

A big thank you to those of you who were able to make it along on Monday evening. We had a really good mix of different backgrounds and experience and I think is a really positive start to our quest for the community to work together to deliver the Ilfracombe Culture Plan.

A quick recap for those that couldn't make it:

- \* Welcome & Apologies followed by a round of introductions where we all shared what we do and our links to culture whether it's in our personal or work lives.

- \* An explanation of the background behind the creation of the Ilfracombe Culture Plan (you can find a link to it here - [Ilfracombe Cultural Plan](#) ). I also explained that although this is currently being put together by Ilfracombe Town Council/One Ilfracombe that the plan itself belongs to the town so if any other organisation had a burning desire to lead on it then please say.

- \* Updates from Neil Ingram of Ilfracombe Town Council on existing and future plans around Street Art in Ilfracombe, with the next project working again with Silk Crystal but this time on the wall on Church Street where the large digital billboard is. The work has been funded by Wildstone who own that section of wall and the digital screen. He also explained some of the (frustrating!) issues around decorating empty shop fronts and how we are working with North Devon Council on trying to find ways which we can work around the current rules.

We also had an update from Alison Mills who is the Head of Culture for North Devon Council on an Arts Council fund that they are working on alongside us and other organisations, which is the Creative People and Places Fund. If successful this fund would bring in between £750,000-£1,000,000 to Ilfracombe to be spent over 3 years on projects that are requested by the community itself. The application deadline is January 16<sup>th</sup> 2025 and they are currently identifying which organisation will be the lead applicant as it cannot be a local authority.

- \* We then looked through the Cultural Framework within the plan (from page 21 in the plan) to see the areas of interest and action plans that have been put together.

- \* With "culture" covering such a wide variety of areas, I suggested that we follow the methodology of other successful forums and break the group into sub-committees that then feedback into the main group. This was well received and at the end of this email you'll find a Survey Monkey link which asks you for your areas of interest so please take a minute to complete this as it will help guide us at the next meeting.

- \* We also had a brief conversation about who was missing (excluding people who had sent in apologies). Young people were the main ones, especially as the cultural plan says about the importance of including them in co-design. It was also felt that it would have been handy to have had representation from a member of the IDBTA as the Visit Ilfracombe website was spoken about at length.

Once the sub-group themes have been decided, we can then start inviting the relevant stakeholders to be a part of that sub-group. Cllr Huggins kindly offered to write a press release about the team once we had the themes confirmed.

- \* It was agreed that whilst we get this off the ground, this should be a monthly meeting.

- \* The next meeting was set for Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 5pm at the Lantern (we chose 5pm so that we don't clash with the Christmas event on the seafront). I will send out a meeting date for that in due course.

There were of course many other great conversations but far too many to include in an email!

Please do take a minute just to complete the question in the following link as it will make up the basis of the agenda for the next meeting –  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ilfracombecultureteam>

If anyone wishes to be removed from this email list then please say so 😊

Many thanks,

Charmain