerment, to feel valued and that their voices were heard.

(see item 9 below)

## **2. Minutes**

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### **Decision**

To approve the minute of the Culture and Communities Committee of 29 February 2024 as a correct record.

(Reference – Minute of the Culture and Communities Committee, submitted)

## **3. Work Programme**

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The Committee's Work Programme was presented for review.

### **Decision:**

To note the work programme.

(Reference – Culture and Communities Committee Work Programme, 16 May 2024,

submitted)

## 4. Rolling Actions Log

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The Culture and Communities Committee Rolling Actions Log was presented.

### Decision:

1) To agree to close the following actions:

- **Action 1** – Fair Fringe and Fair Hospitality
- **Action 9 (2)** Community Empowerment Update
- **Action 12** – Non-Council Run Community Spaces
- **Action 13** – Fringe Society
- **Action 25 (1)** – Use of Council Sports Facilities
- **Action 26** – Stockbridge Clocks
- **Action 27 (1, 2 and 3)** – Business Bulletin Park Lighting Improvements and reuse of Tennis Balls at Council Facilities
- **Action 30** – New Collections, Museums and Galleries
- **Action 33 (3)** – Right to Grow
- **Action 36** – Stockbridge Clocks
- **Action 37** – Revenue Monitoring
- **Action 40** – Temporary Toilet Facilities
- **Action 43** – Control of Amplified Busking

2) To otherwise note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Culture and Communities Committee Rolling Actions Log 18 May 2024, submitted)

## 5. Business Bulletin

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The Culture and Communities business bulletin was presented.

### Decision

To note the updates on the business bulletin.

(Reference – Culture and Communities Committee Business Bulletin, 18 May 2024,

submitted)

## 6. Summer Festivals Scorecard 2023.

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Details were provided on an evaluation of operational and strategic matters relating to the Summer Festivals held in 2023 which included statistics and feedback from key stakeholders who were part of the Summer Festivals City Wide Overview Group (CWOOG). A summary of how the Council and its partners intended to respond to the feedback received to enhance the quality of the experience within the city centre for residents, businesses and visitors whilst also acknowledging the overall contributions of the summer festivals to the city was also outlined.

### Motion

- 1) To agree the recommended action plan based on the feedback received on the festivals in 2023.
- 2) To note the updated scorecard data provided in Appendix 2 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 3) To note that an update report on Hostile Vehicle Mitigation measures would be submitted to committee later this year.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### Amendment 1

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 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 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:

- 3) The £50,000 funding identified for power point upgrades, to reduce the need for diesel generators.
- 4) 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:

- 5) Requests that the Net Zero and end poverty indicators are reviewed with a view to expansion in time for the next edition of the scorecard.

- 6) Agrees the highest possible priority is given to implementing the proposals of the Sustainability Working Group.
- 7) Agrees that the proposals of the Sustainability Working Group are reported to the Committee.

- moved by Councillor Heap, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

### **Amendment 2**

- 1) To agree the recommended action plan based on the feedback received on the festivals in 2023.
- 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.
- 3) To note the updated scorecard data provided in Appendix 2 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 4) To note that an update report on Hostile Vehicle Mitigation measures would be submitted to committee later this year.

- moved by Councillor Doggart, seconded by Councillor Munro

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), Amendment 1 was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the Motion and Amendment 2 was accepted as an addendum to the Motion.

In accordance with Standing Order 22(3), Amendment 1 was accepted as an addendum to Amendment 2.

### **Voting**

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted)	-	9 votes
For Amendment 2(as adjusted)	-	2 votes

(For the Motion (as adjusted): Councillors Lezley Marion Cameron, Glasgow, Heap, McFarlane, McNeese-Mechan, Osler, Staniforth, Thornley and Walker.

For Amendment 2 (as adjusted); Councillors Doggart and Munro.)

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted Motion by Councillor Walker:

- 1) To agree the recommended action plan based on the feedback received on the festivals in 2023.

- 2) To regret the action plan did not include target dates for completion of each item of the plan; therefore, to request a revised action plan with completion dates to be provided to Committee as an additional briefing document.
- 3) To note the updated scorecard data provided in Appendix 2 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 4) To note that an update report on Hostile Vehicle Mitigation measures would be submitted to committee later this year.
- 5) To regret the environmental damage and emotional harm to veterans, people with war experience and others of the military jet flypasts noted on p.7 of the report.
- 6) To regret that there were a limited number of indicators under the Net Zero part of the scorecard, and none of these included air pollution, even though air monitoring facilities were in place and generating data.
- 7) To welcome the £50,000 funding identified for power point upgrades, to reduce the need for diesel generators.
- 8) To welcome the intention to set up a working group on the Sustainability of the Summer Festivals, but regret this had not been done earlier.
- 9) To request that the Net Zero and end poverty indicators be reviewed with a view to expansion in time for the next edition of the scorecard.
- 10) To agree that the proposals of the Sustainability Working Group be reported to the Committee.

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

## **7. Events in Public Spaces – Revised Charging Model**

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Details were provided on proposals for a revised charging model for events in public spaces in Edinburgh which would bring consistency across the Council and had been developed to embed the Council's priorities of net zero and fair work within the approach.

