

HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (GRANTS) 19th April 2021

MINUTES OF MEETING

Present: The Right Worshipful the Mayor Councillor Kath Hey, and Councillors Kenyon (Chair), Andrews, Boulter, Hornsey, Milln, Stevens, Tillett and Tyler.

In attendance: Becci O'Reilly, Committees Events and Contracts Officer and presenters of bids as listed under the respective items.

CD2020/21.125 CONFIRMATION THAT ALL MEMBERS WERE ABLE TO ACCESS THE MEETING

The Chair confirmed that all members were able to see and hear the proceedings, and that a member who joined later was also able to take part.

CD2020/21.126 CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC ACCESS

The Committees, Events and Contracts Officer confirmed that due to technical issues, the meeting was not being live streamed, but recorded and posted onto Facebook afterwards. She also explained that due to the death of Prince Phillip, the 3 clear business days to receive the agenda had been affected. The Chair asked Members to vote if they felt they had received the agenda and grant applications with sufficient time to process and it was unanimously

RESOLVED to continue with the meeting.

CD2020/21.127 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Foxton, Oliver, Powell and Wilcox.

CD2020/21.128 SUBSTITUTIONS

Cllr Andrews substituted for Cllr Powell and Cllr Milln substituted for Cllr Foxton.

CD2020/21.129 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Hornsey declared a non-pecuniary interest in 3Degreez Allstarz as her son uses their services.

Cllr Boulter declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Allotments item as she is an allotment holder.

Cllr Tyler declared a pecuniary interest in the Rugby Club application as she has links with the applicants through her charity that might give rise to a perception of pre-determination.

CD2020/21.130 GRANT COMPLETION FORMS

130a Brookfield School – Sensory Garden Patio Doors

The form was presented and there being no questions or comments it was noted by the committee.

130b

Growing Local – Cook Workshops

The form was presented and there being no questions or comments it was noted by the committee.

CD2020/21.131 ANNUAL REPORT – HEREFORD RIVER CARNIVAL

Leo Caithness and Rebecca Huggett attended the virtual meeting to inform members of their activities over the past year which had changed due to covid. Instead of doing a full carnival, they provided make at home activity packs, online tutorials, made a film, toured Hereford in an open top bus and created a virtual carnival website where live music and activities could be accessed. Rebecca explained that sadly the Winter Lantern Parade was unable to take place and this year, no outdoor event will be able to take place on Castle Green due to the difficulties of ensuring social distancing etc, and instead will use the Big 6 Heads which will appear along the river as part of a treasure hunt where there will be activity stations along with activities outlined in the report.

Cllr Milln asked for clarification on whether The Plynlimon Trust's objectives also have to be met as they are HRC's umbrella charity and accountable body. Rebecca and Leo explained that no, they fit within their structure but have their own management structure and bank accounts and are also in the process of becoming a CIC themselves.

It was proposed by Cllr Andrews, seconded by Cllr Tillet and unanimously

RESOLVED to allow HRC to use the funds remaining from the grant awarded in 2020, that have been unable to be used on physical events, to be used on the alternative virtual and physical activities outlined in their report.

Leo and Rebecca thanked the Committee for their support and left the meeting.

SMALL GRANT APPLICATIONS

CD2020/21.132 3DEGREEZ ALLSTARZ – FREE SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMPS

Ruth Jones from 3Degreez attended the virtual meeting and showed a video of their Easter pilot camp at Hinton Community Centre to see what interest there was in holiday camps (session were full) and to trial covid safety precautions.

Members' comments, questions and discussions included:

- Lovely to see the kids smiling and enjoying themselves.
- Great that it will be a free holiday camp therefore accessible to all.
- Will children have to commit to the entire two weeks – no either a full week or a few days and these must be booked in advance.
- Days are run like a school day with breakfast and after school clubs as well.
- The camps will be advertised on the website, social media and to the schools through an advert emailed.

It was then proposed by Cllr Kenyon, seconded by Cllr Hey and with one abstention from Cllr Hornsey who had declared an interest

RESOLVED that a grant of £3,000.00 be awarded to 3Degreez Allstarz for the free summer holiday dance and cheerleading camps.

Ruth thanked the Committee for their support and left the meeting.

CD2020/21.133 7TH HEREFORD TUPSLEY SCOUTS – CAMPING EQUIPMENT

David Owen from the above pack attended the virtual meeting in his Scouting uniform. The Chair congratulated him on his MBE for services to Scouting awarded in 2020.

David explained that when he joined as a Scout Leader in the 60s patrol cooking was used, however it moved to central cooking over the last approx. 15 years as patrol cooking was very time consuming. As we move out of Covid, there will be a need to go back to patrol cooking and their pack has four patrols. They hold an annual family camp of approx. 200 campers which will require a large amount of catering.

