

GRANTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

15 NOVEMBER 2005

Present:

Councillor The Mayor, Stuart Drummond, Councillors Peter Jackson and
 Robbie Payne

Officers: John Mennear, Acting Assistant Director (Community Services)
 Susan Rybak, Grants Officer, Community Services
 Alison Mawson, Head of Community Safety and Prevention
 Tracy Liveras, Young People and Play Coordinator
 David Cosgrove, Principal Democratic Services Officers
 Jan Bentley, Democratic Services Officers

13. Chair of Committee

Decision

That Councillor Peter Jackson be elected Chair of the Committee.

Councillor Jackson in the Chair

14. Apologies for Absence

None.

15. Declarations of interest by members

None.

16. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 30 August 2005

Confirmed.

17. Hartlepool Families First and Manor Residents Association Grant Applications 2004/2005 *(Director of Children's Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To seek approval for the change in the use of the play opportunities grant made to Hartlepool Families First and Manor Residents Association during 2004.

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

On 28th January 2004, the Grants Committee approved Play Opportunities Grants to Hartlepool Families First and Manor Residents Association. Monitoring of these grants highlighted that both groups had used a proportion of the grant in a different way than set out in the initial grant agreement. Neither group advised the authority of the change in expenditure.

The grant awarded to Hartlepool Families First at the Grants Committee of 28th January 2004 was towards Playbus provision and a Kids Club in Throston Community Centre across the year. The organisation found that numbers significantly dropped when the service was exclusively delivered from Throston Community Centre. The organisation subsequently decided to reinstate the bus at Throston following a consultation with both the young people and their parents.

As part of the terms and conditions of the grant the group is required to complete a monitoring form detailing grant spend and provide additional evidence in the form of receipts and invoices. The monitoring form was issued at the end of the 2004/2005 financial year requesting information. On 11th May 2005 a letter, together with the monitoring form, was received stating that the group had used the venue hire monies awarded as part of the overall grant (£352.80) against the cost of providing the Playbus at Throston Kids Club.

The grant awarded to Manor Residents Association at the Grants Committee of 28th January 2004 was towards transportation costs to fund school holiday Play scheme activities. As part of the terms and conditions of grant aid, the group is required to complete a monitoring form detailing grant spend and providing additional evidence in the form of receipts/invoices. The monitoring form was sent out at the end of the 2004/2005 financial year requesting such information. The monitoring form was returned on 6th May, 2005, though additional information was required, which was not received until August, 2005. A letter with the additional information was received indicating the reasons why the grant had not been spent as approved within the terms and

conditions of the grant.

The grants committee under the terms and conditions of the play opportunities grant can claw-back the spend that has been in breach of the grant. However, both groups have spent the grant within the activity which it was intended and did not use the grant for alternative projects.

Members of the Committee considered that the two groups had spent the funds in meeting the general remit of the grant award but indicated that they should be advised to consult the authority in the future before breaching the conditions of their grant.

Decision

- (i) That the change in the use of the play opportunities grant made to Hartlepool Families First and Manor Residents Association during 2004 be noted and agreed.
- (ii) That Hartlepool Families First be advised of the non-compliance with the terms and conditions of their grant approved on 28th January 2004 and that the group be advised of the importance of complying with these in the future.
- (iii) That Manor Residents Association be advised of the non-compliance with the terms and conditions of their grant approved on 28th January 2004 that the group be advised of the importance of complying with these in the future.

18. Directed Lettings 2005/2006 Hire of Premises by Voluntary/Community Organisations *(Acting Assistant Director (Cultural Services))*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To provide information to the Grants Committee in relation to the background of the allocation of grant aid to the Hart and Elwick Parish Councils.

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

At the meeting of the Grants Committee on 6th July, 2005, Members approved requests from 6 groups from the Directed Lettings allocation totalling £3,558. However, Members deferred approval of grant aid for the Hart and Elwick Parish Councils to allow officers time to investigate the background to the allocations of grant aid to the Parish Councils in respect of the hire of school premises. The Acting Assistant Director confirmed that there was a requirement to support Parish Councils by providing free hire of school premises for their meetings.

