

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Mid Sussex District Council Cabinet
Grants Panel held on Tuesday, 7 June 2016
from 4.00 p.m. to 4.55 p.m.**

Present: Councillors: Jonathan Ash-Edwards (Chairman)
Pru Moore (Vice-Chairman)

Norman Webster

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Moore nominated Councillor Ash-Edwards as Chairman of the Panel for the 2016/2017 Council year. This was seconded by Councillor Webster and agreed.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Ash-Edwards be elected Chairman of the Panel for the 2016/2017 Council year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor Ash-Edwards nominated Councillor Moore as Vice-Chairman of the Panel for the 2016/2017 Council year. This was seconded by Councillor Webster and agreed.

RESOLVED

That Councillor Moore be elected Vice-Chairman of the Panel for the 2016/2017 Council year.

3. SUBSTITUTES

None.

4. APOLOGIES

None.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillor Moore declared a personal interest in the application for Sheddingdean Baptist Church as she is the Ward Member for the area and has close ties to the project. She removed herself from the meeting and took no part in discussion of that application and did not vote thereon.

6. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 21 March 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7. REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Two representations have been received. The Chief Executive Officer from Burgess Hill Town Council confirmed that a meeting had been held to pass a resolution in support of the Sheddingdean Baptist Church application.

Councillor Walker declared a personal interest in the application from East Grinstead Cricket Club and expressed his support. Although it is not in his Ward, he has lived in the area for the last 12 years and witnessed the excellent work the club does to promote a high standard of cricket, particularly for junior players.

8. CORPORATE GRANT SCHEMES

The Principal Development Manager introduced the report which presented fourteen Facility, Community and Economic Development grants and Sponsorship grants. It was noted that, with a carry-over of £4000 from last year, the total sum available for this year in the Community and Economic Development grants fund is £91,928.

He drew the Panels attention to the 2016/2017 Spotlight Grants Programme as it is the time of year for the Panel to agree the theme. The Panel can suggest alternatives but the following three themes have been proposed:

- Mental Health,
- Arts, culture and heritage
- Small organisations with a turnover of under £10,000 pa.

The Grants panel went with grants to small organisations with a turnover under £10,000.

Elaine Clarke, Community Leisure Officer, introduced the Facility Grants Schemes, Community and Economic Development Grants Schemes, and Sponsorship Grants (Appendices A, B and C), as set out below:-

Facility Grants

Organisation	Purpose for which award is sought	Award Requested	Award Suggested
East Grinstead Cricket Club	Refurbish cricket squares	5,000	5,000
St Lawrence Church of England Primary School	Swimming pool cover and upgrade	20,000	20,000
Sheddingdean Baptist Church	Construction of new church with community facilities	235,000	27,133
Total		£ 260,000	£52,133

Community and Economic Development Grants

Organisation	Purpose for which award is sought	Award Requested	Award Suggested
Lindfield Arts Festival	Community participation day	1,200	1,200
Disability Access	Support for disabled people	1,000	1,000
Burgess Hill Shed	Practical workshop space for adults	1,580	1,580

Kangaroos	Activity centre residential for children with learning difficulties	500	500
Family Support Work	Informal support group	1,972	1,775
Ashenground Community Centre	Open Afternoon showcase event	500	500
Writers on the Heath	Writing competition and website	1,666	1,200
Horsted Keynes Parish Council	Queens 90 th birthday celebratory picnic	500	500
Horsham and Mid Sussex Voluntary Action	Community room moving costs	1,037	1,037
Greater Brighton Economic Board	Partner Contribution 2016-17	11,234	11,234
Total		£ 21,189	£ 20,526

Sponsorship

Organisation	Purpose for which award is sought	Award Requested	Award Suggested
Media Sound Holdings	Sponsorship of the Community Award	900	900
Total		£ 900	£ 900

In deciding the theme for the Spotlight Grants Programme 2016/2017, the Panel considered that the key topic of Mental Health may also be covered by the work of small organisations and therefore by choosing the latter topic, it could encompass a wider remit than choosing mental health alone. Therefore the Panel agreed the theme for 2016/2017 to be Small Organisations with a turnover of under £10,000 per annum.

