

## **EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the meeting of Arts and Culture Forum held at Blackdown House, Honiton on 27 March 2019**

#### **Attendance list at end of document**

The meeting started at 10.00 am and ended at 12.13 pm

#### **12 Public speaking**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

#### **13 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2018 were signed as a true record.

#### **14 Declarations of interest**

None

#### **15 Villages in Action 2018/19**

Claire Marshall from Carn to Cove and Rick Blowers of Villages in Action presented 'Rural Performance in Devon, Update on activity for East Devon District Council'. They reminded the Forum of the project's aims

- **Stabilisation** of rural touring in VIA areas of Devon (not covered by Beaford Arts)
- **Introduce** digital systems for IT and ticketing
- **Expansion of** international programming content
- **Organisational Development** – test new models of working with new stakeholders for sustainable system: Options Appraisal Panel

They informed the group of performances coming up in the next few months as well as new partners and expansion of international programming content. This year VIA would gather opinions from stakeholders, review the organisation development plans and present the findings from the options they had appraised during the project so far:

- **Hub & Spoke:** collaborative working
- **Made in Devon:** developing Hefted in the community
- **New partnerships:** The Inn Crowd; Doorstep Arts

#### **16 South West Museums Partnership 2018/19**

Victoria Harding, Programme Manager presented the South West Museums Development Programme (SWMD). There were 7 accredited museums in East Devon; 2 major National Trust properties, A La Ronde, Killerton and 5 museums run entirely by volunteers - Sidmouth, Allhallows, Fairlynch, Axminster and Topsham. She explained that Museum Development was established in 2006 and restructured in 2012. SWMD is one of nine regional Museum Development Providers in the South West, hosted by Bristol City Council on behalf of the SW region.

There were approximately 400 museums and heritage organisations in region with

210+ Museums within the Accreditation Scheme. Museum Development has worked closely with 200+ museums in 2017-18. Over 30% funding in a network of local MDOs. Over 30% of the sector is wholly operated with volunteer workforce and 60% of the museums were Independent charities. Half the museums attract under 10K visits per annum.

East Devon 2017/18 investment came from;

- EDDC, Sidmouth Town and Budleigh Salterton Parish Councils
- External grants from National Lottery Heritage Fund of £241,800
- A wide range of SWMD technical and thematic support services e.g. collections and audiences
- £30,000 of additional project investment direct to East Devon's Museums

£241,000 over 2018-20 would come from Rural Proofing Resilience for 16 museums across Cornwall, Devon, Dorset and Somerset; Sidmouth Museum and Fairlynch Museum were key project beneficiaries. Victoria hoped EDDC would continue to invest in order for the Council to access enhanced services offered by SWMD such as;

- increased Museum Development Officer capacity to support fundraising and partnership development
- free skills for heritage organisations
- Grant Programme £1K - £7K
- Development Grants up to £5K
- increased investment through external funded projects
- access to micro consultancy development support from Thematic Officers.

## 17 **EDDC Public Health Plan (2019) priorities**

Helen Wharam, EDDC Public Health Officer presented a summary of the East Devon Public Health Strategic Plan 2019-23. Across the district EDDC could influence health and wellbeing outcomes at a local level in ways less available to Devon County Council or NHS colleagues by;

- working closely with tenants, residents and local businesses
- working in partnership with local third sector and community groups who were active in the towns
- managing green spaces that enable EDDC to offer health and wellbeing activities second to none
- regenerating towns and developing communities
- planning the built environment.

The Plan's strategic aims were:

1. To help more people to be healthy and stay healthy
2. To enhance self-care and support community resilience
3. To integrate and improve support for people in their homes

## 18 **Thelma Hulbert Gallery & Arts Council England programme 2019/20**

Emma Molony, THG Projects and Fundraising Officer presented an update of activities, partnerships and initiatives.

- Art on the East Devon Way activities and how to develop partnership with East Devon AONB

- From Tree to Sea - a project to celebrate East Devon's Coastal heritage
- Form a strategic partnership with Devon Insight to reach more people living with sight-loss in East Devon
- Develop the gallery audio-tiles by working with Honiton Community College to create guided tours for people living with Dementia and their carers
- Form a steering committee for THG to ensure we fairly represent our diverse communities.

Emma introduced and welcomed Ruth Gooding, the newly appointed Gallery and Arts Development Manager for THG.

## 19 **Wild Exmouth Heritage Lottery Fund project**

Debs Ryland, EDDC Wild Exmouth Ranger presented the Wild Exmouth initiative that sought to improve experiences for local people, tourism and traders. Wild Exmouth was about renewing places and creating memorable experiences for visitors and holidaymakers. It combined the knowledge of the tourism industry and experience of vision and designing resorts and infrastructure. It promoted the awareness of looking out for ways to help wildlife at home and getting active by joining community groups to enhance the places people live in through culture and nature.

It hoped to deliver links to show that economic and social development could be led by revitalising historic assets, greening villages and cities, and engaging communities - regenerating through heritage.

## 20 **EDDC Events programme work 2019/20**

Andrew Hopkins, EDDC Events Consultant updated the Forum on the Queen's Drive Space and Gate to Plate.

### Queen's Drive Space

- In talks with the Royal Opera House re performance screening
- Open air cinema screening
- Promoting the area as an event space
- In partnership with Ocean Blue and Pavilions
- Improved ticketing box office
- Events on the beach using the 'Space' as a secondary location
- Many enthusiastic traders
- Has to be sustainable in order to income generate

### Gate to Plate

- To be held this year on Saturday 10 August
- Has to be a sustainable event in order to income generate
- Show kitchens
- Working with businesses in Honiton

Charlie Plowden, Service Lead Countryside and Leisure on behalf of the Forum, thanked the Chairman Councillor John O'Leary for his support for the Arts and Culture Forum as

Culture Champion as well as his valued personal support. In response Councillor O'Leary thanked Charlie and his team and Democratic Services for their assistance over the last eight years of his chairmanship.

**Attendance List**

**EDDC Councillors present:**

J O'Leary (Chairman)  
J Brown  
P Faithfull  
B de Saram  
T Wright  
J Dyson

**Community representatives:**

B Norris

**Town Representatives**

E Pang, Ottery St Mary Town Council

**Officers in attendance:**

Charlie Plowden, Service Lead Countryside and Leisure  
Ruth Gooding, Gallery and Arts Development Manager  
Emma Molony, Projects and Fundraising Officer  
Helen Wharam, Public Health Officer  
Debs Ryland, Wild Exmouth Ranger  
Andrew Hopkins, Events Consultant  
Amanda Coombes Democratic Services Officer

**Also Present**

Claire Marshall, Carn to Cove  
Rick Blower, Villages in Action  
Victoria Harding, SW Museums Programme Manager  
Wendy Van der Plank, Beehive Honiton

Chairman .....

Date: .....