Decision

That the grant aid for the hire of school premises by the Hart and Elwick Parish Councils in the 2005/2006 financial year as follows be approved:-

Hart Parish Council	£220
Elwick Parish Councils	<u>£220</u>
Total	£440

19. Civic Lottery Grant Applications – (Assistant Chief Executive)

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To consider Civic Lottery Grant Applications.

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

The Assistant Chief Executive reported on applications received for grants from the Civic Lottery Fund. Members were advised that in this second tranche of funding there was a total of £7,986 was available for distribution. A brief outline of the grant requests were set out in the report and detailed background papers had previously been circulated to Members.

Members requested that in relation to application 3176 'Hartlepool Travellers Rest FC', confirmation of opening a bank account be provided by the organisation prior to the grant being paid.

Decision

That the following grant applications be awarded from the Civic Lottery Fund: -

APP NO.	ORGANISATION	REASON FOR APPLICATION	SUM APPROVED £
3176	Hartlepool Travellers Rest FC	Financial assistance towards pitch and league fees	£200
3178	Walking Tall	Financial assistance towards facilitating stilt walking classes	£500
3179	Hartlepool Snooker Centre Sunday League (Football)	Financial assistance towards running costs	£500
3180	Headland Development Trust	Financial assistance towards capital works alterations within the Activ8 Community Centre (Salvation Army Hall).	£500

		To make the front entrance safer and well lit by creating a reception area and have a coded/electronic release system installed	
3185	Grange Road Methodist Church Resource Centre	Purchase two microwaves and kitchen utensils. Recently held a microwave cookery course for people with learning disabilities who will be moving into supported accommodation. They would like to develop this course further.	£300
3172	Hartlepool Special Needs Support Group	Financial assistance towards the cost of a trip to the Arena, Newcastle to see Disney on Ice on 16th October, 2005	£500
3182	Hartlepool and District Hospice	Additional stock of crockery and cutlery due to increased number of patients	£500
3184	St Francis 2000 Junior Football Club	Financial Assistance towards running costs – insurance, FA Affiliation and League Affiliation	£500

20. Community Pool 2004/2005 – Annual Report *(Acting Director of Adult and Community Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

The Annual Report provided Members with information regarding the value and monitoring of grant aid awarded from the Community Pool to voluntary sector organisations in the 2004/2005 financial year.

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

Direct financial support is provided to voluntary organisations from the Community Pool. The budget for 2004/2005 was set at £392,816 from which a total of thirty-six groups were supported, including allocations for specific activities. Twenty-five groups benefited from a grant from the main budget. Members were advised that applications for funding exceeded £520,000.

Monitoring of grant aid in terms of expenditure and outputs and benefits is a condition of funding. The information provided by twenty-four grant recipients

from the main budget forms the basis of this report and highlights the value and need of the Community Pool in relation to the benefits it provides for local residents and voluntary/community groups providing services for the benefit of local residents.

A copy of the annual report was submitted as an appendix to the report for members' information.

Decision

That the Community Pool 2004/05 Annual Report be received and noted.

21. Community Safety Capital Allocations – Update On CCTV and Youth Shelters *(The Head of Community Safety and Prevention)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To provide further information to Members on CCTV projects and Youth Shelter sites.

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

At the Grants Committee meeting held on 30th August 2005, Members requested further information on the CCTV projects approved and the proposed sites for Youth Shelters. The report set out details of the costs associated with the schemes at Grayfields, Burn Valley Playground, Spion Kop and the location of the first temporary site for a youth shelter.

Members questioned the differences between the CCTV schemes which were explained as in the main, being due to the different types of installations and method of signal transmission from camera to monitoring centre and, particularly at Grayfields, due to the scheme being installed as the construction works were being undertaken.

Decision

That the report be noted.

J A BROWN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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