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Date: 18th November 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **Grants to the Voluntary Sector Panel** will be held in the **Rhymney Room, Penalita House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Wednesday, 25th November, 2015** at **5.00 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda.

Yours faithfully,

Wis Burns

Chris Burns INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

Pages

- 1 To receive apologies for absence.
- 2 Declarations of interest-

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.

To receive and note the following minutes:-

3 Grants to the Voluntary Sector Panel Meeting held on 15th July 2015.

1 - 4



To receive and consider the following report(s) from the Acting Director of Corporate Services & Section 151 Officer: -

4 Applications for Financial Assistance.

5 - 16

Circulation:

Councillors L. Ackerman, H.A. Andrews, Mrs A. Blackman, D.G. Carter, C.J. Cuss, R.W. Gough (Vice Chair), D. Havard, C. Hawker, A.G. Higgs, A. Lewis, K. Lloyd, Mrs G.D. Oliver (Chair), M.J. Prew, R. Saralis and Mrs E. Stenner

And Appropriate Officers



GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN PARK ON WEDNESDAY, 15TH JULY 2015 AT 5.00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs G. Oliver - Chair Councillor R. Gough - Vice Chair

Councillors:

L. Ackerman, H.A. Andrews, Mrs A. Blackman, C. Cuss, D. Havard, A. Lewis, K. Lloyd, R. Saralis and E. Stenner.

Together with:

S. Harris (Interim Head of Corporate Finance), D. Roberts (Principal Group Accountant - Financial Advice and Support), G. Elliot (Communities First Finance Assistant), C. Evans (Committee Services Officer).

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Councillor Mrs Gaynor Oliver was appointed Chair of the Committee for the ensuing year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Councillor Robert Gough was appointed Vice Chair of the Committee for the ensuing year.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors D.G. Carter and M.J. Prew

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors H.A. Andrews, C. Cuss and K. Lloyd declared an interest in Agenda Item 5, Appendix 2 (Applications for Financial Assistance). Details of the declarations are recorded with the relevant item.

5. MINUTES – 18TH MARCH 2014

The Panel received and approved the minutes of the Grants to the Voluntary Sector Panel held on 18th March 2014 (minute nos. 1 - 4; page nos. 1 - 3).

6. REVISION OF CRITERIA FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

In the form of an interactive group discussion and training session Members considered the criteria for financial assistance and were afforded the opportunity to suggest alternative categories and allocations wherever appropriate.

Members considered the criteria and various categories and sought further information on the award of grant to individuals representing Wales at home and individuals representing Wales abroad. Members queried the current process of only awarding one grant in each financial year to such individuals. It was pointed out that if an individual receives a grant for representing Wales at home (£130) and then represents Wales abroad later in the same financial year then they would not be entitled to a further grant. Conversely, if an individual only represents Wales abroad during the year they would receive a single grant of £250. Following discussions it was agreed that individuals representing Wales should receive maximum funding of £250 in a single financial year. In circumstances where individuals represent Wales abroad later in the same financial year they are they would be entitled to a grant of £130 and if they then go on to represent Wales abroad later in the same financial year they are they would be entitled to a top-up grant of £120.

Following consideration and discussion it was moved and seconded that Members recommend to the Interim Head of Corporate Finance that the revised set of criteria be approved under delegated powers.

Members noted that an additional training session would be scheduled for the next meeting.

7. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

7.1 **Statement of Expenditure**

Members noted the budget available for 2015-2016 as £72,614.36, which included the estimated reduction for Discretionary Rate Relief and budget carried forward. If all awards in the report are agreed the remaining budget would be £61,124.36.

7.2 Welsh Church Act Fund

Members noted the Welsh Church Act Fund applications received and approved by officers since the last meeting in accordance with the agreed criteria as set out in Appendix 4. The total allocated amounts to £6,356.67.

Members noted the process and the information contained within the report.

7.3 Applications for Financial Assistance: Panel Awards

Members were asked to consider the applications listed in Appendix 1 to the report and to make appropriate recommendations to the Interim Head of Corporate Finance for approval.

