

A MEETING OF THE GRANTS SUB-BOARD

WAS HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2008

The Mayor (Councillor Kimber)(ex-officio), Chairman of Policy and Organisation Board (Councillor Smith)(ex-officio), Councillors Chegwyn (P), Dickson (P), Geddes (P), Mrs Mudie (P), Mrs Salter (P) and Wright (P).

10 APOLOGIES

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

11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Councillor Mrs Salter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 6(i) – Gosport University of the Third Age
- Councillor Geddes declared a personal interest in agenda item 6(iii) – The Hovercraft Society
- Councillor Wright declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 6(x) – Elson Junior School: String Project
- Councillor Mrs Salter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 7(iii) – the Waterside Community Church

12 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 28 May 2008 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

13 DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

14 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

PART II

15 REVENUE GRANT AID APPLICATIONS

The Sub-Board considered the report of the Financial Services Manager and Leisure & Cultural Services Manager (a copy of which is attached in the Minute Book as Appendix 'A') concerning a number of applications for Revenue Grant Aid.

(i) Gosport University of the Third Age

Note: 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.

Consideration was given to an application for £1,026 towards the cost of the continuation of Tai Chi classes. A grant of £740 had been awarded by this Sub-Board in February

2008 but, due to various reasons, the swimming club was unsuccessful and the money awarded was returned to Gosport Borough Council.

The University was represented by Mr John Taylor who advised that Tai Chi was a very useful exercise for older people and that two disabled participants were able to perform in a seated position.

It was proposed and agreed by Members that the same amount of grant (£740) be awarded as in February 2008.

(ii) Gosport Community Responders

Consideration was given to an application for £1,793 in grant aid towards the cost of medical equipment including 2 defibrillators, 2 medical back packs, 2 hand held aspirators and oxygen masks.

Gosport Community Responders were represented by Mr Graeme Jesty who advised that the number of calls responded to from January to August 2008 was 208. Following a recruitment drive, a number of potential additional volunteers had emerged who would require the necessary training. There was a requirement for volunteers to re-qualify every six months.

Members agreed to award the full amount requested.

(iii) The Hovercraft Society

Note: Councillor Geddes declared a personal interest in this item but remained in the meeting room during the discussion and voting thereon.

Consideration was given to an application for £250 towards the cost of printing and display materials, including stationery and Power Point materials, for the 50th anniversary events to be staged in 2009. Gosport would feature strongly in the launch of the UK events.

The Society was represented by Mr Brian Russell who gave details of the events that were planned for the 'Year of the Hovercraft'.

Members agreed to award the full amount requested.

(iv) Cruse Bereavement Care (South Hampshire Branch)

Consideration was given to an application for £900 in grant aid towards the cost of training a further 12 counsellors to help meet the constantly increasing demand for this valuable service.

The organisation was represented by Mr Peter Wolf who advised that they received an average of 30 calls per week, a number of them from young people seeking support. Difficulties had been experienced in encouraging people to take up management roles within the organisation and, as a result, fundraising had fallen.

It was noted that, although grants had been received from a number of town and parish Councils, none had hitherto been received from the district Councils in the area covered.

It was proposed and agreed that an award of £400 be made.

(v) Gosport Scout Council / Kayak Training Courses

Consideration was given to an application for £500 in grant aid towards the purchase of equipment including a canoe, a playboat and a kayak.

The organisation was represented by Mr Ken Greenwood who advised that the British Canoe Union now required the use other craft besides kayaks.

Members agreed to award the full amount requested.

(vi) Trinity College of Music (Individual)

Consideration was given to an application for £1,000 in grant aid towards the overall estimated total cost of £11,406 for an individual from Gosport to complete the second and final year of study on a Master of Music course at the Trinity College of Music.

The individual advised Members that the college fees were higher this year than last year. He had paid £3,000 in the Summer, had raised another £1,000 and was looking to raise a further £1,000.

Members agreed to award the full amount requested.

(vii) The Bivol Trust

Consideration was given to an application for £1,820 in grant aid towards the cost of continuing activities for young people at Rowner who had physical and learning disabilities and to contribute towards running the 'Friday Over 20's Group'.

The Trust was represented by Mr Davies who advised that they tried to add quality to the lives of young people with disabilities and were looking to expand in Gosport.

It was proposed and agreed that an award of £1,000 be made.

(viii) Gosport BMX Club

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 urgently consider the application.

