

**HUNTINGDON TOWN COUNCIL****GRANTS SUB COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the Grants Sub Committee was held in the Town Hall, Market Hill, Huntingdon on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

Present: Councillors: A Beevor; A Blackwell, P Brown, P Kadewere, P Kennington, B Luckham, S McAdam, P Pearce, A Sedgwick and T Shrapnel

*Clerks Note: The Mayor acted as temporary Chairman to open the Grants Sub Committee. It was decided that Councillors J Cole, P Kennington and B Luckham would be added to the membership of the Grants Sub Committee. The total number of Members appointed to this Sub Committee was 10 Members.*

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

The Mayor asked for nominations for the election of Chairman. It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Pearce be appointed as Chairman of the Grants Sub Committee for the ensuing year. The Mayor asked whether there were any other nominations; there was one. It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Brown be appointed as Chairman of the Grants Sub Committee.

A vote was taken: 3 in favour of Councillor Pearce and 6 in favour of Councillor Brown, it was

**RESOLVED** to appoint Councillor Brown as Chairman of the Grants Sub Committee for the local government year 2018/19.

Councillor Brown then presided over the meeting as Chairman.

2. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

3. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman asked for nominations for the appointment of Vice Chairman. It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Pearce be appointed as Vice Chairman of the Grants Sub Committee for the ensuing year. The Chairman asked whether there were any other nominations; there was one. It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Blackwell be appointed as Vice Chairman of the Grants Sub Committee.

A vote was taken: 5 in favour of Councillor Pearce and 5 in favour of Councillor Blackwell. The casting vote was given to the Chairman, who voted in favour of Councillor Blackwell. It was

**RESOLVED** to appoint Councillor Blackwell as Vice Chairman of the Grants Sub Committee for the local government year 2018/19.

#### 4. **TERMS OF COMMITTEE**

The Town Clerk advised that the terms of committee were the same for all of the Council's committees and it was for Members to decide on the following:

- i. Whether the Grants Sub Committee was open to members of the public to attend. It was noted that there was a right to ask the public to withdraw if necessary. It was agreed that members of the public would be able to attend, to give the opportunity for community groups to speak on their applications.
- ii. Whether the Grants Sub Committee should appoint any co-opted members for specific items that fall under the responsibility of the committee. It was agreed to co-opt members when and if it was required.
- iii. Whether all agendas and minutes should be kept/marked as 'Private and Confidential'. It was highlighted that applications were only accepted by organisations or community groups and that no personal information would be shared in line with GDPR. It was agreed that the agendas and minutes would be made available to the public.

#### 5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor A Beever declared an interest in the Oxmoor Community Action Group (OCAG) application.

Councillor S McAdam declared an interest in the Huntingdonshire Library application.

Councillor P Pearce declared an interest in the Scouts application.

Councillor P Brown declared an interest in the Fusion Family and Youth Projects application.

#### 6. **PUBLIC ADDRESS/ADDRESS BY TOWN COUNCILLORS TO SUB COMMITTEE**

A Member advised they wished to speak and it was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED** to adjourn the meeting.

A Member asked for clarification on whether it was necessary to declare an interest if a grant application had been submitted from an outside body that a Member was involved in. The Town Clerk advised that for transparency a declaration of interest should be made.

With no further comments or questions, it was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED** to reconvene.

#### 7. **MINUTES**

Copies of the minutes of the meeting of the Grants Sub Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018 (M3) had been circulated following their informal approval by the Chairman. It was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED** that these were a correct record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

## 8. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Copies of applications for a total of £4,850 from 10 Organisations were available to Members at the meeting. Members were reminded that it had been agreed that grant awards would be capped at £500 per organisation.

It was advised that the DISH grant application detailed running costs within their application, however the request for funding of booklets for £300 was eligible. It was recommended that the organisation was awarded £300 instead of the full £500 requested.

The Oxmoor Community Action Group (OCAG) application was raised as the application did not contain information on where the funding would be spent. In addition, it was advised that Huntingdon Town Council had provided support to Moor in Bloom in the planting, watering and maintenance of 26 hanging baskets this year. The cost of this was £50 per basket which totalled £1,300 worth of service. The accounts of the organisation from the Charity Commission website were presented to the committee which highlighted that OCAG had £7,843 in reserves from April 2017. The application was denied as more information was needed.

Members raised concerns regarding the Fusion Family and Youth Care application, as it detailed the use of inflatables. The Town Clerk advised that if the bouncy castles had the required insurance and documents, that the use of inflatables would not contravene with Huntingdon Town Council's policy.

It was decided that for VAT reasons Huntingdon Town Council would purchase £500 worth of goods (a shed and lock) for the Scouts application and then gift the equipment to the organisation.

The Cornerstone Care application was denied as it contravened with the running costs of organisations regulation. It was advised that the organisation could re-apply for the next round of grants in October 2018.

It was

**RESOLVED** to recommend that the following applications be granted in the amounts shown, subject to the usual conditions and made under the provisions of Section 137, 142, 144 and 145 of the Local Government Act 1972, it being in this Council's opinion that such grants are made in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and that levels of grant are commensurate with levels of benefit derived therefrom:

1. Association of Mindfulness Arts C.I.C	£500
2. DISH	£300
3. Huntingdon Youth Theatre	£500
4. Huntingdon Library	£500
5. Relate Cambridge	£300
6. Cambridgeshire Police	£450
7. Fusion Family and Youth Projects	£500
8. Scouts	£500 worth of goods

The amount awarded at the meeting totalled £3,550, under Section 137(1) of the Local Government Act 1972: Class 5 – Ceremonial and Entertainment and Class 9 – Social Welfare.

9. **GRUB HUB**

The Town Clerk recommended to the committee that a grant was awarded to the Grub Hub under S137(i) Class 9 – Social Welfare to cover hire costs of the Medway Centre. It was advised that if the Medway Centre offered the Grub Hub a free lease agreement that it would show as a loss on the accounts. This would be mitigated if a grant was awarded, as it would show a paper trail.

A Member queried the amount of the grant. The Town Clerk advised that the Grub Hub had not confirmed whether plans would be made over the summer holidays. Previously, the Grub Hub was billed retrospectively when they had used the venue.

A Member queried whether there would be any changes to the timetable and rates of the Medway Centre after the move to Coneygear Park. The Town Clerk advised that there would be no changes.

The Chairman asked for any further comments. There were none. It was proposed, seconded and

**RESOLVED** to approve a grant for the Grub Hub's annual venue hire under S.137(i) Class 9 – Social Welfare

10. **DATE & AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was noted as Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

**CHAIRMAN**