### **Motion**

- 1) To approve the proposed charging model, as noted in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place for the use of public spaces for events.
- 2) To agree that implementation would begin for events applying from 1 October 2024.
- 3) To note that a review of the charging model would take place after 12 months of operation. Committee would be updated on the outcome of the review.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### **Amendment 1**

- 1) To approve the proposed charging model, as noted in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place for the use of public spaces for events.
- 2) To agree that implementation would begin for events applying from 1 October 2024.
- 3) To note that a review of the charging model would take place after 12 months of operation. Committee would be updated on the outcome of the review.
- 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 Councillor McFarlane, seconded by Councillor Glasgow

### **Amendment 2**

- 1) To approve the proposed charging model, as noted in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place for the use of public spaces for events.
- 2) To agree that implementation would begin for events applying from 1 October 2024.
- 3) To note that a review of the charging model would take place after 12 months of operation. Committee would be updated on the outcome of the review.
- 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 Councillor Osler, seconded by Councillor Thornley

### **Amendment 3**

#### **Surcharge for large commercial events**

- 1) Committee notes that charging for public events is an opportunity for commercial organisations to contribute positively to the city.
- 2) To approve the proposed charging model, as noted in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place for the use of public spaces for events, 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 (except Princes Street Gardens).

- 3) To agree that implementation would begin for events applying from 1 October 2024.
- 4) To note that a review of the charging model would take place after 12 months of operation. Committee would be updated on the outcome of the review.

### **Charges for events on The Meadows**

- 5) Committee notes 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
- 6) Requests officers investigate harmonising charges for events held on all parts of the Meadows, down to the lowest rate currently charged.”

- moved by Councillor Heap, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), Amendments 1 and 2 were accepted as addendums to the Motion and Amendment 3 was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the Motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted Motion by Councillor Walker:

- 1) To note that charging for public events was an opportunity for commercial organisations to contribute positively to the city.
- 2) To note organisations seeking to hold events on different parts of the Meadows were charged different rates, and that this had been problematic for the Meadows Festival and other organisers.
- 3) To approve the proposed charging model, as noted in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place for the use of public spaces for events.
- 4) To request officers consider a surcharge for large commercial events, with additional funds raised provided to the Community Grants scheme, with the exception of Princes Street Gardens.
- 5) To request officers investigate harmonising charges for events held on all parts of the Meadows, down to the lowest rate currently charged.
- 6) To agree that implementation would begin for events applying from 1 October 2024.
- 7) To note that a review of the charging model would take place after 12 months of operation. Committee would be updated on the outcome of the review.
- 8) To request 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 might wish to use a smaller geographical area than the whole park for the event.

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

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

## 8. Kings Theatre Refurbishment Update

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An update was provided on the refurbishment of the King's Theatre and approval sought to release capital funding and prudential borrowing to Capital Theatres totalling £12.000m to allow them to make payments in respect of the refurbishment of the King's Theatre.

### Motion

- 1) To note progress on the King's Theatre Refurbishment project.
- 2) To note that the estimated costs had increased to £37.900m, creating a funding gap of £1.200m to be met by Capital Theatres fundraising.
- 3) To note that the estimated completion date was now July 2025.
- 4) To approve the release of capital funding and prudential borrowing totalling £12.000m to Capital Theatres to part finance the refurbishment of the King's Theatre.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### Amendment

- 1) Committee notes the potential for the King's Theatre project to tackle climate change through energy efficiency and other measures.
- 2) To note progress on the King's Theatre Refurbishment project.
- 3) To note that the estimated costs had increased to £37.900m, creating a funding gap of £1.200m to be met by Capital Theatres fundraising.
- 4) To note that the estimated completion date was now July 2025.
- 5) To approve the release of capital funding and prudential borrowing totalling £12.000m to Capital Theatres to part finance the refurbishment of the King's Theatre.
- 6) 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 Councillor Heap, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Walker:

- 1) To notes the potential for the King's Theatre project to tackle climate change through energy efficiency and other measures.
- 2) To note progress on the King's Theatre Refurbishment project.
- 3) To note that the estimated costs had increased to £37.900m, creating a funding gap of £1.200m to be met by Capital Theatres fundraising.
- 4) To note that the estimated completion date was now July 2025.
- 5) To approve the release of capital funding and prudential borrowing totalling £12.000m to Capital Theatres to part finance the refurbishment of the King's Theatre.
- 6) To request 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.

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

## **9. Community Centre Strategy**

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Details were provided on the proposed approach to the development of a city-wide Community Centre Strategy which was a strategic approach based on the understanding that “one size does not fit all” and gave a framework within which engagement and decisions about the future use of the community centre estate could be determined.

### **Motion**

- 1) To note the update on the development of a city-wide Community Centre strategy.
- 2) To approve the overarching vision for Community Centre provision.
- 3) To approve the principals which would form the basis of any change for individual Community Centre development that were proposed in the future.
- 4) To note forward programmes of work described in the report by the Executive Director of Place.

- 5) To approve the continuation of the All-Party Oversight Group (APOG) to oversee the programmes of work related to this strategy.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### **Amendment 1**

- 1) To note the update on the development of a city-wide Community Centre strategy.
- 2) Does not agree this version of the strategy.
- 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.
- 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.
- 5) Agrees that no community centre will be closed based on the agreement of this strategy.
- 6) To note forward programmes of work described in the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 7) To approve the continuation of the All-Party Oversight Group (APOG) to oversee the programmes of work related to this strategy.

- moved by Councillor McNeese-Mechan, seconded by Councillor McFarlane

### **Amendment 2**

- 1) To note the update on the development of a city-wide Community Centre strategy.
- 2) Notes the Next Steps outlined in 5.1 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 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 Councillor Thornley, seconded by Councillor Osler

### **Amendment 3**

- 1) To note the update on the development of a city-wide Community Centre

strategy.