RECOMMENDED that the following applications for financial assistance be referred to the Interim Head of Corporate Finance for approval under delegated powers:-

		£
(a)	SYDIC	£200.00
(b)	St Andrews Church, Penyrheol	£200.00

Members discussed the application relating to Lower Machen Festival and it was noted that Lower Machen was not within the Caerphilly County Borough boundary. Officers agreed to clarify this and, depending on the outcome, either award or decline the grant.

RECOMMENDED that the following application for financial assistance be referred to the Interim Head of Corporate Finance for approval under delegated powers, subject to further information.

(a) Lower Machen Festival

£ £200.00

7.4 Applications for Financial Assistance: General Criteria Awards

Councillor H.A. Andrews declared an interest in application 15/GC023 – Gilfach Old People's Welfare Committee and 15/GC039 – Gilfach Old Age Pensioners Association due to involvement with both groups.

Councillor C. Cuss declared an interest in application 15/GC018 – Ael-Y-Bryn Table Tennis Club due to close family membership and;

Councillor K. Lloyd declared an interest in application 15/GC020 – Trinant and Pentwyn Allotment as a plot owner.

Members noted the applications received since the last meeting, as listed in Appendix 2, which are in accordance with the agreed criteria and to be processed by officers.

The meeting closed at 5.47 p.m.

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any amendments agreed and recorded in the minutes of the next meeting.

CHAIR



GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL – 25TH NOVEMBER 2015

SUBJECT: APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES & SECTION 151 OFFICER

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To present the Panel with the applications for financial assistance received to date for the current financial year.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 The report advises Panel members of the budget allocations for both the Voluntary Sector budget and the "Welsh Church Fund" and provides details of applications received.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

3.1 Voluntary and Community Sector organisations make an important contribution to public service provision across the borough and are key participants in the Community Strategy implemented through the Single Integrated Plan Caerphilly Delivers. The Single Integrated Plan has the following priority outcomes: Prosperous Caerphilly; Safer Caerphilly; Learning Caerphilly and Healthier Caerphilly.

4. REPORT

4.1 Assistance To Voluntary Sector Budget

4.1.1 The Panel's budget for 2015/2016 is as follows:

Budget 2015-16	£229,048.00
Less Discretionary Rate Relief (Estimated)	£252,487.05
Remaining Budget	(23,439.05)
Carry forward balance from 2014-15	£90,973.56
Total Available Budget 2015-16	£67,534.51
Total 2015-16 Grants awarded to date	£7,490.00
Balance Remaining	£60,044.51

- 4.1.2 The projected Discretionary Rate Relief for 2015-16 is £252,487.05. This is £23,439.05 above the available budget. As agreed at previous panel meetings the carry forward from previous years of £90,973.56 will be used to fund projects for 2015-16. To date grant awards total £7,490.00. Allowing for the projected overspend on the Discretionary Rate Relief the balance available for schemes is £60,044.51.
- 4.1.3 The total amount requested in respect of the applications listed in Appendix 1 is £1,000.00 (6 No.). These applications do not meet the criteria as set out in Appendix 4. Panel Members are asked to consider these applications and make appropriate recommendations to the Interim Head of Corporate Finance for approval or otherwise under delegated powers.
- 4.1.4 Appendix 2 details those applications that meet the criteria out set in Appendix 4 that have been approved by officers (but not actioned). These total £6,010.00 (29 No.).
- 4.1.5 The balance remaining if all grants requested are awarded as set out in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 will be £53,034.51.

4.2 Welsh Church Act Fund

- 4.2.1 At previous meetings of the Panel it was decided that the following criteria would apply when considering applications for assistance from the Welsh Church Fund:-
 - (i) A grant of no more than £2,000 to be given to partly fund projects of £6,000 and over;
 - (ii) Smaller projects less than £6,000 be grant aided up to a third of the total cost;
 - (iii) All organisations receiving grants produce the necessary financial records to show the expenditure has been incurred;
 - (iv) No organisation is allowed to apply in consecutive years.
- 4.2.2 At the meeting of 13th July 2009 Members agreed that in future, officers would approve applications meeting the Welsh Church Act Fund Criteria, using delegated powers. Such decisions would then be reported to the Panel for information, where Members could ask for further information if required.
- 4.2.3 Caerphilly County Borough Council has received written confirmation from Monmouthshire CC that the 2015/16 budget allocation will be £49,334.00. Monmouthshire CC have confirmed that the underspends from previous years of £155,235.00 can be carried forward, resulting in a total available budget for the current year of £204,569.00.