During covid, their group maintained their strength through virtual meetings for 8-14 year olds however deliberately did not hold them for 6-8 year olds until fairly recently when restrictions started to be eased. Over the past 12 months, over 500 awards have been made to members through virtual meetings.

The equipment was last replaced in 1998 after an arson attack on the building so it is over 20 years old and has come to the end of its lifespan. They had committed to replacing their equipment this year by using their 2020 Scout Post money which usually brings in approx. £2,500, however due to covid were unable to raise these funds. David explained he felt it was fair to only apply for the amount they had decided to use from their own funds rather than to apply for the full small grant limit.

Cllr Hey supported the application and commented that having attended the family camp herself in the past, that it is a fantastic event and will be especially important this year after the recent lockdowns. If 22 years were achieved out of the previous equipment then this will be money well spent.

It was then proposed by Cllr Boulter, seconded by Cllr Hornsey and with one abstention from Cllr Kenyon as he is an honorary member of this pack

RESOLVED That a grant of £2,500 be awarded to the 7th Hereford Tupsley Scouts for camping equipment.

David thanked the Committee for their support and left the meeting.

At this point, members had a five minute comfort break and the Chair confirmed that all members could see and hear proceedings when the meeting resumed.

CD2020/21.134 FRIENDS OF BLACKFRIARS ROSE GARDENS – METAL GATE

Richard Weston and Ellie Lanergan attended the virtual meeting on behalf of the Friends as Anne Harbour who prepared the application was unavailable. Richard informed members how incredibly hard Anne and other volunteers had worked to restore the gardens and the new metal gates will be an attractive feature on the street to highlight to people that this hidden gem is there.

Members' comments, questions and discussions included:

- The efforts that the friends have put in in rejuvenating the gardens and to keep them litter free are very commendable and the beautiful design proposed will replace the worn wooden gates.
- When Cllr Boulter was Mayor she had the opportunity to plant a rose bush and the gardens are beautifully cared for and it is a relaxing, wonderful, looked after space.
- Cllr Tillett felt the application was a tidying up exercise really as when City Council previously awarded grants to the Friends to restore the rose gardens, members' talked about the gardens needing setting off with an appropriate gate and this will finish the inspirational project off.
- It is an admirable and unique design and is a tremendous tribute to the Friends' efforts. It has also been well thought out that animals and children can't get caught in it.
- Consent applications are in with Herefordshire Council.

It was proposed by Cllr Boulter, seconded by Cllr Stevens and with two abstentions from Cllr Hey due to her involvement as Mayor with the organisation and Cllr Andrews who suggested they apply

RESOLVED That a grant of £3,000.00 be awarded to the Friends of Blackfriars Rose Gardens for a new metal gate.

At this point, Richard and Emily thanked the Committee for their support and left the meeting.

CD2020/21.135 GROWING LOCAL – FAMILY RECIPE BOX SCHEME

Louisa Foti attended the virtual meeting and showed Cllrs the recipe cards that go out with the boxes. The new pizza recipe kit launched the previous week has had fantastic feedback.

Many of them already knowing the work Growing Local does in the City.

Members' comments, questions and discussions included:

- Congratulations on everything you have done so far in the City – keep up the good work.
- Do the packs go out predominantly to South Wye or all over the City – all over the City by Pedicargo, and since covid, they have been working closely with school pastoral teams, the early help team, the children with disabilities team and Homestart Hereford. Those organisation are asked to refer families.

- Fantastic how quickly you adapted the offering to covid.
- Growing Local have seen their sales dramatically educe over the past year due to covid but have received a significant amount of grants – what projects is this funding allocated to? All funding has been used for the Seed Kits and Recipe Boxes which cost approximated £15 per pack. It is not only the exact amount of raw ingredients that are supplied but enough to make the meal a number of times (e.g. full packets of rice or flour). Also worked with adults where possible, for instance the long term unemployed to get them cooking and gardening and sending out soup kits to schools. Sending out kits are probably more costly than running workshops.
- Why do the organisation pay corporation tax as a CIC? Louisa will look into this.
- The kits project provide absolute flexibility which has allowed them to respond quickly to other opportunities since covid, for instance the River Carnival activity packs.

It was proposed by Councillor Stevens, seconded by Councillor Tillett and unanimously

RESOLVED That a grant of £3,000.00 be awarded to Growing Local for the Family Recipe Box Scheme.

At this point, Lou thanked the Committee for their support and left the meeting.

At this point, Cllr Tyler left the meeting due to her pecuniary interest declared at the start of the meeting.

LARGE GRANT APPLICATION

CD2020/21.136 GREYHOUND RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB – GROUNDS EQUIPMENT

Debbie Hobbs from Greyhound RFC attended to present the application which was deferred from the February committee. Debbie explained that she had taken over this grant application and resubmitted with accurate figures and apologised for the previous confusion.

