



## **BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Community Grants Committee held** in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Quay Road, Blyth NE24 2AS on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at 6.30pm.

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

J R Potts (Chair), O Potts (Vice-Chair) C Bruce, A Cartie, A Gibbs-Barton, M Parker (Deputy-Mayor).

Also in Attendance:

Councillor K Nisbet

**Officers:**

Sue Noddings – Town Clerk (Corporate Services)  
Alison McCabe – Administration Clerk  
Liam Forsyth – Committee Clerk

**Members of the Public: 1.**

**008/13/1: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor K Ellis, Councillor D Rutter, Councillor B W Elliott and Councillor A Gibbs-Barton.

**009/13/2: DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST AND GRANTS OF DISPENSATION**

Grants of dispensation were offered by the following:

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Councillor A Cartie – Cowpen Quay Community Association  
Councillors J and O Potts – Isabella Community Centre  
Councillor C Bruce – Friends of Ridley Park  
Councillor M Parker – Friends of Ridley Park  
Councillor K Nisbet (in attendance) – ICCQ

### **010/13/3: MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2013**

The Minutes were proposed by Councillor J R Potts. This was seconded by Councillor O Potts.

Councillor J R Potts wished to pose a reminder of the importance to read the Community Grants applications prior to the Meeting of the Committee.

Discussion was held regarding the Olympic Legacy event organised by Aspire2Achieve. Councillor J R Potts outlined how this event had been funded and the reasons. It was noted that there was money left over from the Olympic Legacy budget within the Events Committee budget. Councillor M Parker enquired as to whether there was scope for joining up events in order to best represent and avoid confusion with the BVAL event.

The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) commented that the Event was supported in order to address short falls in the event organised by BVAL including training and other services.

The Minutes of the Community Grants Committee held on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2013 were **AGREED** by the Committee and signed by the Chair.

### **011/13/4: REVIEW OF COMMUNITY GRANTS AWARDED**

Councillor J R Potts provided an outline of the Community Grants awarded in the last round.

The Administration Clerk read out a thank you letter from Newsham and New Delaval Youth Forum thanking the Committee for its continued support. Councillor K Nisbet commented that the Youth Forum had recently received a Pride of Northumberland award.

### **012/13/5: TO CONSIDER THE APPLICATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE**

Councillor J R Potts provided an outline of the applications received. It was noted that the applications received amounted to more than had been allocated in the budget. A reminder was also provided of the

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divisions within the budget including small capital schemes and larger community schemes.

Councillor J R P wished to propose that funds remain in order to have funding available for the next round, for which the deadline is the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014.

The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) commented that it would be best practise to appropriately manage the funding.

Councillor O Potts commented that it is appropriate to set aside money as the three rounds have been advertised. Potential to split the fund into three groups in order to address practical issues was also discussed.

Councillor J R Potts comment that this represented a learning process and that this would shape the development of an encompassing strategy.

Councillor J R Potts outlined that a brief discussion was to be held regarding the applicants.

Regarding the application from the Port of Blyth it was noted that this is a 2 part application and that were seeking funding in order to kick start the next Renewables Festival which is expected to be on a much grander scale.

Councillor J R Potts enquired as to the arrangements due to the PoB being a limited company. It was outlined that BVAL has a partnership arrangement with the Port of Blyth. It was further noted that any funding could not be spent on anything else.

The application from CQCA was also discussed. The money sought and the funds that the organisation had set aside was also discussed by the Committee.

The application from ICCQ was also discussed it was noted that this was a community organisation seeking support for overheads. The finances set aside were also discussed.

Regarding the application from the Elswick Battery it was noted that they were seeking kitchen equipment. It was noted that this fundings was sought for a special project.

Councillor O Potts commented that Blyth Town Council had previously supplied Kitchen equipment for the Elswick Battery. It was further noted that this was for different equipment however that some of the requests were for expensive equipment.

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It was noted regarding the application from CVABB that this application was seeking support for salaries in the main. The Town Clerk (Corporate Services) commented that this was a SE Northumberland based organisation. Councillor J R Potts noted that this group was an umbrella organisation.

