

Minute

St Magnus Cathedral Sub-committee

Tuesday, 25 October 2022, 12:00.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



Present

Councillors Gwenda M Shearer, Jean E Stevenson, Graham A Bevan, Alexander G Cowie, John A R Scott and Ivan A Taylor.

Reverend Fraser Macnaughton.

Present via remote link (Microsoft Teams)

Lord Lieutenant Elaine Grieve.

Clerk

- Sandra Craigie, Committees Officer.

In Attendance

- James Wylie, Corporate Director for Education, Leisure and Housing.
- Frances Troup, Head of Community Learning, Leisure and Housing.
- Garry Burton, Service Manager (Leisure and Culture).
- Pat Robinson, Service Manager (Accounting).
- Ian Rushbrook, Service Manager (Capital Programme and Property).
- Peter Trodden, Solicitor.
- Nick Hewitt, Team Leader (Culture).

Apology

- Councillor Steven B Heddle.

Declarations of Interest

- Councillor John A R Scott – Item 1.
- Lord Lieutenant Elaine Grieve – Item 1.
- Reverend Fraser Macnaughton – Item 1.

Chair

- Councillor Gwenda M Shearer.

1. Installation of a Plaque within St Magnus Cathedral

Councillor John A R Scott declared a non-financial interest in this item, in that he was a member of The Society of the Friends of St Magnus Cathedral, but concluded that his interest did not preclude his involvement in the discussion.

Lord Lieutenant Elaine Grieve and Reverend Fraser Macnaughton declared non-financial interests in this item being Chair and Vice Chair respectively of The Society of the Friends of St Magnus Cathedral, but concluded that their interests did not preclude their involvement in the discussion.

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Education, Leisure and Housing, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Team Leader (Culture), the Sub-committee:

Noted:

1.1. That, during 2021/22, restoration work was carried out at the west end of St Magnus Cathedral which included the installation of a new vestibule.

1.2. That The Society of the Friends of St Magnus Cathedral provided substantial financial support to enable the restoration works to take place.

1.3. The proposal that a plaque be installed within St Magnus Cathedral to recognise and thank The Society of the Friends of St Magnus Cathedral for the financial support.

1.4. That, should the proposal to install the plaque be approved, this would not set a precedent in relation to any other request to install a plaque or other permanent feature in St Magnus Cathedral.

The Sub-committee resolved to **recommend to the Council:**

1.5. That a plaque, recognising the substantial financial support from The Society of the Friends of St Magnus Cathedral in facilitating the restoration works at the west end of St Magnus Cathedral, be installed, subject to the following conditions:

- All costs in relation to the making and installation of the plaque being met by the Council.
- All required consents, including, for example, Listed Building Consent, being sought and conditions adhered to.
- The Cathedral Conservation Team approving and/or undertaking any required works which impacted on the fabric of the building.

2. Orkney International Science Festival

Proposed Temporary Installation of Artwork known as SUN

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Education, Leisure and Housing, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Team Leader (Culture), the Sub-committee:

Noted:

2.1. That the Council had received a request from Orkney International Science Festival to install an art and science installation known as “SUN” in St Magnus Cathedral as part of the 2023 Festival.

2.2. That relevant Council officers had been consulted regarding conservation, health and safety, fire and insurance issues associated with the temporary installation of “SUN” and its use in St Magnus Cathedral and no insurmountable concerns had been raised.

The Sub-committee resolved to **recommend to the Council:**

2.3. That the request from Orkney International Science Festival to temporarily install “SUN” in St Magnus Cathedral, to coincide with the 2023 Festival, be approved, subject to the following conditions:

- The host organisation being Orkney International Science Festival.
- No financial responsibility for the Council in the transportation, installing, insuring or maintenance of “SUN” whilst it was in St Magnus Cathedral.
- Additional workload on Council custodial staff comprising up to 12 hours outwith Cathedral opening times, to facilitate access.

3. Conclusion of Meeting

At 12:07 the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Gwenda M Shearer.