- 2) To approve the overarching vision for Community Centre provision.
- 3) To approve the principals which would form the basis of any change for individual Community Centre development that were proposed in the future.
- 4) To note forward programmes of work described in the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 5) Retains oversight of the work proposed within this committee.

- moved by Councillor Doggart, seconded by Councillor Munro

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), Amendment 2 was accepted as an amendment to the Motion.

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), Amendment 2 was adjusted and accepted as an amendment to Amendment 1, and Amendment 3 was accepted as an amendment to Amendment 1.

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), Amendment 1 was adjusted and accepted as an amendment to Amendment 2, and Amendment 3 was accepted as an amendment to Amendment 2.

### **Voting**

The voting was as follows:

For the Motion (as adjusted)	-	0 votes
For Amendment 1 (as adjusted)	-	3 votes
For Amendment 2 (as adjusted)	-	8 votes

(For Amendment 1 (as adjusted): Councillors Glasgow, McFarlane and McNeese-Mechan.

For Amendment 2 (as adjusted): Councillors Lezley Marion Cameron, Doggart, Heap, Munro, Osler, Staniforth, Thornley and Walker.)

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted Amendment 2 by Councillor Thornley:

- 1) To note the update on the development of a city-wide Community Centre strategy.
- 2) To not agree this version of the strategy.
- 3) To agree that council officers would undertake further engagement with community centre management committees on the principles of the strategy to

ensure that communities could shape the policies that would affect them.

- 4) To agree that council officers would begin engagement with community centre management committees on individual lease renewal as the report by the Executive Director of Place did not set out a definitive or consistent approach and recognise the urgency with which this must be undertaken.
- 5) To note the Next Steps outlined in 5.1 of the report.
- 6) To agree 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 had taken place.
- 7) To retain oversight of the work proposed within this committee

(References – Culture and Communities Committee on 7 March 2023 (item 12); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

## **10. Future Libraries – Progress Update**

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An update was provided on the engagement process undertaken to develop a new strategy and vision for the library service.

Approval was sought to base the development of the draft strategy on the identified emerging themes (as outlined in paragraph 4.1 of the report), and to consult on future potential changes to library opening hours (as outlined in paragraphs 4.10 to 4.13 of the report), and on a change in the programming of events and activities in libraries (as outlined in paragraphs 4.14 to 4.16 of the report).

### **Motion**

- 1) To note the update on the Future Libraries engagement process and the plans to proceed to a formal consultation with residents, service users, elected members, key stakeholders and library staff to gather views and feedback on a new libraries' strategy and vision.
- 2) To agree for officers to draft the new libraries strategy based on the emerging themes, as detailed in paragraph 4.1 of the report, and to consult on the draft strategy.
- 3) To agree to include the options for future change to library opening hours in the consultation (as detailed in paragraphs 4.10 to 4.13 of the report) and to include the identified options for future change to the programming of events and activities in the consultation (as detailed in paragraphs 4.14 to 4.16 of the report).
- 4) To note the plans to continue to develop performance information and the production of a set of library profiles to support future evidence-based decisions

on service improvement.

- 5) To note the plans to bring a future report to Committee following the completion of the formal consultation process, which would include a new Library Strategy and any proposals for change.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### **Amendment**

- 1) To note the update on the Future Libraries engagement process and the plans to proceed to a formal consultation with residents, service users, elected members, key stakeholders and library staff to gather views and feedback on a new libraries' strategy and vision.
- 2) To agree for officers to draft the new libraries strategy based on the emerging themes, as detailed in paragraph 4.1 of the report, and to consult on the draft strategy.
- 3) To agree to include the options for future change to library opening hours in the consultation (as detailed in paragraphs 4.10 to 4.13 of the report) and to include the identified options for future change to the programming of events and activities in the consultation (as detailed in paragraphs 4.14 to 4.16 of the report).
- 4) To note the plans to continue to develop performance information and the production of a set of library profiles to support future evidence-based decisions on service improvement.
- 5) To note the plans to bring a future report to Committee following the completion of the formal consultation process, which would include a new Library Strategy and any proposals for change.
- 6) To note that any future plan will not propose any library closures.

- moved by Councillor Staniforth, seconded by Councillor Heap

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Walker:

- 1) To note the update on the Future Libraries engagement process and the plans to proceed to a formal consultation with residents, service users, elected members, key stakeholders and library staff to gather views and feedback on a new libraries' strategy and vision.
- 2) To agree for officers to draft the new libraries strategy based on the emerging

themes, as detailed in paragraph 4.1 of the report, and to consult on the draft strategy.

- 3) To agree to include the options for future change to library opening hours in the consultation (as detailed in paragraphs 4.10 to 4.13 of the report) and to include the identified options for future change to the programming of events and activities in the consultation (as detailed in paragraphs 4.14 to 4.16 of the report).
- 4) To note the plans to continue to develop performance information and the production of a set of library profiles to support future evidence-based decisions on service improvement.
- 5) To note the plans to bring a future report to Committee following the completion of the formal consultation process, which would include a new Library Strategy and any proposals for change.
- 6) To note that any future plan would not propose any library closures.

In accordance with Standing Order 31.1, the decision was referred to Council for approval.

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

## 11. Proposals to End Library Overdue Fines

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Details were provided on officer proposals to permanently end overdue fines and the response to a request for policy information on the issue of lost items and overdue fines.

