

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, 27 August 2024

Ms Jenny Service
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MEETING of the POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Held on: Tuesday, 27 August 2024 at 6.15pm.
Room 6, Crispin Community Centre, Leigh Road, Street, BA16 0HA.
- Members Summoned and Present: Members summoned and present:
Cllrs: Peter Goater (Committee Chairman), Neil Howiantz, Terry Napper, Nicola Smith, and Laura Wolfers.
- Apologies: Cllrs Pam Birch, Simon Carswell, Nick Kellett (Vice-Chairman) and Bryan Knickerbocker
- Officers Present: Zoe Leach, Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)
- In attendance: Members of the public (2).

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Principal of Strode College and the Technical and Operations Manager of Strode Theatre gave a presentation to the Committee in support of Strode Theatre's grant application and answered questions raised by the Committee.

A written presentation from Greenbank Pool Trustees was shared with the Committee.

The Chair closed public question time at 6.40pm and opened the Ordinary Meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee.

MINUTES

24/25P&F.031 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Pam Birch, Simon Carswell, Nick Kellett and Bryan Knickerbocker.

Apologies were noted. *LGA 1972 s85(1)*.

24/25P&F.032 Declarations of Interests and Grant of Dispensations

Councillors were reminded to make any Declarations of Interest, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, SI No. 1464.

Declarations of interest were made by:

Cllr Goater – Houndwood Community Group (Chair) and Victoria Club (Chair of Trustees)

Cllr Howiantz – Street Striders running club (new member)

Cllr Wolfers – Greenbank Pool Management Committee (non-voting member) Cllr

Smith – Greenbank Pool Management Committee (non-voting member)

RESOLVED – the Committee granted dispensations for Cllr Howiantz to speak and vote on the Street Striders grant application and for Cllrs Smith and Wolfers to speak and vote on the Greenbank Pool grant application.

24/25P&F.033 Confirmation of minutes

RESOLVED - the minutes of the Meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee held on 23 July 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

(LGA 1972, Schedule 12, paragraph 41(1)).

24/25P&F.034 Reports

The Clerk gave a verbal report on matters relating to the Policy and Finance Committee and updates/actions on behalf of the office. This included:

- Mobile phone contract

24/25P&F.035 Grant Awards

- i. The Policy & Finance Committee noted the grant reports received from organisations in receipt of grant funding.

Organisation	Grant Amount Awarded	Date Grant Awarded	Report Received
Greenbank	£30,000 (in 2 instalments)	FC 16 April 2024 1 st instalment 22 April 2024	31 July 2024
Street Striders	£600	P&F September 2023 6 October 2023	28 July 2024

- ii. Members received and noted the report from the Financial Responsible Officer: Breakdown of Council Budget – grants to outside bodies 2024/25.

RESOLVED that the 2024/25 grant payments to Somerset Mind and YMCA are taken from the 'Issues for Street - youth/vulnerable' cost centre. iii. Members received and considered the grant applications received.

Organisation	Grant Amount Requested	Purpose
Greenbank Pool	£30,000	To offer discounted season tickets
Strode Theatre	£30,000	To subsidise the Theatre's offering of diverse arts and culture facility and programme. To help enable free events. To continue with the in-house produced pantomime. To be able to continue offering affordable non-commercial hire rates for local community groups.

Crispin Community Centre	£15,000	£10k for Crispin Community Centre £3k for Volunteer Driver Scheme £2k for soup kitchen
General Grants:		
Street Football Club	£5,859	Pitch maintenance, including herbicide, scarify and collect hatch, disc drilling, goal mouth renovations, spiking, dressing and seeding, 60 tonnes of sport silica sand
Salvation Army	£5,100	Aldi Vouchers for food parcels Sep-Mar 30 weeks
Street Striders	£2,000	To go towards providing a clubhouse
Glastonbury & Street Sea Cadets	£2,000	To help purchase 12 windsurfing boards and additional equipment
Somerset Arts Therapies	£1,800	Rejuvenate their outdoor area
The Anglican Parish of Street Deferred from 23 July P&F	£1,204	To continue to offer a safe and welcoming space to all local residents who would value it through their weekly 'coffee, chat and snacks' each Saturday morning in the Mission Church, Street
Street Fire Station Fundraising Crew	£1,000	Fund running costs of defibrillator, for purchase of replacement pads and batteries. Also bleed kit replacements
Houndwood Community Group Deferred from 23 July P&F	£600	Insurance, newsletters, litter pick equipment and garden supplies as well as ecological awareness projects
Friends of Street Library	£600	Provision of newspapers for Library
Street & Glastonbury Carers Support Group	£180	To pay for meeting room x 9 months in the year at £20.00 a month
TOTAL	£95,343	