Members' comments, questions and discussions included:

- At the time of the application, it was stated that American Football was one of the activities taking place there, however Hereford Chargers have since moved to Hereford RFC as they didn't want to pay an annual fee. It is however expected that they will borrow Greyhound's fields when theirs flood.
- The overall cost is quite large, and over 7 months ago, an application to the RFU for funding was refused – is there a reason why no other funding has been applied for? Debbie explained that at that point, she wasn't on the committee actively looking for funds – she only took over this role a month ago. They were urged to try to exploit as many other funding streams as possible rather than just City Council.
- It was requested that due to the application being for such a large amount of money, that the 'aim' to erect a banner with City Council's logo be replaced by a definite commitment.

- The possibility of selling the old mower was raised, however it was explained that it is beyond repair so does not hold any value.

At this point, there were various discussions around ways to enable the club to receive monies quicker if the committee decided to approve the application. Usually it would be referred to Council but as this would not be until June, it is a long time to leave the club not knowing if they are able to purchase the equipment. One suggestion was to award £3,000 immediately and then take the remaining amount to Council. Cllr Kenyon further suggested awarding £3,000 immediately and asking the Town Clerk to use his delegated authority to spend the Parks and Open Spaces budget for a further £3,000, providing £6,000 immediately.

At this point, Cllr Hey asked Debbie if £6,000 would be enough to enable the club to maintain the grounds in the short term and she explained it would be enough to allow the junior section to start back up.

Cllr Hey proposed to award £3,000 now from the Grants budget and to give the Town Clerk delegated authority to award £3,000 from the Parks budget. This was seconded by Cllr Tillett and it was discussed that should the club like to request the remaining £1,879 detailed on their application that they would have to submit a further application. With two abstentions from Cllrs Kenyon and Tyler due to their involvement with the club it was

RESOLVED That Greyhound RFC be awarded £3,000 from the Grants budget and the Town Clerk be given delegated authority to award £3,000 from the Parks budget, for the purchase of grounds equipment.

At this point, Debbie thanked the Committee for their support and left the meeting.

At this point, Cllr Tyler tried to re-join the meeting but Zoom would not allow it and she took part in the remainder of the meeting via telephone to Becci.

Due to the difficulties of reconnection, members had a five minute comfort break and the Chair confirmed that all members could see and hear proceedings when the meeting resumed.

CD2020/21.137 HALGS MOWER AND TRAILER

The Chair gave an overview of the item, explaining that the contract currently in place to perform grass and hedge cutting on the 10 allotments cost approximately £12,000 per year. Cllr Kenyon has been working closely with HALGS to move the relationship forward in advance of the allotments' lease currently being drawn up, and discussions have taken place regarding providing them with the equipment to perform the grass cutting requirements themselves. Two quotes have been received for a ride on mower, a push along mower, a strimmer (brushcutter) and ear defenders, and HALGS would also like to request some funds towards a trailer to transport this equipment around the various sites. The hedge cutting will be looked at separately. This arrangement will provide a saving for City Council.

Members' comments, questions and discussions included:

- Arrangements in place for storage and maintenance of the equipment – Cllr Kenyon explained it is down to them and they are responsible for maintaining and insuring it.
- The issue with the Holmer allotment hedge requiring more frequent cutting due to it growing over the path was discussed and will be considered when hedge cutting is addressed.
- Discussions around the training required in the future for using chainsaws etc.
- Discussions around timescales and figures for HALGS to receive the money to be able to get on during the grass growing season, and which budgets this could come from – there was some confusion regarding whether this amount would need to go to full Council, and if some money was coming from the Grants budget. The Committee, Events and Contracts Officer explained that the money is already allocated in the budget to spend on grounds maintenance, this is just a variation on the spend, and that this was brought to the Grants Committee as a general Community Development Item, not a Grants item, therefore the £3,000 limit and need to split the £6,000 requested between two budgets was not necessary. Becci felt this needed clarification by the Town Clerk.

At this point, Cllr Stevens lost his internet connection and joined the rest of the meeting by telephone to the Chair.

- Discussions took place around the most competitive quote and it was clarified that as the one quote did not include VAT, the Ron Smith quote was actually the most competitive.

Cllr Milln proposed to award £3,000 from the Grants budget and to give the Town Clerk delegated authority to award £3,000 from the Parks budget. This was seconded by Cllr Kenyon and with three abstentions it was

RESOLVED To award £3,000 from the Grants budget and to give the Town Clerk delegated authority to award £3,000 from the Parks budget and to cancel the existing contract.

CD2020/21.110 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 25th May 2021 Routine Business

Monday 7th June 2021 Grants Meeting

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 12.16pm

Signed

Date