

HANGER FARM ARTS CENTRE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Hanger Farm Arts Centre Consultative Committee held at Hanger Farm, Totton at 5.30 pm on Tuesday 14th January 2025.

PRESENT:

Councillors, L. P. Francis and L. E. Harris.
Kyle Maxwell, Arts Centre Manager.
The Town Clerk, Totton and Eling Town Council.
Senior P.A. Totton and Eling Town Council

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Jay Powell, Director of Social Enterprises.

3. UPDATE OF ANY ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING 20th AUGUST 2024

The Town Clerk updated Members that vegetation clearance had been carried out along the drainage ditch. The Arts Centre Manager confirmed that no flooding had been reported.

The Town Clerk explained that investigations were ongoing on the proposal for electric charging points. Once further information had been obtained, the Committee would be updated.

4. REPORT FROM THE HANGER FARM ARTS CENTRE MANAGER

The Arts Centre Manager gave an update on the following: -

Ticket sales were up but there had been a significant increase in the cost of shows.

The Arts Centre Manager was pleased to confirm that Hanger Farm had been rebranded to have its own identity. A new sign would be erected by the entrance gate.

It was suggested that the Director of Social Enterprises be invited along to update Members and give up to a 15 minute presentation, prior to a Full Council meeting.

5. THEATRE AND ARTS PROGRAMME

They were continuing to trial different things and were booked 1 year ahead with very little availability to book further acts in.

The local dynamic Youth Theatre and Pocket Panto continued to utilise the building.

For the summer and autumn season they were aiming at a 30 – 40-year-old target audience and had a good variety of performances booked in.

They were continuing to monitor shows that were not doing as well and this year had introduced local bands for example Woodfalls band, Romsey Male Voice Choir and the Southside Band UK. Local bands had a good following and were attracting a different audience into the Centre.

6. BUILDING ISSUES

The Arts Centre Manager confirmed that he had the latest 5 year electrical installation condition report and the building had received an unsatisfactory grading. Some of the items were being addressed by Hanger Farm, the rest were the responsibility of Totton and Eling Town Council. The Town Clerk would forward the recommendations for rectification to the Head of Community Services for action.

Several maintenance and repairs issues had been completed. The Arts Centre Manager asked if the Town Council could implement the repair work required to the internal brick wall, as planning permission had now been granted.

It was asked if the Council would consider a reduction in the rent due to the NI increase and the 8% hike in wages. It was highlighted that the break clause in the contract was due in December 2025. The Town Clerk would carry out some investigations to ascertain if the reduction in the rent, implemented during Covid, had been increased. She requested a copy of the last set of accounts and requested a breakdown of the additional costs that would be incurred. Once received, the Town Clerk would put together a report to be discussed at the next Policy and Resources meeting in March.

7. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

Meeting closed at 6.20 p.m.