

A MEETING OF THE GRANTS SUB-BOARD

WAS HELD ON 30 MAY 2007

The Mayor Councillor Gill (ex-officio), Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board (Councillor Cully) (P), Councillors Allen, Chegwyn (P), Dickson (P), Mrs Salter (P), Taylor and Wright (P)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of The Mayor and Councillor Allen.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2007/08

RESOLVED: That Councillor Chegwyn be elected Chairman of the Grants Sub-Board for the Municipal Year 2007/08.

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2007/08

RESOLVED: That Councillor Wright be elected Vice-Chairman of the Grants Sub-Board for the Municipal Year 2007/08.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Salter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 9 with regard to an application for grant aid from Gosport Opportunity Group.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Board held on 21 February 2007 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

PART II

6. REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER AND LEISURE AND CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER: REVENUE GRANT AID APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to a joint report of the Financial Services Manager and the Leisure and Cultural Services Manager concerning a number of applications for Revenue Grant Aid.

(i) Wessex Pensioners Convention

The Convention was represented by Mr Patrick Berrell who advised Members that the organisation campaigned and lobbied on behalf of pensioners. It was self funding, receiving most of its finance from affiliated groups. However, the donations received did not cover costs and grant aid of £247 was sought to help with the production and distribution of an annual newsletter.

Members were concerned that the newsletter may contain articles which could be regarded as being of a political nature and it may not be appropriate for grant aid to be given by the Council. Concerns were also expressed regarding the number of Gosport residents involved as the Sub-Board had no information relating to this.

Members requested the circulation of a previous issue of the newsletter and further information regarding the number of Gosport residents involved in the Convention.

The Sub-Board therefore decided to defer this application until the above had been provided.

(ii) Association of Search and Rescue Hovercraft, Gosport Branch

The organisation was represented by Mr Brian Russell, who advised members that the Association had been formed nine years ago and had until recently been successful in fundraising.

Crew and pilot training had commenced following the refurbishment of the Gosport Rescue Hovercraft and grant aid of £700 was sought to assist with the provision of equipment for the crew once the craft had become fully operational.

The Sub-Board agreed to the Association's request for grant aid of £700.

(iii) The Friends of Leesland Park

The Friends of Leesland Park were represented by Ms Hilary Percival who advised Members that they would be organising a free Late Summer Festival which, in the past, had attracted in the region of 500 people and were seeking grant aid of £520 to assist with the cost of the event.

The Sub-Board agreed to the request for grant aid of £520.

(iv) Gosport and Solent Ice Hockey Club

The Club was represented by Ms Jennie Fitzpatrick who advised the Sub-Board of some of the achievements of the Club and explained that grant aid of £3,950 was being sought to assist with the cost of purchasing training equipment and providing coaching qualifications.

Members were not prepared to make a contribution towards ice time costs but decided that grant aid of £1,200 be awarded to assist with the cost of providing training equipment.

(v) Gosport Borough Cricket Club

The Cricket Club was represented by Mr Pete Robson who advised Members that grant aid of £2,517 was sought towards the cost of a wall mounted chiller in the bar cellar, a single bay cricket net system and net kit.

The Sub-Board was not prepared to make a contribution towards the cost of a chiller but decided to award grant aid of £1,060 towards the cost of providing a single bay cricket net system and net kit.

(vi) Youth Music Theatre: Individual Member

A representative of the Youth Music Theatre advised the Sub-Board of the achievements, including fundraising, of the individual member concerned and that grant aid of £387.50 was sought as a contribution towards the cost of the member attending a course in Belfast in preparation for taking part in a Youth Music Theatre UK production of Dance!

The Sub-Board agreed to the request for grant aid of £387.50.

(vii) Gosport BMX Club

The Club was represented by Ms Kathy Azopardi and Mr Darren Fells who advised Members that this was a new organisation which, in order to stimulate local interest and broaden its horizons, would need to invest in a range of equipment. Grant aid was sought to assist with the cost of purchasing the equipment.

The Sub-Board held the view that the full amount requested (£2,955) could not be met from the budget available and decided to award grant aid of £1,000 towards the cost of equipment for the Club.

RESOLVED: That:

- (i) the application from Wessex Pensioners Convention be deferred pending

the receipt by the Council of a previous copy of its newsletter and information regarding the number of Gosport residents involved in the Convention;

- (ii) a grant of £700 be paid to the Association of Search and Rescue Hovercraft, Gosport Branch;
- (iii) a grant of £520 be paid to The Friends of Leesland Park;
- (iv) a grant of £1,200 be paid to Gosport and Solent Ice Hockey Club;
- (v) a grant of £1,060 be paid to Gosport Borough Cricket Club;
- (vi) a grant of £387.50 be paid to Youth Music Theatre: Individual Member; and
- (vii) a grant of £1,000 be paid to Gosport BMX Club.

7. REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER AND LEISURE AND CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER: CAPITAL GRANT AID APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to a joint report of the Financial Services Manager and Leisure and Cultural Services Manager concerning a number of applications for Capital Grant Aid.

(i) Residents of Mill Pond Estate

The Residents of Mill Pond Estate were represented by Mr Simon Barrett and Mr Stuart Mills. The group had originally planned to use a portakabin as a community hall and had secured funding for this facility. However, the opportunity had arisen to create a community hall by converting a cleaners store on the estate. The original funding for the portakabin had been withdrawn. Grant aid of £4,000 was sought towards the cost of this project.

Members decided, in view of the work carried out in the community by the group, to award a grant of £5,000.

(ii) Gosport Opportunity Group

Note: Councillor Mrs Salter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this application, left the meeting room for its entire discussion and did not take part in the voting thereon.

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The Group was represented by Mrs Jenny Hardman who advised that grant aid of £1,500 was being sought towards the cost of replacing a door damaged by burglars together with the replacement of a 15 year old worn and damaged chain link fence with galvanised ultra steel palisade fencing.

The Sub-Board agreed to the request for grant aid of £1,500.

RESOLVED: That:

- (i) A grant of £5,000 be paid to the Residents of Mill Pond Estate; and
- (ii) A grant of £1,500 be paid to Gosport Opportunity Group.

The meeting ended at 7.40 pm.

CHAIRMAN