During consideration of the Facility, Community and Economic and Sponsorship grants, the Panel considered the recommendations of the Corporate Grant Assessment Groups evaluations and raised a number of points which the Officers clarified.

The Panel welcomed the improvements proposed to East Grinstead Cricket Ground and felt that it was a reasonable investment for improvements which should last 25 years. They also supported the recommendation to award the grant for the swimming pool upgrade at St Lawrence Church of England Primary School. They acknowledged that the District does have good leisure centre facilities but felt that this project would allow disadvantaged families to have much needed access to swimming lessons at a time when the number of children who can swim is in decline. It was noted that the school would be subject to a condition to allow community access for specific swimming clubs.

The Community Leisure Officer introduced the application from Sheddingdean Baptist Church and Councillor Moore removed herself from the meeting for this item. It was noted that the application asked for £235,000 which was more than the Section 106 funds allow. The recommendation is to award £27,133 towards community groups using meeting rooms within the Church. The Panel acknowledged the large scale of the project, that it has been professionally managed, that the Town Council is in favour and that it will have large community benefits.

Regarding the Lindfield Arts Festival application, the Panel queried the amount that was being sought as it seemed significantly higher than the grants from the Parish and County Council. However, they acknowledged the wider impact of the Arts Festival on the village, and agreed that the purchase of a new PA system was a good long term investment that would have benefits to the community at more than just one event. They also acknowledged that most of the other funds had been raised by the group themselves.

The Panel supported the recommendations to award grants to both Disability Access and Kangaroos as they are both well run organisations with a good track record of supporting the community. They acknowledged that the Disability Access grant is the same amount as awarded last year, and that the remainder of the funding for the Kangaroos event will be sourced from other grants, reserves, and fundraising.

The Community Leisure Officer introduced the application from Burgess Hill Shed and highlighted that they had submitted a previous application to the Panel which had been rejected. The Officer's recommendation is that the organisation has now responded positively with a stronger application and sourced suitable premises. The Panel agreed that subject to meeting conditions on the grant, this was an interesting and worthwhile project to support starting up.

The Community Leisure Officer introduced the application from Family Support Work and the initial recommendation was to award £1,775 as opposed the amount requested of £1,972, allowing for the group to raise 10% themselves. The Panel raised concerns as to whether other organisations such as Social Services should cover the remit of this group but after further clarification from the Officers it was felt that this organisation offered exceptional services to families that needed more support than official support mechanisms can provide. It was also agreed by the Panel to award the full amount requested of £1,972.

The Panel supported the application from Ashenground Community Centre, and supported the application from Horsted Keynes Parish Council for the Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations, noting that other celebrations around the District have been enjoyable occasions.

The Community Leisure Officer introduced the application from Writers on the Heath and highlighted that the original grant request included funding toward the cost of prize money which is not covered by the remit of the Grants Panel. The recommendation is therefore to award £1,200 which excludes the prize money and allows a 10% contribution from the group. The Panel agreed to this recommendation and supported this new initiative to encourage literary skills.

The Panel supported the application from Horsham and Mid Sussex Voluntary Action. It was noted that they receive core funding from the Council toward their general running costs but this does not include the office move. They were given notice so have had to move and therefore did not choose to incur these additional costs.

The Strategic Development Project Manager introduced the proposed contribution towards the Greater Brighton Economic Board and highlighted that there has been a 50% reduction negotiated on our contribution to reflect the distance of the north area of the District from Brighton. The Board's funding proposals this year are more realistic and Mid Sussex's contribution would be the lowest of any local authority. The Panel was in support of the Council's involvement with the Board and happy that a

reduction had been negotiated.

The Panel was also in support of the Sponsorship grant application from Media Sounds Holdings which will sponsor a Community Award. The Council has supported the awards for a number of years and is happy to support an organisation that recognises the achievements of the community.

