

A MEETING OF THE GRANTS SUB-BOARD

WAS HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2007

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

8. APOLOGY

An apology for inability to attend the meeting was submitted on behalf of The Mayor.

9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Salter declared a personal interest with regard to an application for grant aid from Wessex Pensioners Convention.

She also declared personal and prejudicial interests concerning applications for grant aid from Home-Start Gosport and Fareham and Gosport Fairtrade Action.

Councillor Dickson declared a personal and prejudicial interest with regard to an application for grant aid from Gosport Stroke Club.

10. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Board held on 30 May 2007 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

PART II

11. 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

Councillor Mrs Salter declared a personal interest in this item and remained in the meeting room although she took no part in the discussion and voting thereon.

The Wessex Pensioners Convention was represented by Mr Patrick Berrill and was seeking grant aid of £247 towards the annual cost of printing and distributing copies of its annual newsletter.

Members were provided with a copy of the Convention's most recent publication and were of the opinion that the content was too political in nature for grant aid to be awarded. It was therefore decided that no grant should be paid to this organisation.

(ii) HMS Sultan Bonfire and Fireworks Night

Grant aid of £2,000 had been requested to assist in the funding of an annual bonfire and fireworks night for the benefit of the local community.

Members were appreciative of the benefits of the event and the funds raised for charity but felt that, should the Council wish to make charitable donations it would do so direct. For this reason, and due to budget restrictions, Members decided that no grant should be paid towards this event.

(iii) Gosport Railway Society

The Gosport Railway Society was represented by Mr David Nicholls. Grant aid of £250 was sought towards the restoration of a working scale model of the former Gosport Railway Station building and its environs. Once restored, the model would be exhibited at railway and similar exhibitions.

Members agreed to the request for grant aid of £250.

(iv) Gosport Stroke Club

Councillor Dickson declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, left the meeting room and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

The Gosport Stroke Club was represented by Mrs Dyer who advised that the Club wished to offer a more varied programme of short outings for its members. Grant aid was sought towards the cost of transporting Club members to meetings, where necessary, and to outings.

Grant aid of £250 was proposed and agreed by the Sub-Board.

(v) Home-Start Gosport and Fareham

Councillor Mrs Salter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, left the meeting room and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Home-Start Gosport and Fareham was represented by Sarah Jayne Scott. A Christmas recruitment event was being organised which would also serve to promote Home-Start locally. Grant aid of £613 was sought to help stage this event.

Grant aid of £500 was proposed and agreed by the Sub-Board.

(vi) Gosport Borough Youth FC

The Football Club was represented by Messrs Paul Hucking and Neil Butt and was requesting grant aid of £920 towards the cost of new training equipment.

Members felt unable to agree to the whole of the request but decided to award grant aid of £480 to cover the cost of four plastic goals.

(vii) Heathfield School

Grant aid of £375 was being requested towards the cost of a sports event offering fun sports activities, including circus skills.

Estimated costs of the project included staffing costs towards which the Sub-Board was unable to contribute. Grant aid of £200 was proposed and subsequently agreed by the Sub-Board.

(viii) Partnership for Active Leisure Scheme (PALS)

PALS was represented by Ms Caroline Devlin. Grant aid of £2,000 was sought towards the cost of providing a monthly programme of weekday evening, weekend and school holiday leisure and sport activities for young people with disabilities.

Due to budget restrictions, Members felt unable to support the request in full but an award of £500 in grant aid was proposed and agreed.

(ix) Gosport Fairtrade Action

Councillor Mrs Salter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, left the meeting room and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Gosport Fairtrade Action was represented by Mrs Sarah Hirom and was requesting grant aid of £400 towards the cost of publishing a leaflet to promote Gosport businesses selling Fairtrade products and the achievement of Fairtrade status in Gosport.

Mrs Hirom advised the Sub-Board that local businesses had not provided financial support but had given support in kind. Gosport Fairtrade Action was registered with Gosport Voluntary Action and the Fairtrade Action Foundation was a registered charity.

Grant aid of £200 was proposed and agreed by the Sub-Board.

(x) Trinity College of Music (Individual)

The applicant spoke to the Sub-Board with regard to this application for grant aid towards the cost of attending the first year of a two year Master of Music course at Trinity College of Music.

Members supported the application for grant aid but felt that to agree the request for £1,490 would create too much pressure on the budget available. Grant aid of £490 was proposed and agreed by the Sub-Board.

(xi) Gosport Gators Netball Club

Grant aid of £244 towards the cost of coaching and umpiring qualification course fees and training equipment was requested. The Sub-Board agreed to this request for grant aid.

(xii) Gosport Amateur Boxing Club

The Sub-Board decided that this application should be considered along with the Club's capital grant aid application.

RESOLVED: That:

- (i) no grant be paid to the Wessex Pensioners Convention;
- (ii) no grant be paid to the HMS Sultan Bonfire and Fireworks Night;
- (iii) a grant of £250 be paid to the Gosport Railway Society;
- (iv) a grant of £250 be paid to the Gosport Stroke Club;
- (v) a grant of £500 be paid to Home-Start Gosport and Fareham;
- (vi) a grant of £480 be paid to Gosport Borough Youth FC
- (vii) a grant of £200 be paid to Heathfield School;
- (viii) a grant of £500 be paid to the Partnership for Active Leisure Scheme;

- (ix) a grant of £200 be paid to Gosport Fairtrade Action;
- (x) a grant of £490 be paid to Trinity College of Music (Individual);
- (xi) a grant of £244 be paid to Gosport Gators Netball Club; and
- (xii) the application for revenue grant aid from Gosport Amateur Boxing Club be considered along with the Club's capital grant aid application.

12. 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) St Matthews Church and Community Hall

This application was deferred, at the applicant's request, to a future meeting of the Sub-Board.

(ii) Rowner North District Girl Guiding

Rowner North District Girl Guiding was represented by Mrs Sue Savage. Grant aid of £2,500 was requested towards the repair and refurbishment of the hall used by the rainbow guides, brownies and guides.

The Sub-Board agreed to this request.

(iii) Gosport Amateur Boxing Club

The application for grant aid in the sum of £2,500 was considered along with a revenue grant aid application for £500 towards the cost of punch bags and associated fittings. Members decided that no revenue grant should be paid but agreed to capital grant aid of £2,500 towards the cost of purchasing a boxing ring.

RESOLVED: That:

- (i) the application from St Matthews Church and Community Hall be deferred to a future meeting of the Sub-Board;
- (ii) grant aid of £2,500 be paid to Rowner North District Girl Guiding; and
- (iii) grant aid of £2,500 be paid to Gosport Amateur Boxing Club.

13. ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENT TEACHING ASSOCIATION (PTA)

By reason of special circumstances, the Chairman determined that this item be considered at this meeting notwithstanding the fact that it had not been available for public inspection in accordance with the provisions of Section 100B(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1985.

The special circumstances were created by the need to quickly restore the vandalised play area to full working order.

Grant aid towards the total cost of £6,000 to replace the damaged play area surface was sought. The PTA had been engaged in fundraising for the past two years and had contributed £5,000 towards the cost of the play area with the remainder of the funding being paid for by the Portsmouth Diocese.

Members were supportive of this application and agreed to award grant aid of £1,000 and to consider a further application once quotations for the replacement of the play surface had been received.

RESOLVED: That grant aid of £1,000 be paid to St Mary's Catholic School Parent Teaching Association and that a further application be considered once quotations for the replacement of the play surface have been received.

The meeting ended at 7.50 pm.

CHAIRMAN