



HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND GRANTS COMMITTEE – 15 OCTOBER 2024

MINUTES OF MEETING

Present: Councillors Hobbs (Chair), Hornsey, Kenyon, Stevens, Potts, Boulter and Proctor.

Attending: Dave Tristram External Funding & Community Support Officer.

CD2024/25.24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Griffiths and Spencer.

CD2024/25.25 SUBSTITUTIONS

No substitutions.

CD2024/25.26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Boulter declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 7(ii) St Nicholas Community Association on the agenda, for which she decided not to discuss or vote on this item on the agenda.

Councillor Hobbs declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 7(vii) The Wye Princess on the agenda, for which she decided not to discuss or vote on this item on the agenda.

CD2024/25.27 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

CD2024/25.28 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

APPENDIX ONE

It was agreed that financial details for applications be redacted from future meeting packs.

These were proposed by Councillor Potts, seconded by Councillor Boulter with one abstention.

RESOLVED That the minutes of the meeting of 9 July 2024 be accepted as a true record and signed accordingly by the Chair.

CD2024/25.29 GRANT COMPLETION FORMS

DT reported that the forms shown had been received.

1. Art 4 Veterans
2. Cultivating Learning and Nature CIC
3. Hereford River Carnival
4. Stride Active
5. Whitecross School
6. CUP Ceramics Community CIC

Councillor Hobbs suggested that an Excel spreadsheet be designed and incorporated into Completion Report requests to give a more accurate breakdown of project spend than is currently requested. DT will request a breakdown in spend from reports 1 & 3, as these were not submitted with the rest of the report. Councillor Hornsey requested that in 2025/26 completion reports be placed on the City Council website so that residents can see what grants have been allocated for, and what that money has been spent on.

CD2024/25.30 LARGE GRANT APPLICATIONS

i) ENCORE ENTERPRISES CIO £50,000

Encore Music Arts & Wellbeing Hub – Application for £50,000 (from the general reserve).

Councillor Proctor asked whether we want to give such a sum of money in the current financial climate and suggested an SLA along the lines of that awarded to Close House. Councillor Stevens agreed with this, whilst noting that the project had been proposed to the Stronger Towns Board.

Councillor Potts was of the opinion that Encore did not cater for financially and economically deprived young people in the same way that Close House do and was in principle against both a £50,000 award and an SLA.

Councillor Kenyon proposed that HCC defer until the end of the financial year, and then decide on granting a portion of the £50,000 requested by Encore. Councillor Hornsey suggested that HCC give a proportion of the amount requested for a specific part of the project, proposing that the Council support the soundproofing of the rooms so that music practices, etc. can take place. The cost of this is approximately £15,000. Councillor Boulter pointed out that decisions from a number of other funders are still pending, and that we should wait to hear the results of these applications before deciding our level of support. Councillors Proctor and Stevens saw merit in this, and agreed with the proposal of specifically targeted funding, i.e. soundproofing, and that any funding should be earmarked for that purpose only.

Councillor Kenyon agreed with this and granting the £15,000 that this would cost. Councillor Hobbs wondered whether we should be funding this sort of project (i.e. building), Councillor Kenyon and DT responded that we have funded such projects previously.

It was proposed by Councillor Hornsey, seconded by Councillor Stevens, that £15,000 be recommended in order to fund the soundproofing of rooms, as outlined in the application. With five votes in favour, one against, and one abstention it was

RESOLVED That a recommendation to fund this project for £15,000 for soundproofing be referred to Council on 26 November 2024.

CD2024/25.31 SMALL GRANT APPLICATIONS

i) HEREFORD CIDER MUSEUM TRUST £5,000

Councillor Proctor opined that the project might benefit tourists more so than local residents. Councillor Potts asked whether discretionary funding was available for hearing loop systems. DT advised that it generally was not considered to be a mandatory provision and that he had advised on various applications to funders for such an installation. Councillor Kenyon thought that it would be worth supporting a 'guided tour' type of the hearing loop installation.

There was a degree of confusion over the layout of the application form. It needs to be made clear that the 'Name Of Funder' section applies to **all** of the funding that the applicant has applied for and sourced over the relevant period, not just the particular project under consideration. DT will amend accordingly for the 2025-26 form.

Councillors Kenyon and Stevens suggested funding £1,695 for a guided tour installation.

Councillor Hornsey proposed the full amount of funding be allocated (no seconder).

Councillor Hobbs proposed a grant of £1,000 (no seconder).

Councillor Proctor proposed and Councillor Potts seconded an amendment that no grant be awarded. With three votes in favour, three against, one abstention and a casting vote of the Chair it was

RESOLVED That no grant be awarded for the Hereford Cider Museum project.

ii) ST NICHOLAS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION £5,000

Councillor Boulter did not partake with regard to this item having declared a non-pecuniary interest.