The application from South East Northumberland Disabled Services was also discussed. It was noted that they were seeking support for a welfare rights advisor. It was commented that they are an arm's length body based in South East Northumberland and that they have recently received £1 million contract with Northumberland County Council.

It was outlined regarding the application from Waterloo House that this was a private residential home. Concerns were raised about providing funding to private organisations.

The Committee discussed the Blyth Valley Gang Show application commenting that it was to make up the short fall and that the organisation was not seeking a great deal of money which would provide flexibility in potential allocation.

The application submitted by Aspire2Achieve was also considered. It was noted that this represented a roll over from this year's events.

The Friends of Ridley Park application was also discussed by the Committee. It was noted that this support would be used for training and pavilion events. Councillor O Potts expressed a concern that the park is owned by Northumberland County Council.

The application from ESCAPE was also outlined. It was commented that funding was sought in order to aid the running costs. Councillor C Bruce also commented that the organisation appeared to have a large bank balance. Councillor A Cartie wished to warn against misinterpreting bank accounts as some funding is ring fenced for specific expenditure.

It was outlined that the application from Blyth Town Team was for a young persons market and would involve various areas including school projects running stalls.

The following comments and awards were made.

### **Small Capital Schemes.**

The application from the Port of Blyth, it was **AGREED** was to be **RECONSIDERED** at a later date.

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The application from the Elswick Battery was **AGREED** that they are to be **OFFERED £1,000.**

Regarding the application from Waterloo House it was **AGREED** that the funding is to come from Councillor K Nisbets Councillors Allowance.

It was **AGREED** that Blyth Valley gang show receive £200.

## **COMMUNITY SCHEMES.**

It was **AGREED** that Cowpen Quay Community Association provide more information relating to the Finances presented.

It was **AGREED** that ICCQ were to receive £15,000.

It was **AGREED** that CVABV are to come back and provide further information regarding their funding allocated as free reserves.

It was **AGREED** that SENDS would not receive funding within this round.

It was **AGREED** that Aspire2Achieve are to receive £2994 providing that the event takes place within Blyth and consideration is made to preventing the duplication of resources.

It was **AGREED** that Friends of Ridley Park were to receive £15,000. Councillor O Potts commented that they should also seek further support from the County Council.

It was **AGREED** that ESCAPE would not be receiving funding. It was commented that a further application would be more than welcome and it was noted that this represented a fantastic organisation.

It was **AGREED** that Blyth Town Team is to receive £5900. Councillor O Potts commented that this represented a good scheme.

It was noted that for the next round of funding that it be made clear, limited funds are available.

It was also commented that the short listing process is to be discussed at the next meeting of the Community Grants Committee. **Action: LF**

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Councillor A Cartie wished to raise concerns that it was outlined in the previous Minutes that money was to be provided for the Community Centre.

It was **AGREED** that the recipients are to be invited mid January to receive the awards. **Action: LF/AMcC**

### **013/13/6: REVIEW OF THE APPLICATION FORM FOR COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATIONS**

Councillor J R Potts provide an outline of the form. It was outlined that issues have been rectified regarding the placement on the website.

A representative from the Friends of Ridley Park commented that he was to email suggestions regarding the issues experienced from completing the application form.

Councillor J R Potts commented that an extra space should be provided for a Building Society number. **Action: AMcC**

### **014/13/7: ANY FURTHER ITEMS AND INFORMATION**

The Administration Clerk read aloud a letter from Newsham and New Delaval Youth Forum. It was also commented that copies of the Annual report were available from the Office on request. The Committee commented that this was appreciated and a nice touch.

Discussion was also held regarding future publicity to be generated by the Committee.

### **015/13/8: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was **AGREED** that the next Meeting of the Community Grants Committee is to be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2014 with the deadline for applications to the Community Grants Committee on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 7.30pm.**

**Subject to ratification**

Confirmed as a true record

And signed by the Chair .....

Date.....