

LORD PROVOST SUB-COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 28 April 2011 – Minute of Meeting of the LORD PROVOST SUB-COMMITTEE. Present:- Lord Provost Peter Stephen, Chairperson; Depute Provost Dunbar; and Councillors Cooney and Cormack.

Officers in attendance:- Ciaran Monaghan, Beverley Graham and Alasdair Ross, Office of Chief Executive; Bill Farquhar, Events Team, Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure; and Lynsey McBain, Democratic Services, Corporate Governance.

APOLOGIES

1. An apology was intimated on behalf of Councillor Malone.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The Sub-Committee had before it the minute of the previous meeting of 3 February 2011.

The Sub-Committee resolved:-

to approve the minute as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

3. (A) Aberdeen Highland Games

With reference to article 5 resolution (ii) of the minute of the previous meeting, the Lord Provost queried whether invitations to the Highland Games had been issued yet. Beverley Graham explained that Daniel Parrott, Events Officer, Aberdeen City Council, normally issued the invitations for this event; however the Lord Provost did have a guest list for the event, which could be added to.

MINUTE OF THE BATTLE OF HARLAW OF 14 MARCH 2011

4. The Sub-Committee had before it the minute of the Battle of Harlaw Working Group of 14 March 2011 for information.

The Sub-Committee resolved:-

to note the minute.

CIVIC HOSPITALITY REQUESTS

5. (A) Financial Reports

The Sub-Committee had before it, financial statements pertaining to the Civic Hospitality budget for 2011/12 and 2012/13 and the Lord Provost Common Gift Fund for 2011/12.

The Lord Provost noted that there were no concerns at present in relation to the budgets, and Alasdair Ross reminded members that under the Order of References, the Sub-Committee had the power to charge back other departments who take gifts from the Lord Provost Gift Fund.

The Sub-Committee resolved:-

to note the information provided.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Cooney declared an interest in the following article by virtue of his appointment as a Council representative on the Aberdeen International Youth Festival. Councillor Cooney did not withdraw from the meeting during consideration of the article.

(B) Civic Hospitality Requests 2011/12

The Sub-Committee had before it various applications for the provision of civic hospitality for the financial year 2011/12.

The Sub-Committee resolved:-

to approve the following applications as follows:-

Occasion	Date of Event	Venue	Hospitality to be Granted
Heads of Planning Scotland AGM	2 June 2011	St Nicholas Room	Wine/Juice and Canapés for 50
Activpayroll	14 June 2011	Town and County Hall	Wine/Juice and Finger Buffet for 100
Meff-Spence Bowling Tournament	15 June 2011	Bon Accord Room	2 Course Lunch (Main and Dessert) for 24
Scottish Youth Theatre Summer Festival	20 July 2011	St Nicholas Room	Soft Drinks and Finger Buffet for 40
Aberdeen Bowling Tournament Presentation of Prizes	23 July 2011	Westburn Park Lounge	Wine/Juice on Arrival, Stovies and Dessert, Tea and Coffee for 110
Aberdeen International Youth Festival Welcome	31 July 2011	Town and County Hall	Tea/Coffee, Scones, Strawberries and Cream for 100

Aberdeen International Youth Festival Farewell	5 August 2011	Northern Lights Room	Wine/Beer/Juice and Finger Buffet for 200 and Soft Drinks Bar for 300
LGBT Youth Scotland	13 August 2011	Town and County Hall	Soft Drinks and Finger Buffet for 150
Walker Cup	8 September 2011	Beach Ballroom	Sparkling Wine on Arrival for 500
World Marine Biodiversity Conference	27 September 2011	Maritime Museum	Wine/Juice and Finger Buffet for 200
Aberdeen In Bloom Garden Competition	28 September 2011	Town and County Hall	Wine/Juice on Arrival and Finger Buffet for 120
Gordon Highlander's Statue	TBC	Town and County Hall	Afternoon Tea for 100
Scottish Council for Development and Industry Seminar	8 November 2011	Town and County Hall	Wine/Juice and Finger Buffet for 80

(C) Civic Hospitality Requests 2012/13

The Sub-Committee had before it various applications for the provision of civic hospitality for the financial year 2012/13.

The Sub-Committee resolved:-

to approve the following applications as follows:-

Occasion	Date of Event	Venue	Hospitality to be Granted
Cults Bowling Club 125 th Anniversary	26 April 2012	Town and County Hall	Wine/Juice and Finger Buffet for 80
European Network of Nursing in Higher Education Student Conference	30 April 2012	Town and County Hall	Wine/Juice and Finger Buffet for 100

(D) Use of Delegated Powers

The Sub-Committee had before it for information, four applications for civic hospitality which had been agreed under delegated powers.