### **Motion**

- 1) To note the update on overdue fines for the late return of library stock.
- 2) To note the update on lost items in relation to overdue fines.
- 3) To agree to permanently end library overdue fines.
- 4) To agree to waive any accumulated overdue fine charges.
- 5) To agree to retain charges for lost and damaged items.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### **Amendment**

- 1) To note the update on overdue fines for the late return of library stock.
- 2) To note the update on lost items in relation to overdue fines.

- 3) To agree to permanently end library overdue fines.
- 4) To agree to waive any accumulated overdue fine charges.
- 5) To agree to retain charges for lost and damaged items.
- 6) To regret that implementation of this administration budget commitment had resulted in an unmet budget pressure of £0.114m which was stated would be met from the wider Place directorate revenue budget.
- 7) To refer the report by the Executive Director of Place to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for examination into how policies such as permanently ending overdue library fines could be pledged whilst resulting in additional directorate budgetary pressures.

- moved by Councillor McFarlane, seconded by Councillor McNeese-Mechan

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Walker:

- 1) To note the update on overdue fines for the late return of library stock.
- 2) To note the update on lost items in relation to overdue fines.
- 3) To agree to permanently end library overdue fines.
- 4) To agree to waive any accumulated overdue fine charges.
- 5) To agree to retain charges for lost and damaged items.
- 6) To regret that implementation of this administration budget commitment had resulted in an unmet budget pressure of £0.114m which was stated would be met from the wider Place directorate revenue budget.
- 7) To refer the report by the Executive Director of Place to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee for examination into how policies such as permanently ending overdue library fines could be pledged whilst resulting in additional directorate budgetary pressures.

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

## **12. Use of West Princes Street Gardens and the Ross Bandstand**

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The Committee had approved revised terms and parameters for operating events in West Princes Street Gardens, as well as the proposed number of major events which could take place.



An update was provided on how the process had been managed in the period since and approval sought for changes to the decision-making process.

### **Motion**

- 1) To approve the revised schedule for West Princes Street Gardens, as set out in paragraph 4.13 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, including the opportunity to create an August 'festival' programme for the Ross Bandstand, and two procured annual events in May and September and agrees to investigate the provision to manage the Ross Bandstand be moved in-house.
- 2) To delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place in consultation with Group Spokespeople and Group Leaders to finalise plans for an August programme in 2024 if this was possible.
- 3) To note that officers were progressing with proposals for a mandatory major event ticket levy to support a Princes Street Gardens Development Fund, with these due to be reported to Finance and Resources Committee in August 2024.
- 4) To note that officers were beginning to early feasibility of improvements to West Princes Street Gardens, including the Ross Bandstand, and would keep Committee updated on progress.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### **Amendment 1**

- 1) To approve the revised schedule for West Princes Street Gardens, as set out in paragraph 4.13 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, including the opportunity to create an August 'festival' programme for the Ross Bandstand, and two procured annual events in May and September.
- 2) To delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place in consultation with Group Spokespeople and Group Leaders to finalise plans for an August programme in 2024 if this was possible.
- 3) To note that officers were progressing with proposals for a mandatory major event ticket levy to support a Princes Street Gardens Development Fund, with these due to be reported to Finance and Resources Committee in August 2024.
- 4) To note that officers were beginning to early feasibility of improvements to West Princes Street Gardens, including the Ross Bandstand, and would keep Committee updated on progress.
- 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 Councillor McFarlane, seconded by Councillor McNeese-Mechan

### **Amendment 2**

Committee:

- 1) 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.
- 2) Agrees to continue with the present terms, parameters and number of major events as agreed by Committee in October 2022
- 3) Agrees to a public consultation of proposals as set out in paragraph 4.13 for consideration of 2025 onwards
- 4) To note that officers were progressing with proposals for a mandatory major event ticket levy to support a Princes Street Gardens Development Fund, with these due to be reported to Finance and Resources Committee in August 2024.
- 5) To note that officers were beginning to early feasibility of improvements to West Princes Street Gardens, including the Ross Bandstand, and would keep Committee updated on progress.

- moved by Councillor Osler, seconded by Councillor Thornley

### **Amendment 3**

#### **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

- 3) Requests officers look at what the options are to get best use of Gardener's Cottage, 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

- 4) 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
- 5) That the Ross Bandstand is a public space, and so the actions noted above are concerning
- 6) Officers examine the scope for avoiding this issue by only taking bookings that do not require view blocking.
- 7) To approve the revised schedule for West Princes Street Gardens, as set out in paragraph 4.13 of the report by the Executive Director of Place, including the opportunity to create an August 'festival' programme for the Ross Bandstand, and two procured annual events in May and September.
- 8) To delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place in consultation with Group Spokespeople and Group Leaders to finalise plans for an August programme in 2024 if this was possible.
- 9) To note that officers were progressing with proposals for a mandatory major event ticket levy to support a Princes Street Gardens Development Fund, with these due to be reported to Finance and Resources Committee in August 2024.
- 10) To note that officers were beginning to early feasibility of improvements to West Princes Street Gardens, including the Ross Bandstand, and would keep Committee updated on progress.

- moved by Councillor Heap, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), Amendment 1 was accepted as an addendum to the Motion, Amendment 2 was accepted as an amendment to the Motion, and Amendment 3 was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the Motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Walker:

- 1) To note that the present terms, parameters and number of major events for the use of West Princes Street Gardens were only agreed in October 2022.
- 2) To agree to continue with the present terms, parameters and number of major

events as agreed by Committee in October 2022.

