

R/04/21

Minutes of a meeting of the Resources Committee of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday, 31st January 2022 in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7pm.

Present:

Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins	
Cllr. M. Gateley	
Cllr. J. Harvey	Vice Chair
Cllr. H. Mordue	
Cllr. Mrs. O'Donoghue	Chair
Cllr. A. Ralph	
Cllr. R. Stuchbury	
Cllr. M. Try	

Also present:

Mr. P. Hodson	Town Clerk
Mrs. N. Stockill	Estates Administrator
Ms. P. Cahill	Committee Clerk
Mrs. L. Stubbs	Communications Clerk

No members of the public attended and so there was no public session.

612/21 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

613/21 Declarations of Interest

The following Town Councillors declared interest in agenda item 3 (Annual Community Grants) as follows:

- Cllr. Mordue as Vice President of the money raising group for Citizens Advice Bucks, a Member of the Buckingham Summer Festival and Chair of The Swan Community Hub.
- Cllr. O'Donoghue declared a pecuniary interest as an employee of The Buckingham Youth Centre
- Cllr. Gateley as Chair of The Buckingham Fairtrade Steering Group and Ex Officio on the Citizen Advice Group and Project Street Life.
- Cllr. Stuchbury, whose son plays for Buckingham United Football Club

614/21 Annual Community Grants

614.1/21 Members received and discussed a written report from the Communications Clerk recommending four year grant awards beginning in 2022/23.

(31/01/2022)

DRAFT SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

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PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY 2010/CRIME AND DISORDER ACT, 1988: the decisions made during the course of the meeting were duly considered and it was decided that there were no resulting direct or indirect implications in respect of crime and disorder, or equalities considerations, other than those stated in the minutes.

Initial.....

Organisation	Requested	Recommended 2022	Description	Summary of Reason	Awarded
Citizens Advice Bucks A general concern was raised by Cllr. Try that four-year grants seem to have been used in the main towards staffing costs rather than specific projects. Cllr. Stutchbury commented that four-year grants allow long-term budgeting which offers security.					
Citizens Advice Bucks	5,750	5,750	Running costs of Buckingham office	Valid application	In favour: 6 Abstentions: 2 Members AGREED to award £5,750
<i>Cllr. Harvey Chaired the meeting for discussion and agreement of the Buckingham Youth Club application.</i>					
Buckingham Youth Clubs	5,200	5,200	Towards Staff Costs	Valid application	In favour: 6 Abstentions: 2 Members AGREED to award £5,200
<i>Cllr. O'Donoghue resumed the Chair.</i>					
Chandos Park Bowls Club	1,000	1,000	Maintenance of bowls green	Valid application	Members unanimously AGREED to award £1,000
Buckingham Fairtrade Steering Group	373	373	Promotion of Fairtrade in community	Valid application	In favour: 7 Abstentions: 1 Members AGREED to award £373
Buckingham Old Gaol Trust Cllr. Try proposed that the requested £4,000 staffing cost be given, leaving £1,000 available to offer to Chandos Park Tennis Club towards floodlighting. No seconder.					
Buckingham Old Gaol Trust	6,000	5,000	Staff costs, running costs	Valid application – insufficient funds available to grant full amount	In favour: 6 Against: 1 Abstentions: 1 Members AGREED to award £5,000

<p>Chandos Park Tennis Club Cllr. Ralph questioned whether the club could fund/part fund the floodlighting themselves as they have their own high reserves. The Town Clerk explained that the cost of the floodlighting is £16,000, that the club has £19,000 in reserve but that the remaining £3,000 may be a little 'tight' to provide adequate reserves.</p>					
Chandos Park Tennis Club	4,000	1,500	LED floodlighting	Valid application – amount reduced due to high reserves	Members AGREED unanimously in favour of awarding £1,500
<p>Project Street Life Cllr. Harvey asked for clarification regarding 'location' in Pack B, page 35 and the link to the reduction in the recommended grant. The Communications Clerk explained that this was an error and that the reduction is due to high reserves built up during Covid Lockdown. Cllr. Try raised the point that reserves must be taken in context and that how this information is presented should be considered in the future. The Town Clerk agreed to add this to the Agenda for a future Resources Committee. Action Committee Clerk</p>					
Project Street Life	2,125	500	Residential weekend for 16 young people	Valid application – amount reduced due to reserves	In favour: 7 Abstentions: 1 Members AGREED to award £500
TOTAL	24,448	19,323			19,323

