

GRANTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

11 May 2009

The meeting commenced at 3.00 pm. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Robbie Payne (In the Chair)
Councillors Victor Tumilty and The Mayor, Stuart Drummond

Officers: John Mennear, Assistant Director (Community Services)
Susan Rybak, Community Resource Manager
Pat Wormald, Senior Clerical Officer
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

25. Apologies for Absence

None.

26. Declarations of interest by members

None.

27. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2009

The minutes were received.

28. Community Pool 2009/2010 – Round 2 *(Director of Adult and Community Services)*

Type of Decision

Non key.

Purpose of Report

The report was presented in order to advise and seek approval for the level of grant awards to community groups and voluntary organisations from the Community Pool.

Issues for Consideration

Applications to the Community Pool had been invited for the 2009/2010

financial year from community groups and voluntary organisations providing services for the benefit of Hartlepool residents.

The Community Pool budget for the 2009/2010 financial year was £482,583. At the meeting of the Grants Committee on 24 February 2009, Members had approved Round 1 applications from the 2009/2010 budget totalling £400,473, leaving a balance of £82,120 to be committed at a later date.

At the same meeting, Members also agreed that the 2008/2009 Community Pool budget (£50,535) could be rolled forward into the 2009/2010 budget. Taking this into consideration, the balance available for distribution at the meeting was £132,655.

There were eight applications being presented for consideration in Round 2, including six which were deferred from Round 1 and two additional applications from Manor Residents' Association and Owton Manor Neighbourhood Watch and Residents' Association.

Recommendations

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Amount Recommended 2009/2010</u>
Hart Gables	£12,852
Making a Difference	£7,613
Salaam Centre (Hartlepool Asian Association)	£14,800
Manor Residents Association	£5,684
Hartlepool Families First	£15,780
ADDvance	£10,792

Application Recommended for Deferral:-

RESPECT - information previously requested from this organisation had still not been forthcoming. The Chair asked how long an application would be deferred and was informed that this organisation appeared to be undergoing some difficulties.

Application Not Recommended for Funding:-

Owton Manor Neighbourhood West and Residents Association – this supplementary application had been made as the group had been informed that there was a possibility that funding for core costs from other sources would be reduced. This had not proved to be the case and therefore it was suggested that this application be reject.

Members were informed that a decision on funding for the Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre would be made by Cabinet but the group were not yet in a position to provide the necessary documentation.

The Committee was informed on the current developments with the Hartlepool Access Group (HAG): Shopmobility i.e. that a second draft of the Shopmobility Business Plan 2009-2010 was soon to be finalised. Funding already approved, was currently being released on a monthly basis.

It was clarified that the Owton Manor Neighbourhood Watch and Residents Association and the Manor Residents Association were two separate entities with separate focuses and remits.

A Member expressed concern regarding the aims of the Salaam Centre which had received a lot of funding from other sources previously. Other Members pointed out that the Centre met the funding criteria and were happy to support funding for this.

A Member suggested that site visits to some of the projects which received funding should be made.

Decision

Members:-

- ❖ Granted aid to those organisations as recommended and detailed in Appendix 2 of the previously circulated report.
- ❖ Deferred the application from RESPECT whilst additional information was gathered.
- ❖ Rejected the application from Owton Manor Neighbourhood Watch and Residents Association as detailed in paragraph 4.3 of the report.
- ❖ Approved allocation of grant aid to groups known to be experiencing financial difficulties to be released in monthly/quarterly instalments, as appropriate, in order to safeguard the Council's investment and minimise risk.
- ❖ Approved the balance of the Community Pool, £65,134 to be considered for allocation against bids at future meetings within the financial year.
- ❖ Referred the application from Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre to Cabinet once the outstanding documentation had been received.
- ❖ Agreed that site visits should be made to organisations who have received funding.

The meeting concluded at 3.30 pm

P J DEVLIN
CHIEF SOLICITOR

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