- 3) To agree to a public consultation of proposals as set out in paragraph 4.13 of the report by the Executive Director of Place for consideration of 2025 onwards.
- 4) To note that officers were progressing with proposals for a mandatory major event ticket levy to support a Princes Street Gardens Development Fund, with these due to be reported to Finance and Resources Committee in August 2024.
- 5) To note that officers were beginning to early feasibility of improvements to West Princes Street Gardens, including the Ross Bandstand, and would keep Committee updated on progress.
- 6) To agree 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. To request a further report to Culture and Communities detailing the activity that had taken place in 2023/4 and that was scheduled for 2024/5 including identifying potential barriers restricting community and cultural use of this nature.
- 7) To agree 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.
- 8) Understanding that it would be necessary for some major events due to health and safety concerns, to agree that where possible hoardings obscuring the view into the gardens along Princes Street should be minimised or eliminated entirely.
- 9) To further agree 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.
- 10) To note the Quaich Project's successful renovation of the Gardener's Cottage.
- 11) To note the Cottage was no longer being used by them as an office.
- 12) To request officers look at what the options were 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

(References – Culture and Communities Committee of 13 October 2022 (item 2); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

### **13. Remembering Together – A Covid Memorial for Edinburgh**

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An update was provided on Phase 1 of the Remembering Together programme in Edinburgh and agreement sought to proceed with Phase 2: fabrication and installation

**Thursday, 16th May, 2024**

of a memorial pathway along the footpath at Wardie Bay together with the adoption of the artwork elements of the trail to ensure that there was long term care for the pathway.

### **Motion**

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Place on Phase 1 of the Remembering Together programme in Edinburgh, which was being delivered via Greenspace Scotland in partnership with Artlink and the City of Edinburgh Council (the local partnership).
- 2) To agree to the design concept for Phase 2, which was for fabrication and installation of a memorial pathway along the footpath in the Wardie Bay area which had been designed through consultation with local people and learning disabled communities.
- 3) To agree to adopt the trail, to ensure long-term care and maintenance of the artwork elements.
- 4) To note that this programme of work was fully funded by the Scottish Government.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### **Amendment**

- 1) Committee notes the educational and other potential benefits of visiting the trail.
- 2) To note the report by the Executive Director of Place on Phase 1 of the Remembering Together programme in Edinburgh, which was being delivered via Greenspace Scotland in partnership with Artlink and the City of Edinburgh Council (the local partnership).
- 3) To agree to the design concept for Phase 2, which was for fabrication and installation of a memorial pathway along the footpath in the Wardie Bay area which had been designed through consultation with local people and learning disabled communities.
- 4) To agree to adopt the trail, to ensure long-term care and maintenance of the artwork elements.
- 5) To note that this programme of work was fully funded by the Scottish Government.
- 6) Committee develops plans to help advertise the trail and promote public engagement with it, including through school visits.

- moved by Councillor Heap, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), the amendment was accepted as an

addendum to the motion.

## Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Walker:

- 1) To note the educational and other potential benefits of visiting the trail.
- 2) To note the report by the Executive Director of Place on Phase 1 of the Remembering Together programme in Edinburgh, which was being delivered via Greenspace Scotland in partnership with Artlink and the City of Edinburgh Council (the local partnership).
- 3) To agree to the design concept for Phase 2, which was for fabrication and installation of a memorial pathway along the footpath in the Wardie Bay area which had been designed through consultation with local people and learning disabled communities.
- 4) To agree to adopt the trail, to ensure long-term care and maintenance of the artwork elements.
- 5) To note that this programme of work was fully funded by the Scottish Government.
- 6) To agree to develop plans to help advertise the trail and promote public engagement with it, including through school visits.

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

## 14. Busking Management

---

An update was provided on legislation that could be used to manage busking and advisory signage together with proposals for appropriate management rules for Council owned, occupied or managed land, including effective enforcement measures, to control the amplification of sound in public spaces.

### Motion

- 1) To note the actions taken to install on street busking advisory signage and to increase street enforcement officers' engagement with buskers, residents and businesses during peak busking periods in the city in 2024.
- 2) To note the legislative requirements to establish management rules and the update provided on the next steps for introducing management rules for Streets in Edinburgh.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### Amendment 1

Thursday, 16th May, 2024

- 1) To note the actions taken to install on street busking advisory signage and to increase street enforcement officers' engagement with buskers, residents and businesses during peak busking periods in the city in 2024.
- 2) To note the legislative requirements to establish management rules and the update provided on the next steps for introducing management rules for Streets in Edinburgh.
- 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 Councillor McFarlane, seconded by Councillor Glasgow

### **Amendment 2**

- 1) To note the actions taken to install on street busking advisory signage and to increase street enforcement officers' engagement with buskers, residents and businesses during peak busking periods in the city in 2024.
- 2) To note the legislative requirements to establish management rules and the update provided on the next steps for introducing management rules for Streets in Edinburgh.
- 3) Notes in 5.2.2 of the report by the Executive Director of Place 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 Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Thornley

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), Amendments 1 and 2 were accepted as addendums to the Motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Walker:

- 1) To note the actions taken to install on street busking advisory signage and to increase street enforcement officers' engagement with buskers, residents and businesses during peak busking periods in the city in 2024.
- 2) To note the legislative requirements to establish management rules and the update provided on the next steps for introducing management rules for Streets in Edinburgh.
- 3) To request that the lamppost wraps and signage be deployed from March to

October from next year reflecting constituents reports that busking activity started to massively increase prior to May each year.

- 4) To note in 5.2.2 of the report by the Executive Director of Place a workshop would be held for elected members prior to the summer recess to discuss the development of the management rules and next steps. To agree 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 was fair, robust and transparent.

