GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH
ON WEDNESDAY, 24TH MARCH 2021 AT 3.00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor A. Gair – Chair
Councillor R. Gough – Vice Chair

Councillors:

C. Andrews, M. Davies, A. Farina- Childs, A. Higgs, D.W.R. Preece, J.E. Roberts, J. Taylor and A. Whitcombe

Together with:

V. Doyle (Policy Officer), S. Harris (Head of Corporate Finance and S151 Officer) and M. Harris (Committee Services Support Officer/ Chauffer), C. Evans (Committee Services Officer).

RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Chair reminded those present that the meeting was being filmed but would not be live streamed, however a recording would be available following the meeting via the Council's website – Click here to view. She advised that decisions would be made by Microsoft Forms.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors L. Jeremiah, Mrs G.D. Oliver and B. Zaplatynski.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made at the beginning or during the course of the meeting.

3. MINUTES – 28TH OCTOBER 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Grants to the Voluntary Sector Panel held on 28th October 2020 (minute nos. 1 – 6) were received and approved as a correct record.

4. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The report provided the Panel with details of the applications for financial assistance received between 1st October and 31st December 2020 relating to the 2020/21 financial year and sought the views of the Panel on one application that does not meet the general criteria.

The report also informed the Panel of grant monies that have been recycled back into the funding pot.

The Panel considered and noted the budget allocations for both the Voluntary Sector budget and the Welsh Church Acts Fund Budget and details of applications received and approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers between 1st October and 31st December 2020.

The Panel considered the application received from an organisation under the Voluntary Sector budget which does not meet the general criteria. Following consideration and discussion it was agreed that the application be supported.

Finally, the report sought to inform Panel members of grant monies that have been recycled back into the funding pot for allocation to other projects.

The Panel thanked the Officer for the report and discussion ensued. Queries were raised around foodbanks and whether allotments can donate to local foodbanks. Officers explained that they were not aware of the criteria for this but there are grants available for food banks and there could be individual arrangements in place. A Member queried whether any of the applications were means tested. Officers confirmed that this does not take place and applicants need only meet the criteria. Members were reassured that the monies that have been returned, as outlined within the report, will be protected for utilisation next year if required.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the Officers report be approved. By way of electronic voting, this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officers report: -

i)   The applications received that meet the criteria for Financial Assistance and the Welsh Church Funds Act, be noted, which have already been approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers.

ii)   The Panel approve the application from an organisation under the Voluntary Sector budget not meeting the general criteria. The recommendation be considered and approved or otherwise by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers.

iii)   The amount of grant money that have been recycled back into the funding pot and the reasons for this be noted.

The meeting closed at 3.33 p.m.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 21st July 2021, they were signed by the Chair.

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CHAIR