Budget 2015-16	£49,334.00
Carry forward balances	£155,235.00
Total Available Budget 2015-16	£204,569.00
Total 2015-16 Grants awarded to date	£6,356.67
Balance Remaining	£198,212.33

- 4.2.4 Details of applications received since the last meeting are set out in Appendix 3. The total of amounts requested in accordance with the agreed criteria is £16,215.00 (9 No.).
- 4.2.5 If all awards spend to their maximum allocation there will be a balance of £181,997.33 remaining.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no direct equalities implications to this report so no Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The financial implications are those set out in the report.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no personnel implications

8. CONSULTATIONS.

8.1 There are no consultation responses, which have not been reflected in this report.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 That Members consider the applications contained in Appendix 1 and make appropriate recommendations to the Interim Head of Corporate Finance for approval or otherwise under delegated powers.
- 9.2 That Members note the awards approved as set out in Appendices 2 and 3.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To ensure that the applications received under this report are determined in accordance with the Council's scheme of delegation criteria.

11. STATURORY POWER

- 11.1 Local Government Act 1972 and 2003 and the Councils Financial Regulations.
- Author:D. Roberts Principal Group Accountant (Financial Advice and Support)Consultees:Stephen R Harris Interim Head of Corporate Finance
A Southcombe Finance Manager

Appendices:

- Appendix 1 Panel Awards
- Appendix 2 General Criteria Awards
- Appendix 3 Welsh Church Fund Act -2015/16
- Appendix 4 General Criteria

Appendix 1 - Panel Awards

Ref	Name of Organisation	Charity/Vol Org. Etc	Area	Award Solidht	Amount Awarded	Background Information	Purpose for Grant	Amounts from Other Sources	Previous Awards	Similar Awards
				£				£	£	£
15/P004	Friends of Navigation Colliery, Crumlin	Constituted	-	200.00		To regenerate the Navigation site	Create a social and eductional enterprise	0.00	0.00	0.00
15/P005	Cambrian Foundation for Deaf Children	Charity	Borough	200.00		To assist deaf children in their development	Help deaf children	0.00	200.00	200.00
15/P006	Caerphilly Causeway Prospects	Charity	Newbridge	100.00		Enable prople with additional needs to enjoy worship	Contribution towards utilities and transport	0.00	160.00	160.00
15/P007	Rhymney Valley Music Club	Charity	-	200.00		Promotion of live classical music contests	Help with cost for professional musicians and overheads	⁶ 0.00	200.00	200.00
15/P008	Gelligaer Historical Society	Vol	Gelligaer	200.00		The study of the history and heritage of the parish	Help with events and activities	0.00	200.00	200.00
15/P009	Valleys Healing and Life	Charity	-	100.00		Give patients holistic therapies	Help with cost for therapies	0.00	0.00	0.00