(References – Act of Council No 16 of 21 March 2024; report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

## 15. Edinburgh 900 Update

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An update was provided on the progress made by the project team and programme board on the Edinburgh 900 events programme.

### **Motion**

To note the update on the plans to celebrate Edinburgh 900.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron.

### **Amendment 1**

- 1) To note the update on the plans to celebrate Edinburgh 900.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 McFarlane, seconded by Councillor McNeese-Mechan

### **Amendment 2**

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:

- 5) Requests that no funds from the £500,000 allocated are spent on events of a substantially or purely corporate hospitality nature.
- 6) Agrees that updates on Edinburgh 900 are included in the business bulletin until the end of Edinburgh 900.

- moved by Councillor Heap, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), Amendment 1 was accepted as an addendum to the Motion, and Amendment 2 was accepted as an amendment to the Motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Walker

- 1) To note the update on the plans to celebrate Edinburgh 900.
- 2) To note with concern:
  - a) High levels of poverty and inequality in city.
  - b) The dangers posed by climate change.
  - c) 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.
  - d) 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.
- 3) To reiterate 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.
- 4) To agree 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.

- 5) To regret that councillors were not informed of the outcome of the National Lottery Heritage Funding Bid in December 2023 and request 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.
- 6) To request that no funds from the £500,000 allocated be spent on events of a substantially or purely corporate hospitality nature.
- 7) To agree that updates on Edinburgh 900 be included in the business bulletin until the end of Edinburgh 900.

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

## 16. Parks Lighting Project Update

---

An update was provided on the park lighting project and approval sought for the Parks and Openspace Lighting Guidance document.

### **Motion**

- 1) To note that the lighting design for Hailes Quarry Park had now been completed, with installation scheduled for summer 2024.
- 2) To approve the Parks and Openspace Lighting Guidance document in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 3) To note the indicative project implementation plan for 2024/25 (Appendix 2 to the report).

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### **Amendment**

- 1) To note that the lighting design for Hailes Quarry Park had now been completed, with installation scheduled for summer 2024.
- 2) To approve the Parks and Openspace Lighting Guidance document in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 3) To note the indicative project implementation plan for 2024/25 (Appendix 2 to the report).
- 4) Notes the decision of the committee on 11<sup>th</sup> 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.
- 5) 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 Councillor Thornley, seconded by Councillor Osler

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted Motion by Councillor Walker:

- 1) To note that the lighting design for Hailes Quarry Park had now been completed, with installation scheduled for summer 2024.
- 2) To approve the Parks and Openspace Lighting Guidance document in Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 3) To note the indicative project implementation plan for 2024/25 (Appendix 2 to the report).
- 4) To note the decision of the committee on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023 to receive annual updates on progress with Park Lighting Projects, but that the next of these would fall after the 2025-6 Budget process.
- 5) To therefore request an additional update report to committee's December meeting, including on the state of agreed funding for park lighting projects, that groups might consider that in developing their budget proposals.

(References - Culture and Communities Committee of 11 May 2023 (item 9); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

## **17. Temporary Toilet Facilities in Parks**

---

Details were provided on the progress with the development of permanent public toilets in three premier parks: Inverleith Park, Leith Links, and the Meadows. While the design, construction, and installation of these facilities takes place, temporary toilets would be provided for the summer period (June to October).

### **Motion**

- 1) To note the progress towards the provision of permanent public toilet facilities in Inverleith Park, the Meadows, and Leith Links.
- 2) To note the provision of temporary public toilets in the above three parks for the summer 2024 period.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### **Amendment**

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 Councillor Heap, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted Motion by Councillor Walker:

- 1) To note the progress towards the provision of permanent public toilet facilities in Inverleith Park, the Meadows, and Leith Links.
- 2) To note the provision of temporary public toilets in the above three parks for the summer 2024 period.
- 3) To welcome that temporary toilets would return to Straiton Place Park, Portobello, for the summer.
- 4) To note that last year an accessible toilet was not provided due to supplier shortages.
- 5) To regret that an accessible unit had not yet been secured for 2024 despite repeated requests from the Community Council and ward members that this be resolved as soon as possible.
- 6) To request 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.

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

## 18. Use of Council Sports Facilities

---

In response to a motion by Councillor Osler, details were provided of the use by sports clubs and associations of Council owned sports facilities that were managed by Edinburgh Leisure which reflected use of the centres and school facilities by all demographics from a specific week (Monday to Sunday) in November 2023.

### **Motion**

To note the update on the use of Council sports facilities, in response to Councillor Osler's motion from October 2023.

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

### **Amendment**

- 1) To note the update on the use of Council sports facilities, in response to Councillor Osler's motion from October 2023.
- 2) Understands that new criteria has now been added to the booking form to enable a better understanding of individual use of facilities.
- 3) Agrees to an update in a year's time to take into account new profile information.

- moved by Councillor Osler, seconded by Councillor Thornley

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted Motion by Councillor Walker:

- 1) To note the update on the use of Council sports facilities, in response to Councillor Osler's motion from October 2023.
- 2) To understand that new criteria had now been added to the booking form to enable a better understanding of individual use of facilities.
- 3) To agree to an update in a year's time to take into account new profile information.

(References – Culture and Communities Committee of 5 October 2023 (item 17); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

## 19 Edinburgh's Christmas and Edinburgh's Hogmanay – Outcome Report

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Details were provided on the outcomes and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for

Edinburgh's Christmas and Edinburgh's Hogmanay 2023/24.

