

# **LEISURE, PARKS & WASTE MANAGEMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE**

**1 APRIL 2021**

## **PRESENT:**

Councillors Matthews (Chairman), Silvester-Hall (Vice-Chair), Westwood (Vice-Chair), Baker, Banevicius, Barnett, L Ennis, Salter, Warfield, M Wilcox and B Yeates.

(In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No.17 Councillors Cox and Pullen attended the meeting).

## **43 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Ray and Tapper.

## **44 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Baker declares a pecuniary interest in item 5 - Garrick Theatre as she was the Council appointed Trustee of the Theatre. She left the meeting before consideration commenced on the item.

Councillor B. Yeates declared a personal interest in item 5 – Garrick Theatre and he dealt with the organisation as part of his employment.

## **45 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated, were agreed a correct record.

## **46 WORK PROGRAMME**

The work programme was considered. It was noted that a special meeting had been arranged for the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to consider the procurement of the waste vehicle contract and Dry Recycling Options.

RESOLVED: That the work programme be noted.

## **47 GARRICK THEATRE**

The Committee received a report on the proposed funding arrangement with the Garrick Theatre Trust.

It was reported that the current Concessionary Service Agreement (CSA) had now ended and it was noted that this CSA allowed the Garrick trust to recover VAT. It was reported that following legal and financial advice the opinion was that continuing with the CSA arrangement would not be compatible with procurement legislation. Due to this, it had been recommended to revert back to a grant agreement similar to that in place before the CSA. It was noted that alternative options were considerably less favourable. It was noted that the Council had worked with the Trust to formulate this longer term agreement and they were fully aware of the proposals.

It was reported that due to the pandemic the last 12 months has significantly impacted the Arts Industry and that this had been reflected in the level of support proposed. It was noted that the Council's cultural and heritage spend was higher than similar local authorities and so a consistent reduction in financial support would be part of the agreement.

It was then reported that a precise set of key performance indicators (KPIs) would be part of the new agreement which would be used to ensure outcomes were achieved. It was asked if there would be regular reviews of the agreement and it was reported if the Garrick were to be making more money than expected then further discussions with the trust would take place. It was noted that performance against the KPIs would be reported most likely on a quarterly basis.

The Committee welcomed the report and largely agreed with the proposals. It was felt that further out reach work by the theatre should be encouraged and a specific KPI be considered to ensure all areas in the District benefited from this community work. Further to this it was felt that performances in all available parks in the District could be beneficial.

It was asked how the level of financial support had been arrived at and it was reported that it had been a result of negotiations with the Trust taking into account the need to keep them on the trajectory of a reduction in their reliance of funding from the Council but also excepting the difficult time the industry was facing at the current time.

The economic benefit of the facility especially the night time economy was noted and it was felt that there would be a need and desire by people to experience the theatre post pandemic lockdown.

- RESOLVED: (1) That Cabinet be recommended that the relationship with the Lichfield Garrick Theatre Ltd revert to a Strategic Partnership Agreement;
- (2) That the proposal that the Strategic Partnership Agreement be entered into to the values as outlined in paragraph 3.13 of the report be recommended to Cabinet; and
- (3) That the proposal that the Strategic Partnership Agreement be amended to provide a smaller number of measureable outcomes, more closely aligned to LDC's Strategic Objectives be recommended to Cabinet.

(The Meeting closed at 6.30 pm)

CHAIRMAN