



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 at home initially 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 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
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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