### **Decision**

To note the performance of the 2023/24 editions of Edinburgh's Christmas and Edinburgh's Hogmanay.

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

## **20. Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2022/23 – Culture and Leisure Services**

---

An overview was provided of the 2022/23 benchmarking data provided by the Scottish Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) which and reflected the recovery of Culture and Leisure services post Covid-19.

### **Decision**

To note the detailed analysis of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) Culture and Leisure dataset for the 2022/23 financial year.

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

## **21. Filming in Edinburgh**

---

An update was provided on filming in Edinburgh (which was coordinated by the Council's film office, 'Film Edinburgh'), which reflected the continued positive city reputation as a filming destination and the economic impact of filming in Edinburgh for 2023.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the city's success in attracting and facilitating film and television production in Edinburgh in 2023.
- 2) To note the spend taking place in the city as a direct result of filming.

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

## **22. Women's Safety in Public Places - Action Update - Referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee**

---

The Policy and Sustainability Committee had referred a report on which outlined the ways in which the relevant officers involved in leading the Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee, Lighting, and Community Safety worked together to embed principles enhancing Women's Safety in Public Places (WSPP) in all community safety and improvement activity.

## Decision

To note the report by the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

(References – Policy and Sustainability Committee on 12 March 2024 (item 25): referral from the Policy and Sustainability Committee, submitted.)

## 23. Internal Audit Update Report: Quarter 4 2023/24 - Referral from the Governance Risk and Best Value Committee

---

The Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee had referred the audit on Community Centres to the Culture and Communities Committee for consideration in the context of the ongoing development of the Community Centre Strategy and requested they consider monitoring progress on implementing the recommendation.

## Decision

- 1) To note the audit in the context of the ongoing development of the Community Centre Strategy.
- 2) To agree to monitoring progress on implementing the recommendation.

(References – Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee of 7 May 2024 (item 7); referral from the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee, submitted.)

## 24. Dogs in Cemeteries – Motion by Councillor Walker

---

The following motion was submitted by Councillor Walker in terms of Standing Order 17:

“Committee

- Notes the continuing public interest and concern over the behaviour of dogs in cemeteries
- Notes that two petitions have been circulated on this matter, one proposing banning all dogs in cemeteries, and a counter-petition in opposition to this
- Asks officers to update the Committee in one cycle on compliance and enforcement of the current rules
- Requests that the two groups organising the petitions be notified of the date and procedure.”

- moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

## Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Walker.

## 25. WASPS Patriothall – Motion by Councillor Osler

---

The following motion was submitted by Councillor Osler in terms of Standing Order 17:

“Committee:

- 1) Knows the important role that culture and creativity play in making Edinburgh a successful city.
- 2) Understands the struggles that many within the cultural “due to massively increased costs and earnings which are still depressed.
- 3) Understands the limited availability of artists studios across the city and that demand exceeds supply.
- 4) Understands that an issue has developed for the tenants at WASPS Patriothall with greatly increased rental costs, which for many of them jeopardises their ability to afford to continue leasing studio space.
- 5) Understands that the Convener of Culture and Communities Committee, having been made aware of the situation, has agreed to make contact with WASPS to understand what has occurred.
- 6) Agrees that officers should seek to meet with the Management Board, or senior representatives, of WASPS, to understand the circumstances surrounding reported rent increases, with a view to understanding what further steps should be taken to ensure continued viable and equitable use of artist spaces in Patriothall.
- 7) Agrees to receive a briefing on the above to the members of the Culture and Communities Committee and Inverleith Ward members, to include consideration of appropriate next steps to address ongoing concerns.”

- moved by Councillor Osler, seconded by Councillor Thornley

### **Decision**

To approve the motion by Councillor Osler.

## 26. WASPS Patriothall Studios – Motion by Councillor Heap

---

The following motion was submitted by Councillor Heap in terms of Standing Order 17:

“Committee notes

- 1) The letter sent to some Committee members from tenants of the WASPS Patriothall Studios regarding significant rent rises.
- 2) That this decision is likely to have relevance for the Council as it has a





- 5) FCZs are an important way of ensuring fireworks are used safely in the city, but, ultimately, the best method is to place stricter controls on the purchase and sale of fireworks using powers contained in Part 2 of the Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Act 2022
- 6) Part 2 of the Act has not yet been commenced

### **Actions**

Committee requests:

#### *Evidence*

- 7) Bearing in mind that proposals must be clearly evidenced, officers gather evidence for
  - a) A city-wide zone
  - b) Individual zones

#### *Process*

- 8) Any requests of the sort described in *Committee Further Notes (2)* are considered on an equal basis to all other requests
- 9) The Council's FCZ [webpage](#) and other public-facing communications make it clearer that a city-wide FCZ can be requested and explains how to do this.
- 10) Proposals are presented to it in time for implementation in November, covering
  - a) The City of Edinburgh Council area
  - b) Any other area(s) suggested by residents through the Community Request Process
- 11) It will make the final decision on the proposed FCZ(s) to be implemented.
- 12) It should be presented with the draft guidance that will be used by officers making decisions on FCZ applications.

#### *Funding*

- 13) It should be consulted on how the £25,000 per FCZ to be provided by the Scottish Government should be spent.

#### *Sale and Purchase Controls*

- 14) The Convener and Leader write a joint letter to the Scottish Government asking for part 2 of the Act to be commenced as soon as possible and asking the Scottish Government to provide an indicative timescale for this.”

- moved by Councillor Heap, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

## Decision

To approve the motion by Councillor Heap.

