

Overview

The Council has followed a regular series of successful events over several years. COVID stalled all events and now that events are back, the Council can think more strategically about what they want to achieve from events, a calendar of events, the type of event and how they are delivered.

Skills and Experience

Councillors as well as officers have experience of planning and delivering events. In terms of generating ideas for events, more heads are better.

Externally, there are groups and organisations that hold regular events that Ashington TC could be represented at, as well as these groups being more directly involved in our own.

Governance

Terms of Reference will be drafted following discussion at the first meeting of interested parties. The Clerk would like to first establish how the group sees itself developing and feeding into decision-making and governance.

Committees

Committees and Sub-Committees can execute the formal work of the Council, via formal meetings and delegated powers. The terms of reference of a committee are agreed by the Council, this includes their delegated powers, membership, quorum, reporting, etc.

A Committee is usually appointed in accordance with the provisions of Section 101, subsection 1 (a) of the Local Government Act 1972.

A formal committee, sub-committee can also have a delegated budget, as well as decision-making powers.

Working Parties

Working Groups are a less formal and more open way of getting relevant people around a table (physical or virtual). They are a mix of Cllrs and Officers and can include other contributors from outside the Council, depending on the input required. They are usually chaired by a Councillor but could be chaired by an Officer.

Working Groups are not formal Council meetings, they are not subject to the usual statutory requirements that meetings of the Council are, and they have no decision-making powers.

To differentiate between meetings of Working Groups and meetings of the Council and Committees, the style of an agenda is usually very different, and rather than minutes, this could be notes, or a report of the meeting.

A Working Group would be expected to research and explore options and present these for a decision to the Council, or the relevant committee.

Recommendation

The Council is asked to note interested Cllrs who will be invited to an initial meeting to discuss the overall aims and purpose of the group, with a view to establishing the type of meeting and terms of reference to be agreed by Council.