RESOLVED

That:-

1. The theme for the Spotlight Grants Programme 2016/2017 be Small Organisations with a turnover of under £10,000 pa.
2. a Facility Grant of £5,000 (56% of the total project cost) be awarded to East Grinstead Cricket Club toward the cost of refurbishing the cricket squares which is made up of - £5,000 (P35/514 Land at Rockdene, St Marys and St Josephs, Lower Dene) Section 106 Formal Sport monies.

This grant offer is made subject to the following special conditions:

- that it can be demonstrated that the project can be funded in its entirety with 12 months of the grant offer
- the project must be completed within 12 months of project funding being obtained

3. a Facility Grant of £20,000 (20% of the total project cost) be awarded to St Lawrence Church of England Primary School toward the cost of installing an enclosure for the existing swimming pool which is made up of - £20,000 (P35/778 Land at Chalkers Lane) Section 106 Local Community Infrastructure monies.

This grant offer is made subject to the following special conditions:

- that it can be demonstrated that the project can be funded in its entirety with 12 months of the grant offer
- the project must be completed within 12 months of project funding being obtained.

4. a Facility Grant of £27,133 be awarded to Sheddingdean Baptist Church toward the cost of constructing a new church with community facilities on land north of Maple Drive, Burgess Hill, which is made up of - £6,104 (P35/687 Land at Hammonds Ridge), £4,152 (P35/703 Land at rear of Forest View Care Home), £5,318 (PL13-KingsHead Land at Kings Head Public House), £5,357 (PL13-000386 Land at 76 Victoria Road), £6,202 (PL12-000682 Osborne House, Station Road) Section 106 Community Building monies.

This grant offer is made subject to the following special conditions:

- that the hours of community use are satisfactory as determined by the Head of Leisure & Sustainability
 - that it can be demonstrated that the project can be funded in its entirety with 12 months of the grant offer
 - the project must be completed within 12 months of project funding being obtained
 - planning permission is obtained and a suitable lease agreement is drawn up between the Council and Sheddingdean Baptist Church, to the satisfaction of the Head of Leisure and Sustainability.
5. a Community and Economic Development Grant of £1,200 be awarded to Lindfield Arts Festival as a contribution towards the cost of audio equipment for the Community Participation Day.
 6. a Community and Economic Development Grant of £1,000 be awarded to Disability Access to allow them to continue offering support for disabled people.
 7. a Community and Economic Development Grant of £1,580 be awarded to Burgess Hill Shed (BH-Shed) to help establish a practical workshop space for adults.

This grant offer is made subject to the following special conditions:

- receipt of the constitution
 - evidence the organisation has applied to register with the Charity Commission,
 - a copy of the Health and Safety Policy and Public Liability Insurance, to be approved by the Head of Leisure & Sustainability.
8. a Community and Economic Development Grant of £500 be awarded to Kangaroos towards an activity center residential trip for children with learning difficulties.
 9. a Community and Economic Development Grant of £1,972 be awarded to Family Support Work to set up an informal support group.
 10. a Community and Economic Development Grant of £500 be awarded to Ashenground Community Centre as a contribution towards an Open Afternoon showcase event, specifically the cost of the main attraction.
 11. a Community and Economic Development Grant of £1,200 be awarded to Writers on the Heath to establish a website.
 12. a Community and Economic Development Grant of £500 be awarded to Horsted Keynes Parish Council for the Queens 90th birthday celebratory picnic.

13. a Community and Economic Development Grant of £1,037 be awarded to Horsham and Mid Sussex Voluntary Action as contribution towards community room moving costs.
14. a Community and Economic Development Grant of £11,234 be awarded to Greater Brighton Economic Board as a contribution to project management, financial, legal, administrative and external consultancy support for the Greater Brighton Economic Board for 2016-17.
15. a Community and Economic Development Grant of £900 be awarded to Media Sound Holdings Ltd as a contribution to the Bright Awards 2016.

Chairman.