## 28. Pansy Walk – Motion by Councillor McKenzie

---

The following motion was submitted by Councillor McKenzie in terms of Standing Order 17:

“Committee -

Notes that Pansy Walk is a well-used active travel route and greenspace which connects Balgreen Road with the Water of Leith Walkway and with Westfield Avenue via a pedestrian bridge.

Regrets the increasing presence of parked cars on Pansy Walk, and notes that these parked cars are damaging grass verges on either side of the path.

Thanks officers for their engagement with ward councillors who have raised this issue on behalf of constituents in recent months, and for their suggestion that strategic tree planting on the grass verges could be a first step to resolving the issue.

Requests:

- 1) That the necessary resources are provided to ensure that strategic tree planting takes place early in the next planting season.
  
- 2) That a report is brought to the next Culture and Communities Committee with further options for preventing parking on Pansy Walk, and with options to improve the public realm on Pansy Walk more broadly, including, but not limited to:
  - a) Including Pansy Walk in Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders for events taking place at Tynecastle Park and Murrayfield Stadium.
  - b) Including the above issues in discussions around a future lease for Balgreen Croquet and Bowling Club, with a view to limiting vehicular access to the Club.
  - c) Working with Balgreen Primary School to reduce vehicular access to Pansy Walk during school drop-off and collection times.
  - d) Working with contractors using the compound space that runs parallel to Pansy Walk to improve the public realm at the entrance to that site.
  - e) The introduction of bollards to prevent cars from entering the full length

of Pansy Walk.

- f) The introduction of bollards to protect the grass verges.
- g) Options for future investment in Pansy Walk.”

### **Motion**

To approve the motion by Councillor McKenzie.

- moved by Councillor McKenzie, seconded by Councillor McFarlane

### **Amendment**

- 1) Adds a new third paragraph to the motion by Councillor Heap:  
“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.”
- 2) Adds a new fifth paragraph to the motion:  
“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.”
- 3) Notes the requests laid out in the motion, and advice from officers that they spread across the remits of Culture and Communities, Transport and Environment and Finance and Resources Committees.
- 4) 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.
- 5) 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 and Communities Committee within two cycles.”

- moved by Councillor Thornley, seconded by Councillor Osler

In accordance with Standing Order 22(13), the amendment was adjusted and accepted as an addendum to the motion.

### **Decision**

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor McKenzie:

Committee -

- 1) To note that Pansy Walk was a well-used active travel route and greenspace which connected Balgreen Road with the Water of Leith Walkway and with

Westfield Avenue via a pedestrian bridge.

- 2) To regret the increasing presence of parked cars on Pansy Walk, and note that these parked cars were damaging grass verges on either side of the path.
- 3) To note that issues similar to those experienced in Pansy Walk occurred throughout the city, such as in Gyle Park or at schools during drop-off time.
- 4) To thank officers for their engagement with ward councillors who had raised this issue on behalf of constituents in recent months, and for their suggestion that strategic tree planting on the grass verges could be a first step to resolving the issue.

Requests:

- 5) To request that the necessary resources be provided to ensure that strategic tree planting took place early in the next planting season.
- 6) To request that a report be brought to the next Culture and Communities Committee with further options for preventing parking on Pansy Walk, and with options to improve the public realm on Pansy Walk more broadly, including, but not limited to:
  - a) Including Pansy Walk in Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders for events taking place at Tynecastle Park and Murrayfield Stadium.
  - b) Including the above issues in discussions around a future lease for Balgreen Croquet and Bowling Club, with a view to limiting vehicular access to the Club.
  - c) Working with Balgreen Primary School to reduce vehicular access to Pansy Walk during school drop-off and collection times.
  - d) Working with contractors using the compound space that runs parallel to Pansy Walk to improve the public realm at the entrance to that site.
  - e) The introduction of bollards to prevent cars from entering the full length of Pansy Walk.
  - f) The introduction of bollards to protect the grass verges.
  - g) Options for future investment in Pansy Walk.”
- 7) To understand that, in addition to strategic tree planting, other methods such as knee-rail fencing had been proven successful in reducing parking on grass verges, such as at Gyle and Clermiston Parks.
- 8) To note the requests laid out in the motion, and advice from officers that they spread across the remits of Culture and Communities, Transport and Environment and Finance and Resources Committees.

- 9) To therefore request 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.
- 10) To seek reassurance that this engagement would take place, and agree to receive a business bulletin update on progress in resolving noted issues within the remit of Culture and Communities Committee within two cycles.”

## **29. Future of Summerhall – Emergency Motion by Councillor McFarlane**

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The Convener ruled that the following item, notice of which had been given at the start of the meeting, be considered as a matter of urgency to allow the Committee to give early consideration to this matter.

The following motion was submitted by Councillor McFarlane in terms of Standing Order 17:

“Committee:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 4) Is reassured that this potential change will not affect their annual programme of events and upcoming Fringe 2024.
- 5) 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.
- 6) 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 Councillor McFarlane, seconded by Councillor McNeese-Mechan

**Decision**

To approve the motion by Councillor McFarlane.

**30. Summerhall – Emergency Motion by Councillor Heap**

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The Convener ruled that the following item, notice of which had been given at the start of the meeting, be considered as a matter of urgency to allow the Committee to give early consideration to this matter.

The following motion was submitted by Councillor Heap in terms of Standing Order 17:

“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

- 5) Asks the Convener 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.
- 6) Asks that a nominee from other political groups are invited to attend the meeting.”

- moved by Councillor Heap, seconded by Councillor Staniforth

**Decision**

To approve the motion by Councillor Heap.