

Redditch Borough Council

Grants Panel Meetings

Monday 4th December 2017 and Tuesday 5th December 2017

Notes

Meeting: Monday 4th December 2017

Councillors: Gay Hopkins (Chair), Dave Bush, Mark Shurmer and Yvonne Smith

Officers: Helen Broughton and Ann Dallison

Democratic Services Officer: Debbie Parker-Jones

Duration: 6.40pm to 8:25pm

Meeting: Tuesday 5th December 2017

Councillors: Gay Hopkins (Chair), Greg Chance (Vice-Chair), Dave Bush and Yvonne Smith

Officers: Helen Broughton and Ann Dallison

Democratic Services Officer: Debbie Parker-Jones

Duration: 6.40pm to 9.25pm

1. Apologies for absence

Councillor Chance was not present at the meeting on Monday 4th December 2017.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Shurmer for the 5th December 2017 meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

However, during the course of the meetings Councillor Bush advised that the Redditch Round Table, of which he was a member, had recently considered funding requests and granted funding to some of the organisations who were seeking funding under the Council's Voluntary Community Sector Grants process. The organisations in question were: Redditch Wheels Project; Redditch Mental Health Action Group; and Acts of Kindness.

Councillor Bush also placed on record that his niece had attended a (payable)

course at the Old Needle Works in Britten Street; the premises of the Britten Street Hub CIC (Community Interest Company), who had also applied to the Council for grant funding.

3. Major Grants Applications

The Panel considered forty six 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 – £4k
- Help Me to Live My Life Independently (Children and Young People) – £40k
- Help Me to Live My Life Independently (Adults and Older People) – £30k
- Provide Me with Good Things to Do, See and Visit – £6k
- Keep My Place Safe and Looking Good – £15k
- Help Me Run a Successful Voluntary Sector Business – £50k

The applications for the first two strategic themes (Help Me to be Financially Independent and Help Me to Live My Life Independently) were considered and scored on Monday 4th December 2017, with the applications for the remaining three strategic themes being considered on Tuesday 5th December 2017. Each Application was scored in accordance with the Council's Grants Programme requirements, which included Officer recommendations.

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 attached as Appendix 1.

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

Theme	Total Budget	Not Spent
Help Me to be Financially Independent	£4k	Nil
Help Me to Live My Life Independently (Children and Young People)	£40k	£100.00
Help Me to Live My Life Independently (Adults and Older People)	£30k	£2,968.00
Provide Me with Good Things to do, see and visit	£6k	Nil
Keep My Place Safe and Looking Good	£15k	£140.40
Help Me Run a Successful Voluntary Sector Business	£50k	£5,636.00
Total		£8,844.40

Following discussions it was suggested that the unallocated Help Me Run a Successful Voluntary Sector Business budget be re-advertised alongside the Stronger Communities Grant applications in January 2018.

Members further agreed to recommend that the remaining unallocated sums of money under the other Themes be included in the Stronger Communities Grants funding theme for 2018/2019. The Panel also requested that Officers provide appropriate feedback to those organisations which were unsuccessful in securing a grant.

The Grants Panel also agreed that at the start of the following year's grants process in May they should hold an additional meeting to discuss with Officers the overall strategy for the process; to look at which elements were felt to be working well and to consider any areas which might need to be adjusted.

RECOMMENDED that

- 1) the Grants for 2018/19 be awarded to successful Applicants in the amounts set out in Appendix 1 to these Notes;**
- 2) the unallocated sums of £100.00, £2,968.00 and £140.40, relating to the Themes detailed in the table at 3. above, be included in the Stronger Communities Grants funding theme for 2018/2019; and**
- 3) the unallocated sum of £5,636.00 relating to the Help Me Run a Successful Voluntary Sector Business Theme be retained and its availability be re-advertised in parallel with the Stronger Communities Grants applications in January 2018; and**

RESOLVED that

- 4) at the start of the 2019/2020 grants process in May 2018, the Grants Panel hold an additional meeting to discuss with Officers the overall strategy for the process, as outlined in the preamble above.**