Ineligible Applications

Organisation	Requested	Recommended 2022	Description	Summary of Reason
Buckingham Table				<p>Cllr. Collins raised ineligible applications and the 'insufficient public benefit'. The Town Clerk clarified that the applications marked as ineligible applications are not actually ineligible, but rather that the two organisations under this heading had met the funding criteria but the recommendation not to fund is based on a comparison to the other applicants. The Communications Clerk clarified that Buckingham Table have raised sufficient funds to replace the Santa Van at some point and therefore funding for maintenance of the existing van was not recommended.</p> <p>Cllr. Stuchbury proposed that £1,000 be placed in an ear-marked reserve for future modernisation of the Santa Van. No seconder.</p> <p>Cllr. O'Donoghue proposed that decision on the Buckingham Table was deferred pending a discussion with the organisation about other options for funding. Cllr. Stuchbury seconded.</p>

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<p>Following a discussion which referred to the need to base decisions on the information available, Cllr. O'Donoghue withdrew the proposal with Cllr. Stuchbury's agreement.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr. Harvey and seconded by Cllr. Try to not award the requested £1,625 for the reasons stated above.</p> <p>A vote was taken and the results were: In favour: 4 Against: 2 Abstentions: 2</p>				
Buckingham Table	1,625	0	Maintenance of Santa Van	Insufficient public benefit for the amount requested
Florence Nightingale Hospice	3,644	0	Hospice @ Home service	High reserves
<p>Members unanimously AGREED not to award a community grant based on the report recommendations.</p>				

614.2/21 Members received and discussed a written report from the Communications Clerk recommending one-year grants for 2022/23:

Organisation	Requested	Recommended 2022	Description	Summary of Reason
<p>Transitions UK Cllr. O'Donoghue requested clarification of the organisation's role and asked if they were in discussions with Buckinghamshire Council's Youth Service or Action 4 Youth who also run mentoring programs. The Town Clerk and Communications Clerk agreed to check partner organisations knew of one another.</p>				
Transitions UK	2,000	2,000	Aspire Partnership Project (Buckingham Hub) – mentoring for young people at risk of offending.	Unanimously AGREED to award £2,000
<p>Buckingham Parish Church for Jubilee Beacon The Town Clerk advised members that the church was hoping to use the beacon to hold a beacon lighting event as part of the town's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, which would be open to all.</p>				
Buckingham Parish Church	324	324	Jubilee Beacon	Unanimously AGREED to award £324

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Previous applicants

Organisation	Requested	Recommended 2022	Description	Summary of Reason	Awarded
Buckingham United Football Club	1,000	1,000	Club training equipment	Valid application	Members unanimously AGREED to award £1,000
Buckingham Town Cricket Club	1,500	1,500	Roof mounted solar panel electricity installation	Valid application	Members unanimously AGREED to award £1,500
West End Bowls Club	1,000	1,000	Flood Defence	Valid application	Members unanimously AGREED to award £1,000
Swan Community Hub	1,380	1,380	Swan Community Hub	Valid application	Members AGREED to award £1,380 Abstentions: 2
<p>Buckingham Summer Festival Proposed by Cllr. Try and seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury to award the organisation £2,000 for 2022/23 and offer the option to join the four year grant process for future year's funding.</p>					
Buckingham Summer Festival	2,000	2,000	Festival Gala Concert	Valid application	Members AGREED to award £2,000 in 2022/23, and also to offer the Summer Festival a four year award, increasing by 3.5% each year in line with the increase provided to all other four year grant awards.

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Buckingham & District Angling Association	2,180	623	"Accessible for all" fishing platform	Valid application – amount reduced due to location	Members AGREED unanimously to award £623
Lace Hill Residents' Association	1,000	968	Community Spirit	Valid application – amount reduced to reflect quoted costs	Members AGREED unanimously to award £968

TOTAL for all recommended grant awards	12,384	10,795			10,795
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Ineligible application

Organisation	Requested	Recommended	Description	Reason	Awarded
Slade Recreation Club	£1,000	£0	Replacement of fire door and frame.	Application inconsistent and too similar to previous year.	Members unanimously AGREED not to award the requested £1,000

615/21 Chair's Announcements

None

616/21 Date of next meeting: 14th March 2022

Meeting closed at: 20.17

Signed

Date

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