

Minutes of Culture, Tourism & Communications Committee Meeting Wednesday, 26th March 2025, at 2pm via Teams

Councillors Present: Cllrs. Angela O'Connor (Chair), Rob Marshall (Vice Chair), Martin O'Neill, Richard Jarvis and Tim Zhou.

Officers Present: Paul Beynon - RFO

Others Present: Cllr Will Thomas.

CT2503-01 **Apologies for Absence**
None

CT2503-02 **Declarations of Interest**
None

CT2503-03 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Committee**
To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 5th March 2025 as a true record.
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RESOLVED: To approve the meeting minutes held on 5th March 2025 as an accurate record.

CT2503-04 **Update on actions from previous meetings.**
In the absence of the CSO, update on actions deferred to April Committee Meeting.

CT2503-05 **Budget Monitoring Report to 31/01/2025 - RFO, Paul Beynon** - Reports attached. Financial reports prepared by RFO Paul Beynon had previously been distributed to committee members. No questions relating to the budget reports had been provided either to the CSO or the RFO prior to the meeting.

The RFO outlined areas of underspend in light of the current financial year finishing shortly. Areas of underspend included floral decorations, newsletter printing and distribution, Festoon Lighting on Mumbles Road, St David's Day Celebration and for the 80th Anniversary Celebrations to mark D-Day. There is potentially an overspend in the region of £600 in relation to the Merry Christmas Grant due to additional items including a Christmas tree base and fencing being added to the original

application. Consideration may be given to vire money from underspend budgets to cover this cost.

No questions were asked of The RFO in relation to his report at the meeting.

RESOLVED to approve the budget monitoring report to 31st January 2025.

Cllrs Will Thomas and Richard Jarvis joined the meeting at 2.05pm

CT2503-06

Honour of Mumbles

Cllr Thomas arranged for the circulation of a briefing document in relation the Honour of Mumbles to be made to the committee members.

Cllr Thomas briefly outlined the proposal detailing how in the event of this award being reintroduced the responsibility for the arrangements should be shared amongst a number of Councillors.

Cllr Thomas suggested that each Councillor should be restricted to one nomination or being a seconder to a nomination. The award should be restricted to two individuals of appropriate character who do not have a criminal record.

Formal nominations would be restricted to councillors who could receive suggestions from members of the public. Voting for the recipient of the award, should take place at MCC's annual meeting with the award being made at the Mumblesfest Festival.

During the discussion that followed consideration was given to the number of potential recipients including whether groups such as societies should be included. Consideration was also given to the reference of criminal records.

It was the consensus of the committee that any reference to criminal records should be omitted and that the character of a potential award recipient be included within the term 'appropriate person'. It was also considered that for the first award after a long absence, only one person should receive the award, with the existing budget of £250 being sufficient to cover the award.

ACTION: Cllr Thomas to amend The Honour of Mumbles Briefing Document prior to April's Meeting of Full Council

RECOMMENDATION: That the Honour of Mumbles award is re-introduced and MCC select one individual to be awarded The Honour of Mumbles at May's Annual Meeting. The award to be made at Mumblesfest Festival on 7 June 2025 with any necessary expenditure being funded from the existing budget of £250 in CTC47 – Honour of Mumbles

CT2503-07

Ostreme Illumination

The Chair, Cllr O'Connor outlined that Claire Anderson had received further quotes for lighting which were considerably cheaper. These had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. The cost of installation would be between £300 and £400 depending upon the location, and the cost of the light fitting itself would be under £100.

RECOMMENDATION: That MCC purchase and install a multi-coloured lighting system at a cost of £500 in order to commemorate Baby Loss Awareness Days and other events.

CT2503-08

VE Update

Claire Anderson had prepared a briefing document that had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting.

The Chair outlined how arrangements to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day at The Ostreme on 8th May 2025 are well under way. Catering has been arranged, and both Rob Pendry and Maddie Fordham have been booked. A table has been arranged for The RAF to sell poppies.

The Lord Lieutenant will be in attendance and Cllr Marshall is in the process of inviting three local veterans. To date 65 people have registered to attend, but numbers are increasing on a daily basis.

Claire Anderson asked for as many Councillors as possible to assist on the day and inform her of their availability

ACTION: All Committee Councillors to inform Claire Anderson of their availability to assist with arrangements on 8th May 2025 at Ostreme to commemorate VE Day.

CT2503-09

Spotlighting Traders in Social Media

Claire Anderson had prepared a briefing document that had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting.

The Chair, Cllr O'Connor outlined that in addition to running Spotlight posts in conjunction with our Small Business Week promotion, (Mumbles May Madness during the period of 1-10th May) it would be great to offer this opportunity on an ongoing basis so MCC can help all local traders promote their businesses throughout the year.

RECOMMENDATION:

MCC put a social media post out calling ALL local traders to send us information to run spotlight posts via events@mumbles.gov.uk It would be great to highlight new businesses coming into the area as well as supporting existing ones too.

CT2503-10

Mumbles May Madness Update

The Chair, Cllr O'Connor had provided an update on the Mumbles May Madness proposal in the previous agenda item (CT2503-09). Approval for the February Committee's recommendation in relation to Mumbles May had been obtained at the March Full Council Meeting.

CT2503-11

Dragon Parade

The Chair, Cllr O'Connor outlined how she had received representations from local residents/businesses to resurrect the Dragon Parade. MCC had not held any formal St. David's Day celebrations in 2025 and a number of residents had suggested using the Dragon Parade next year to commemorate St David's Day.

Enquiries by Cllr O'Connor revealed that she had received a quote of £2,368 for the repair of the dragon currently in storage.

During the discussion on holding a Dragon Parade it was clarified that there was a current budget of £750 for St David's Day together with £750 for the forthcoming financial year making a total of £1,500 being available for a 2026 event.

The general consensus of the committee was that over £2,000 was too much for a one-off event. In addition, extra costs for transportation and repair of the dragon are likely to be incurred. Cllr O'Connor updated the committee that on previous occasions there had been difficulties in obtaining sufficient volunteers to support the event.

The committee debated alternatives to the Dragon Parade including local schools being sponsored to create dragon models and participating in a parade with a hired dragon.

Options to be discussed at future committee meetings.

ACTION: to be discussed as an agenda item at June Committee Meeting and councillors to bring forward ideas to discuss to celebrate St David's Day in 2026.

Exclusion of Press and Public

CT2503-12

In accordance with the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, it is proposed that the press and public be excluded for the following items of business due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

RESOLVED that due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

Cllrs Thomas and Jarvis left the meeting at 2.36pm

Recording of the meeting was terminated at 2.37pm

MumblesFest 2025 – Closed Session

Discussion took place on the progress of MumblesFest 2025.

The meeting ended at 3.02pm.

Next Meeting to be arranged

DRAFT