1,000.00

	Reference	Name of Organisation/Individual	Sport	Award Category	Criteria Award
					£
	15/GC046	Oakdale Silver Band		Brass and Silver Bands	400.00
	15/GC047	BTM Brass Band		Brass and Silver Bands	400.00
	15/GC048	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Kick Boxing	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	250.00
	15/GC049	Treowen Stars AFC		Sports Club (over 50 members).	200.00
	15/GC050	1st Ystrad Mynach Guides		Boys & Girls Clubs/YMCA/Scouts/Cubs/Brownies/Guides/Boys Brigade/Crusaders (upto 50 me	r 100.00
	15/GC051	Oakdale OAP Association		OAP Association without own building.	150.00
	15/GC052	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Taekwondo	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	250.00
	15/GC053	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Taekwondo	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	250.00
	15/GC054	Kendon & Woodview Community		Community Groups	100.00
	15/GC055	Penuel Chapel, Rhymney		Clubs run From Churches/Chapels	200.00
	15/GC056	1st Llanbradach Girls Brigade		Boys & Girls Clubs/YMCA/Scouts/Cubs/Brownies/Guides/Boys Brigade/Crusaders (upto 50 me	r 100.00
	15/GC057	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Hockey	Individuals representing Wales at home.	130.00
	15/GC058	Brithdir 55 Club		OAP Association without own building.	150.00
	15/GC059	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Karate	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	250.00
	15/GC060	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Fishing	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	250.00
	15/GC061	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Clay Shooting	Individuals representing Wales at home.	130.00
age	15/GC062	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Kickboxing	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	250.00
)e	15/GC063	Croespenmaen Old Age Welfare Hall		OAP Association with own building.	300.00
1	15/GC064	Helping Hands (Rhymney Cancer Self Help Group)		Community Groups	100.00
	15/GC065	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Snooker	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	250.00
	15/GC066	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Snooker	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	250.00
	15/GC067	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Snooker	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	250.00
	15/GC068	1st Ystrad Mynach Scout Group		Boys & Girls Clubs/YMCA/Scouts/Cubs/Brownies/Guides/Boys Brigade/Crusaders (upto 50 me	r 100.00
	15/GC069	Heolddu Gymnastics Club		Sports Club (over 50 members).	200.00
	15/GC070	Cascade Luncheon Club		Clubs run From Churches/Chapels	200.00
	15/GC071	Cascade Crafters		Clubs run From Churches/Chapels	200.00
	15/GC072	Bedwas Writer's Circle		Writers Clubs	100.00
	15/GC073	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Kick Boxing	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	250.00
	15/GC074	Sporting Individual Representing Country	Kick Boxing	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	250.00
					6,010.00

Appendix 3 - Welsh Church Fund Act -2015/16

REF No.	Organisation	Category	Description	Award Sought
15/WCF005	Ebenezer English Baptist Church, Llanbradach	Other	Internal Decorations	2,000.00
15/WCF006	Blackwood Town Cricket Club	Voluntary Organisation	Drainage	2,000.00
15/WCF007	Canolfan Siloh Centre, Ystrad Mynach	Charity Status	Transform rear yard into a prayer garden	215.00
15/WCF008	Kendon & Woodview Community Hall	Other	Install fencing	2,000.00
15/WCF009	Zion Baptist Church, Cwmcarn	Charity Status	Repair boundary wall	2,000.00
15/WCF010	New Life Christian Church (NLCC)	Charity Status	New heating system	2,000.00
15/WCF011	Tabernacle Baptist Church, Newbridge	Other	Renewal of windows	2,000.00
15/WCF012	St Tyfaelog's Parish Church, Pontlottyn	0	Replace windows	2,000.00
15/WCF013	The United Reformed Church, Caerphilly	0	Refurbishment of meeting rooms	2,000.00
	TOTAL			16,215.00

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Appendix 4

Category	New Criteria		
а	OAP Association with own building.	£	300.00
b	OAP Association without own building.	£	150.00
с	Individuals representing Wales at home.	£	130.00
c1	Individuals representing Wales Top Up Grant	£	120.00
d	Individuals representing Wales abroad.	£	250.00
е	Jazz Bands.	£	100.00
f	Choirs.	£	100.00
g	Junior Sports Club (up to 50 members).	£	100.00
g1	Junior Sports Club (over 50 members).	£	200.00
h	Boys & Girls Clubs/YMCA/Scouts/Cubs/Brownies/Guides/Boys Brigade/Crusaders (upto 50 members).	£	100.00
h1	Boys & Girls Clubs/YMCA/Scouts/Cubs/Brownies/Guides/Boys Brigade/Crusaders (over 50 members).	£	200.00
I	St John Ambulance (upto 50 members):- Cadets/Badgers	£	100.00
j	St John Ambulance (over 50 members):- Cadets/Badgers	£	200.00
m	Brass and Silver Bands	£	400.00
n	Allotments	£	100.00
o	Arts Society	£	100.00
р	Writers Clubs	£	100.00
q	Theatre Groups	£	200.00
r	Community Groups	£	100.00
s	Beekeepers Groups	£	100.00
t	Garden Clubs	£	150.00
u	Tennants & Residants Association	£	100.00
v	Websites - Initial Design stage only	£	100.00
w	Pigeon Clubs	£	200.00
x	Clubs run From Churches/Chapels	£	200.00
У	Sports Club (up to 50 members).	£	100.00
z	Sports Club (over 50 members).	£	200.00
aa	Other - upto max	£	400.00