

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Paul Davis



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WELLINGTON FESTIVAL WORKING GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held via Zoom, on **7th July 2021** commencing at 10:30am.

Present

Cllr A Lowe (Chairman)	Cllr Dorothy Roberts (ex officio)
Cllr J Pierce	Paola Armstrong
Cllr Pat Fairclough	Marc Petty
Cllr Joan Gorse	Apologies:
Cllr Paul Davis (ex officio)	Cllr K Tomlinson
	Cllr J Alvey

- 1. Welcome and Introductory remarks.**
Cllr Lowe welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2. Discuss possible election of new chair.**
AL discussed the present situation and recent disagreements and wanted to confirm his appointment as Chair. JP spoke with confidence in his ability as chair but suggested he did need to adhere to strict protocol and it was agreed that any additional emails or invites to meetings be sent via the office. JG also agreed with JP. Cllr Roberts joined at this point. AL recapped.
Cllr Roberts had nothing to add. PD agreed with the above and said that as a working group, the ex officio had the right to vote. DR would like to continue as non-voting.
- 3. Declaration of Interest:** None
- 4. Apologies for absence:** Cllr Alvey and Cllr Tomlinson. Accepted
- 5. To confirm the 'notes' from the last meeting 9th June 2021**
Cllr Pierce confirmed and Cllr Gorse seconded
- 6. Matters arising from those minutes:**
PA can confirm that there are no outstanding invoices from the 2021 festival.
PA to notify all winners and get permission from parents for the children – now cancelled.
PA waiting for a quote for the 2 glass trophies
PA to check the promotion from WTC for 10th July – now cancelled.
AL emailed all members regarding what the festival objective should be and “what went well” experiences from previous festivals.
AL has had submissions from JG, JP and AL

PA added "Focus of the Festival" to the agenda

AL would like to include in the next magazine the details for anyone wishing to view the recorded events of the festival.

ACTION: PA to include in the next edition of the magazine details for anyone wishing to view the recorded events of the festival.

7. Marc Petty/Philip Larkin

MP explained that next year was the 100th anniversary of Larkin's birth and that the PL society have a number of events planned and would like to come to Wellington.

Options: Larkin day event. Workshop. Also discussed a film. 3 panel A1 display from Larkin's time in Wellington is also still in existence.

A lengthy discussion was had to try and decide whether to include it in the festival or to pass to E&C as a separate event.

JP suggested we could put something in the magazine and ask residents if they remember Larkin. AL added that we could include a photograph and commented that any stories about Larkin's time in Wellington might be "2nd hand" but still of potential interest to the Larkin Society

JG suggested that a Philip Larkin day would be better than including it in the festival

JP suggested we take the matter back to E&C.

AL asked MP to draft a proposal to E&C and also to draft some content for the next edition of the magazine

MP also talked about the Walking With Giants project and the potential to include this in the festival as a literature event, featuring Larkin, Hesba Stretton, Nadia Sharine, Bruce Chatwin

ACTION: PA to ask CM to put the suggestion of a Phillip Larkin Day on the agenda at the next E&C meeting

ACTION: PA to forward MP's email about the Penguin writer to the festival working group Nadia

ACTION: PA to forward (when sent) MP's proposal to E&C

ACTION: PA to put forward the suggestion to include a piece about Phillip Larkin in the next edition of the magazine

8. Heather Reid's proposal in her letter to Cllr Fairclough

AL gave some context to the proposal put forward by Heather Reid about a poetry in schools project. Her letter had been circulated by AL but not all Members had received or read it. Meeting set up on Monday 26th July at WTC between Heather Reid, Sue Crampton and Helen Donaghue will take place with no members present.

9. Discuss the focus for Festival 2022

A discussion was had and the following was agreed: "*The free Wellington Festival will be at the heart of the Wellington community - celebrating local and nationally known creativity in the visual arts, music, theatre and the written and spoken word*"

Dates confirmed of 6-8th May 2022

10. Next steps for Festival 2022

At the next meeting, it has been agreed that the next steps are to start discussing acts and ideas.

ACTION: All members of the working group to send their ideas to PA a week in advance of the meeting

11. Any other business

PD to suggest that the festival winners come to the council office to collect their medals, once they're delivered.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be in person.

ACTION: PA to chase up the delivery of the medals and, once they've arrived, arrange a date with PD, AL and JP plus the children for a visit to the council offices in the summer holidays.

ACTION: PA to book Lesley's Room for the next meeting (as Council Chambers are unavailable)

12. Date and time of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed to be held on Wednesday 4th August 2021 at 10.30am. This meeting began at 10:30am and was concluded at 12:34pm.

ACTIONS:

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