

Redditch Borough Council

Grants Panel Meetings

Monday, 14 December 2015 and Wednesday 16th December 2015

Notes

Meeting: Monday 14th December 2015

Councillors: David Bush (from 6.50pm), Greg Chance, Brandon Clayton, Mark Shurmer and Yvonne Smith

Officers: Judith Willis

Democratic Services Officer : Jan Smyth

Duration: 6.35pm to 9pm

Meeting: Wednesday 16th December 2015

Councillors: David Bush, Greg Chance, Brandon Clayton, Mark Shurmer and Yvonne Smith

Officers: Judith Willis

Democratic Services Officer: Jan Smyth

Duration: 6.30pm to 9pm

1. Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence were received.

In respect of the meeting held on Monday 14th December, the Panel having been notified that Councillor Bush (Chair) would be a little late arriving, Councillor Greg Chance (Vice-Chair) opened the meeting and presided as Chair during consideration of the Applications in the "Help Me to be financially Independent" strategic theme. Councillor Bush presided as Chair during consideration of the Applications for the two remaining themes further to his arrival.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made by Members.

3. Major Grant Applications

The Panel considered forty four grant applications that had been received from a variety of Voluntary Sector Organisations in line with the Council's five themed Strategic Purposes, under which the following budgets had been allocated:

- Help me to be Financially Independent - £75 k
- Help me to be Financially Independent - £10 k

- Help me to Live My Life Independently - £35 k
- Help me to Live My Life Independently - £30 k
- Provide Good Things for me to do, see and visit - £6 k
- Keep My Place Safe and Looking Good - £15 k
- Help Me Run A Successful Voluntary Sector Business - £50 k

The applications for the first three strategic themes were considered and scored on Monday 14th December 2015, with the applications for the remaining two strategic themes being considered on Wednesday 16th December 2015. Each Application was scored in accordance with the Council's Grants Programme requirements with recommendations made to approve or reject each of the applications.

On reviewing the Grant Application from the Ditch Youth Project, listed under the Council's strategic theme "Provide good things for me to do, see and visit", the Panel requested that it be re-assigned to the strategic purpose "Keep my place safe and looking good" as Members were of the view that the outcomes of this project were more relevant to this particular theme.

Further to the scoring process undertaken across both meetings, the Panel agreed that recommendations be made to the Executive Committee in accordance with the results of the scoring table as attached.

The Panel also considered the budgets that had not been fully spent, as detailed below.

Theme	Budget	Not Spent
Help me to be financially independent	£10k	£5,000
Help me to live my life independently	£30k	£2201.76
Provide me with good things to do, see and visit	£6k	£335
Keep my place safe and looking good	£15k	£2,000
Help me run a successful voluntary sector business	£50k	£825
TOTAL		£10,362.74

Following discussions it was suggested that the unallocated budgets be re-advertised alongside the Stronger Communities Grant applications in January 2016. In respect of the small underspends of £335 and £825, Panel Members views were sought on re-allocating them to the Stronger Communities pot, however, no formal decision was taken prior to the conclusion of the meeting.

Recommendations that

- 1) the Grants for 2016/17 be awarded to successful Applicants in the amounts set out in Appendix 1 to these notes; and
- 2) the unallocated sums of £5,000, £2000 and £2000 relating to the Themes detailed in the table at 3. above, be retained and their availability be re-advertised in parallel with the Stronger Communities Grants applications in January 2016.