Occasion	Date of Event	Venue	Hospitality Granted
Unconventional Gas Conference	1 March 2011	AECC	VIP drinks Reception for 50.

Aberdeen Artists Society	30 April 2011	Aberdeen Gallery	Art	Drinks Reception for 250
Court of Deans AGM	6 May 2011	Town House		Dinner for 60.
Royal British Legion Women's Section Annual Conference	20 May 2011	Aberdeen Gallery	Art	Drinks Reception and Finger Buffet for 100.

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

6. With reference to article 5 of the minute of meeting of 29 April 2010, the Sub-Committee had before it a report which provided an update on the proposed activities and events in relation to the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The report advised that at the end of 2010, Jeremy Hunt, Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport for the UK Government wrote to the First Minister to update him on the approach being taken for the celebrations, and he took the opportunity to confirm a number of announcements relating to competitions being run including those for the granting of city status and for the granting of a Lord Mayoralty/Lord Provostship.

The report further advised that the letter received made it clear that while the Government was hopeful that communities throughout the UK would come together and celebrate the Diamond Jubilee in their own way, it should be appreciated that both the Government and the Royal Household were anxious that the celebrations should reflect the current economic climate, and the expectation was that everything would be funded from existing budgets or through private sector sponsorship.

The report then went on to highlight that a number of potential activities and events were currently under consideration for inclusion in the Council's programme to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

- The Housing and Environment Committee were currently giving consideration to Aberdeen participating in the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge being co-ordinated by Fields in Trust under the patronage of Prince William, as well as consideration being given to entering the Woodland Trust's Diamond Woods project.
- The Lord Provost and the Council Leader had been contacted by Bruno Peek, Pageantmaster who was co-ordinating the lighting of beacons throughout the UK on a date to be set during the weekend of 2 to 5 June 2012, and the Council's Events Team would prepare a costed proposal for Committee consideration in relation to potential involvement by Aberdeen in this project
- The Depute Lieutenants had also given thought to how the Diamond Jubilee might be marked and suggestions include the introduction of a new Aberdeen Jubilee Award to be presented every four years with an emphasis on civic pride and exceptional service, diamond flower beds and/or commissioned jewellery.

Ciaran Monaghan spoke in furtherance of his report, and highlighted that he was currently observing what the UK government were proposing for the celebrations. He explained that a further report would be prepared with proposals and asked if there were any suggestions which were contained within the report that members did not favour. Councillor Cormack explained that she was concerned that the suggestion of commissioned jewellery did not reflect the current economic climate and Ciaran noted that he would take this on board when the report was due to come back in October.

During the course of discussion, the following suggestions for local celebrations were made:-

- Musical Recognition of the Jubilee – major city-wide concert by pupils. It was suggested that this could be a large open-air event
- Jubilee Scholarship – providing musical tuition for three talented pupils.
- Museum Involvement. It was suggested that officers contact Patricia Cassidy, Head of Communities, Culture and Sport to ascertain any involvement in the celebrations from the Council's museums.

The report recommended:-

that the Sub-Committee -

- (i) notes the contents of the report; and
- (ii) requests that officers provide a further report to the meeting on 13 October 2011 on the Council's proposed programme of events to mark the Queen's Jubilee in 2012.

The Sub-Committee resolved:-

- (i) to request that officers contact Patricia Cassidy in relation to the museums involvement in the Jubilee celebrations;
- (ii) to request that officers contact David Leng, Head of Schools and Education Establishment, to establish if anything could be incorporated within the school curriculum for 2011/12, relating to the Jubilee;
- (iii) to note that the suggestions for the city-wide concert by pupils and the Jubilee scholarship, be incorporated within the updated report, along with the consensus that the commissioned jewellery was not suitable; and
- (iv) to otherwise approve the recommendations.

AOCB

7. The Lord Provost declared the meeting open for any other competent business, whereby he advised that the Sub-Committee had previously agreed to donate six chairs to HMS Diamond. The Lord Provost explained that officers from HMS Diamond asked if another two chairs could be donated, which meant eight would be donated in total. This was agreed and officers expressed their appreciation at the gesture.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8. The Sub-Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 7 July 2011 at 10.30am.

-Lord Provost Stephen, Chairperson