

GRANTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

31st July 2006

Present:

Councillor Robbie Payne (In the Chair)

Councillors The Mayor and Victor Tumilty

Officers: John Mennear, Assistant Director (Community Services)
Susan Rybak, Grants Officer
Angela Hunter, Principal Democratic Services Officer
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

1. Appointment of Chair

Councillor Payne was appointed Chairman of the Committee.

2. Apologies for Absence

None

3. Declarations of interest by members

None

4. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd May 2006

Confirmed

5. 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 report sought the Committee's consideration of the following:-

- the general approach to the allocation of the available balance for 2006/7
- the approach to the award of grants for citizens' summer outings and Christmas parties and delegating authority to officers to approve these grants.
- applications where no previous grants had been awarded.
- applications where grants had previously been awarded

Following consideration of the information provided Members expressed support for the applications. In the case of the Headland Pastimes Association however members requested further information on the function and activities of the group before giving consideration to the application.

Decision

- (i) The allocation of the available balance of £17,855 for 2006/07 was noted and the setting aside of £1,500 in respect of applications for senior citizens summer outings and Christmas parties was approved.
- (ii) Authority was delegated to the Assistant Chief Executive to award summer outings and Christmas party grants in accordance with the approved criteria.
- (iii) The following allocation of grants was approved:-

Application number	Organisation	£
3202	Hartlepool Camera Club	500*
3207	Seaton Holy Trinity Football Club	500*
3208	Ardrossan Bingo Club	200
3209	Throston United Football Club	200

(* Organisations that have previously received Civic Lottery Grants)

6. Directed Lettings 2006/2007 – Hire of Premises by Voluntary/Community Groups *(Director of Adult and Community Services))*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To provide details of applications to the Directed Lettings Scheme, the hire of premises by voluntary/community groups.

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

Members were reminded that approval had been given at the meeting of the Grants Committee on 3rd March 2006, to the allocation of funding from the Community Pool of £4,000 for Directed Lettings, the hire of premises by voluntary/community groups. Grant aid was targeted towards the groups operating in the most disadvantaged areas.

In all cases grant aid was recommended towards the costs of the hire of a venue for one meeting per week. Recommendations were presented as follows:-

Organisation	Amount Recommended 2006/2007
22 nd Hartlepool Rainbows, Brownies, Guides	£570
20 th Hartlepool Brownie Guides	£500
34 th Hartlepool Guides, Brownies, Rainbows	£540
1st Hartlepool Brownie Unit	£298
Hartlepool Youth Choir	£255
Hartlepool Swimming Club	£549
Hart Parish Council	£220
Elwick Parish Council	£220
Total	£3,152

Detailed information on the applications was appended to the report.

Members were advised that a further application had been made by the 27th Hartlepool Brownies. However the Scheme was originally established to support those groups which had benefited from free use of school premises by Cleveland County Council and the 27th Hartlepool Brownies did not meet this criteria. Therefore officers were recommending that this application be rejected. However as the group met in the Stranton Ward, members might wish to offer support to the group in the current financial year with no commitment intended or implied for future years. Councillor Payne pointed out that whilst it is necessary to support the community to use this building or it will close, the Stranton Centre is located in the Foggy Furze Ward not the Stranton Ward.

Members felt that as this group did not fall under the appropriate criteria the report recommendation should be followed. Officers were asked to write to the group inviting them to apply for a Civic Lottery Grant as they would probably be eligible. However it was acknowledged that this would not be a regular source of income.

The report went on to suggest changes to the Directed Lettings Scheme whereby in future years financial support would only be recommended for those groups operating in the top 10% of deprived wards nationally and funding should be restricted to previous beneficiaries of the Directed Lettings Scheme. The Assistant Director (Community Services) suggested that in hindsight members should disregard this recommendation as it would penalise groups who had been previous beneficiaries of the scheme.

Decision

- i. That the application for a grant from the Directed Lettings allocation from the 27th Hartlepool Brownie Group be declined
- ii. That the following levels of grant aid from the Community Pool Directed Lettings allocation be approved:

22nd Hartlepool Rainbows, Brownies, Guides	£570
20 th Hartlepool Brownie Guides	£500
34 th Hartlepool Guides, Brownies, Rainbows	£540
1 st Hartlepool Brownie Unit	£298
Hartlepool Youth Choir	£255
Hartlepool Swimming Club	£549
Hart Parish Council	£220
Elwick Parish Council	£220

- iii. That the remaining balance of £848 be returned to the main Community Pool budget.
- iv. That the changes to the Directed Lettings Scheme as detailed in the report are not put into effect. That recommendation iii of paragraph 4 of the report be disregarded.

J A BROWN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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