The Policy and Finance Committee has delegated power to: agree all grants up to a maximum of £2,000 for any organisation in accordance with the agreed policy and within agreed budget limits. to make recommendations to Council on any grants above £2,000

Grants over £2000:

The Policy & Finance Committee:

- a) **RESOLVED to recommend** a grant award of £30,000 to Strode Theatre to subsidise the Theatres offering – to be paid in April 2025 in line with the Grants Policy;
- b) **RESOLVED to recommend** a grant award of £30,000 to Greenbank Pool - to offer discounted season tickets to residents of Street – grant to be paid in two 6-monthly instalments: first instalment of £15,000 to be paid in April 2025 subject to confirmation that they will continue to accept cash payments from customers in 2025/26. The committee would also like more information on the safeguarding training that is provided to staff.

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- c) **RESOLVED to recommend** a grant award of £15,000 to Crispin Community Centre to be paid in April 2025 in line with the grants policy. £3,000 of the grant award for the Volunteer Driver Scheme and £2,000 of the grant award for the soup kitchen. Further information to be requested on the Volunteer Driver Scheme and how the Parish Council can assist.
- d) **RESOLVED to recommend** a grant award of £3,000 be paid to Street Football Club towards pitch maintenance; the remaining amount requested of £2,859 to be considered upon receipt of additional information about the ongoing maintenance of the pitch and how they plan to self-fund in future years.
- e) **RESOLVED to recommend** a grant award of £5,100 to the Salvation Army towards Aldi Vouchers for food parcels September to March. **Grants up to and including £2,000:**
- f) **RESOLVED** to award Glastonbury & Street Sea Cadets a grant of £1000 towards the purchase of windsurfing boards subject to submitting receipt for purchase.
- g) **RESOLVED** to decline to award a grant to Somerset Arts Therapies to rejuvenate their outdoor area.
- h) **RESOLVED** to award The Anglican Parish of Street a grant of £1,000 towards the coffee, chat and snacks safe and welcoming space at the Mission Church, Street.
- i) **RESOLVED** to award Street Fire Station Fundraising Crew a grant of £1000 to fund the ongoing running costs of the public defibrillator at Street Fire Station.
- j) **RESOLVED** to award Friends of Street Library a grant of £300 towards a provision of newspapers for Street Library.
- k) **RESOLVED** to award Street & Glastonbury Carers Support Group a grant of £180 to pay for meetings rooms for the Carers Support Group.

Cllr Goater left the room at 7.43pm whilst the Houndwood Community Group and Street Striders grant applications were considered due to a declared interest in both applications.

- l) **RESOLVED** to award Street Striders Running Club a grant of £2000 towards the provision of a club house.
- m) **RESOLVED** to award Houndwood Community Group a grant of £600 towards insurance, newsletters, litter pick equipment, garden supplies and ecological awareness projects.

Cllr Goater returned to the meeting at 7.53pm. Cllr Wolfers left the meeting at 7.55pm

24/25P&F.036 Policies

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy

- a) **RESOLVED** to request that the Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Working Group review the draft EDI Policy and pass on its specialist feedback with a view to approval by the P&F Committee at the November committee meeting or at an earlier Full Council meeting.

Fire Emergency Plan and Fire Safety Policy

- b) to delegate the review of the Fire Emergency Plan and Fire Safety Policy to the September Parish Council Meeting.

24/25P&F.037 Periodic Reports and Inspections

The Policy and Finance Committee noted the report from the Responsible Financial Officer on reports and inspections to include reconciliation of latest bank statements, monthly inspections of accounts and payments, and staff mileage and hours.

24/25P&F.038 Information to raise for consideration at the next meeting Scheduled

items:

Policy reviews:

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Accessibility Statement
Freedom of Information. Publication Scheme
Review of Income and Expenditure Q2 and estimated expenditure and precept 2025/26.

24/25P&F.039 Date of Next Meeting

An Ordinary Meeting will take place at 6.15pm on Tuesday 5th November in Room 6 Crispin Community Centre, Street.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.07pm.

These minutes were adopted on _____ under minute reference _____ as a true record of the decisions taken and are duly signed below by the chair of that meeting.

Signed: _____