The Club was represented by Darren Fells and was requesting grant aid of £550 towards the overall estimated cost of further developing the Club.

Members agreed to award the full amount requested.

(ix) Lloyd Vine Leisure and Fitness Club (Individual)

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 urgently consider the application.

The Club was represented by Andy Spears who advised the Sub-Board that the individual had recently broken the British Power Lifting record with a lift of 1,037 kilos. Grant aid of £587 was requested towards the cost of his competing in the World Power Lifting Championships in Canada in November 2008.

Members agreed to award the full amount requested.

(x) Elson Junior School – String Project

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

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 urgently consider the application.

A grant of £2,000 was sought towards the cost of providing equipment, including 32 half-size violins, three three-quarter size cellos, two half size double basses and 10 music stands together with labour and materials for storage.

It was proposed and agreed that grant aid of £750 be awarded. Members requested that the school be advised that a further application could be made in 2009/10.

(xi) Beryton Residents Association

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 urgently consider the application.

The Association was represented by Lynn Pyle who advised that they were seeking grant aid of £360 towards the cost of staging their 2008 Christmas Party and a pantomime trip. A small charge would be made for these events but it was felt that they helped to encourage community participation in the area.

It was agreed to award the full amount requested.

RESOLVED: That:

- (i) A grant of £740 be paid to Gosport University of the Third Age;
- (ii) A grant of £1,793 be paid to Gosport Community Responders;
- (iii) A grant of £250 be paid to The Hovercraft Society;
- (iv) A grant of £400 be paid to Cruse Bereavement Care (South Hampshire);
- (v) A grant of £500 be paid to Gosport Scout Council / Kayak Training Courses;
- (vi) A grant of £1,000 be paid to Trinity College of Music (Individual);
- (vii) A grant of £1,000 be paid to The Bivol Trust;
- (viii) A grant of £550 be paid to Gosport BMX Club;
- (ix) A grant of £587 be paid to Lloyd Vine Leisure Health and Fitness Club (Individual);
- (x) A grant of £750 be paid to Elson Junior School – String Project; and
- (xi) A grant of £360 be paid to Beryton Residents Association.

16 CAPITAL GRANT AID APPLICATIONS

The Sub-Board considered the report of the Financial Services Manager and Leisure & Cultural Services Manager (a copy of which is attached in the Minute Book as Appendix 'B') concerning a number of applications for Capital Grant Aid.

(i) Gosport Shopmobility

Consideration was given to an application for £2,100 in grant aid towards the cost of the replacement of four mobility scooters which were over 10 years old and no longer cost efficient to repair.

Mr Peter Carroll represented the organisation who advised the Sub-Board that there was now an even greater demand for this service.

It was agreed to award the full amount requested.

(ii) Rowner North District Girl Guiding

Consideration was given to an application for £2,200 in grant aid towards the cost of providing a garage camp store and concrete base for the Rowner North District Girl Guiding.

The organisation was represented by Barbara Hall who advised that numbers had increased from 75 to 87 and covered several levels of guiding. Additionally there were three new volunteer guiders.

The camp store had been broken into and equipment had been stolen. A new camp store was now needed. The base had been laid but electrical works would have to be carried out professionally.

It was agreed to award the full amount requested.

(iii) The Waterside Community Church

Note: 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.

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 the need to urgently consider the application.

The Church was represented by a number of members and sought grant aid from the Council to assist them in developing their current site in order to enable them to serve those in need in the community. The total project cost would be in the region of £1,000,000. The development would include 2 houses to accommodate visitors, 2 large halls, a kitchen, a disabled toilet and lift.

Members were advised that the church hall was used by a number of organisations including a Ghanaian group, the Arc, Narcotics Anonymous and street pastors.

Members held the view that the application was premature as the project was in its very early stages. The Church was advised the make a further application at a later date. However, it was felt that a contribution of grant aid should be made towards the cost of providing short mat bowls, an LCD screen and DVD player for teaching, computer software and publicity.

It was proposed and agreed that grant aid of £2,000 be made towards the cost of equipment as detailed above.

RESOLVED: That:

- (i) A grant of £2,100 be paid to Gosport Shopmobility;
- (ii) A grant of £2,200 be paid to Rowner North District Girl Guiding; and
- (iii) A grant of £2,000 be paid to the Waterside Community Church.

The meeting concluded at 7.45 p.m.

CHAIRMAN