Councillor Proctor asked whether Balfour Beatty had assumed maintenance of this play area. DT advised that they had. The general view of the panel was that this was a strong application.

It was proposed by Councillor Kenyon, seconded by Councillor Hornsey and unanimously

RESOLVED That a grant of £5,000 be made to St Nicholas Community Association for Huntsmans Drive Play Park Improvements.

iii) NURTURE THROUGH NATURE £3,000

The applicant is a new organisation, but both Councillor Stevens and DT had worked with the project manager previously and endorsed both the organisation's knowledge and suitability. Also included with the application was positive feedback from schools around their initial activity.

It was proposed and seconded and with six votes for and one abstention, it was

RESOLVED That a grant of £3,000 be made to Nurture Through Nature for their Roots and Wings Project.

iv) HALO LEISURE £3,000

It had been pointed out by the Chair prior to the meeting that this project was an application for funding for what, under law, is mandatory provision and was therefore ineligible. The project was therefore withdrawn without being voted on or discussed further.

v) FRIENDS OF CASTLE GREEN CIC £2,849.24

Councillor Hobbs initially questioned whether this should be debated at all. Councillor Kenyon asserted that he thought a request for a fire alarm was reasonable as would enable the building to be used for the benefit of the public and therefore generate more community activity. Councillors Proctor and Hornsey agreed with this. DT advised that being safety compliant would enable the building to be fit for public purpose and also help the organisation generate income and become more sustainable.

It was proposed by Councillor Hobbs and seconded by Councillor Boulter that half the amount requested be granted, however with two votes for, four against, and one abstention this was not carried.

It was proposed by Councillor Kenyon, seconded by Councillor Proctor and with four in favour, two against, and one abstention it was

RESOLVED That a grant of £2,849.24 be made to Friends of Castle Green CIC for the installation of a Club House Fire Alarm System.

vi) CUP CERAMICS COMMUNITY CIC £3,000

The project was endorsed and supported by Councillor Hobbs and Councillor Kenyon agreed that this was a good project.

It was proposed Councillor Hobbs and seconded Councillor Kenyon that half the amount requested be granted, however with two votes for and five against this was not carried.

It was proposed Councillor Proctor, seconded by Councillor Potts and with six votes for and one abstention it was

RESOLVED That a grant of £3,000 be made to Cup Ceramics CIC for their Ceramics Festival Hereford (CFH) project.

vii) THE WYE PRINCESS £3,000

Councillor Hobbs did not partake in this item having declared a non-pecuniary interest.

Councillor Boulter expressed concern about whether the project would 'take off' or had sufficient momentum. Councillor Kenyon expressed strong support for the project, saying that this is exactly the sort of project HCC should be supporting – bottom up, of local interest and with strong community participation. Councillor Hornsey reasoned that we could support if support was also forthcoming from other funders, as this is a new organisation without a proven track record as such.

It was proposed Councillor Kenyon and seconded by Councillor Stevens that the money be granted in full once two thirds (£20,000) of the total project cost (£30,000) had been secured by the applicant and with five votes for and two abstentions it was

RESOLVED That a grant of £3,000 be made to The Wye Princess for the provision of leisure boating facilities for recreation or other leisure time subject to two thirds (£20,000) of the remaining funding required for the project being secured from other sources.

viii) THE ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN £3,000

Councillor Potts recommended that the amount be paid in full. Councillor Hobbs supported the project but was concerned that some of the local veterans she had spoken to were unaware that the project existed. DT advised that he had visited this project and was impressed at the level of interaction with, and support for, the participants

Project payment in full was proposed by Councillor Potts and seconded by Councillor Kenyon, and was unanimously approved, and therefore

RESOLVED That a grant of £3,000 be made to The Orchestra Of The Swan for the Café Muse project, with the condition that the applicant look to maximise local marketing and publicity for the project.

ix) 2FACED DANCE COMPANY LIMITED £3,000

Councillor Hornsey was unsure why a dance company would be applying for funding to stage what was essentially a photography and film exhibition. DT advised that the previous project that HCC had funded by the organisation had been very successful and had been noted by the Committee as being 'good value for money'. It was generally thought that the project application was robust and inexpensive for what was proposed.

It was proposed by Councillor Hornsey, seconded by Councillor Boulter and unanimously

RESOLVED That a grant of £3,000 be made to 2Faced Dance Company for their 'Retrospective' project.

CD2024/25.32 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Initiation of a discussion around grant priorities 2025-26:

DT advised that Councillors might want to start thinking about priorities (in terms of demographics, geographical areas, types of projects, etc.) in terms of what HCC might wish to support in the next financial year. This will be discussed in full at the next Community Development meeting in 2025 (date TBC).

CD2024/25.33 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

3 December 2024 at 6pm – Grants Committee

2025 Date TBC – Community Development Committee

The above may be subject to change if there are insufficient items for the agenda.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 7:37pm.

Signed

Date

