

THE CITY BRIDGE TRUST COMMITTEE

Thursday, 21 March 2019

Minutes of the meeting of The City Bridge Trust Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Alderman Alison Gowman (Chair)	Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark
Dhruv Patel (Deputy Chairman)	Deputy Edward Lord
Karina Dostalova	Jeremy Mayhew
Simon Duckworth	Wendy Mead
Peter Dunphy	Ian Seaton
Marianne Fredericks	Deputy Dr Giles Shilson

Officers:

Joseph Anstee	- Town Clerk's Department
David Farnsworth	- Chief Grants Officer & Director of City Bridge Trust
Jenny Field	- The City Bridge Trust
Tim Wilson	- The City Bridge Trust
Karen Atkinson	- Chamberlain's Department
Anne Pietsch	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Fiona Rawes	- Town Clerk's Department
Jemma Grieve Combes	- The City Bridge Trust
Sandra Davidson	- The City Bridge Trust
Martin Hall	- The City Bridge Trust
Sandra Jones	- The City Bridge Trust
Jack Joslin	- The City Bridge Trust
Julia Mirkin	- The City Bridge Trust
Geraldine Page	- The City Bridge Trust
Clare Wand	- Chamberlain's Department
Samantha Grimmett-Batt	- The City Bridge Trust

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Alderman Alastair King and Paul Martinelli.

ROMA SUPPORT GROUP

The Committee welcomed Sylvia Ingmire and Gaba Smolinska-Poffey to the meeting to speak about the work of the Roma Support Group. The Committee was shown a short film about the experiences of Roma people in London before Sylvia and Gaba gave the Committee some background on their work and experiences. Roma Support Group worked with East European Roma refugees and migrants to provide support and improve access to information, community resources and health services, particularly around mental health.

For decades Roma people had faced widespread discrimination in society, receiving negative press coverage and subjected to very negative stereotypes. As a result, Roma people often worried about publicly disclosing their identity and heritage, to the extent that it affected access to health services and education. Institutional discrimination in some countries had also created significant issues for Roma people. This discrimination was still happening today, and migrants of Roma heritage often had difficult and negative experiences. The Institute for Health and Human Development had found that Roma migrants to the UK experienced higher levels of stress and depression. This further affected the abilities of Roma people to access services and support.

Roma Support Group aimed to support mental health issues and facilitate access to services, also providing one-to-one advocacy and distributing information. Roma Support Group also aimed to raise awareness of mental health issues within the Roma community and tackle lasting stigma around the subject, using peer advocacy and support groups to reach out and build trust and support networks within the community. Roma Support Group were pleased with their outcomes, which had exceeded expectations. Three-quarters of beneficiaries surveyed reported an improved understanding of the healthcare system and services, and half of them felt increasingly independent. Over 360 people had engaged with services, which exceeded Roma Support Group's target.

The charity was based in Canning Town with an outreach office in West London. Whilst service users from other boroughs visited the charity, most users were from Newham, where there was a large Roma population, and other North and East London boroughs. Some charity projects centred on the Traveller or Gypsy communities may work with the Roma community, but Roma Support Group was the only dedicated Roma charity in London.

The Committee thanked Sylvia and Gaba for their excellent presentation, and circulated information and leaflets from the Roma Support Group.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Ian Seaton declared a personal interest in London Youth by virtue of his Livery Company's support for it.

Simon Duckworth declared a standing declaration for items relating to the London Borough of Southwark by virtue of his position as Representative Deputy Lieutenant for the Borough.

3. MINUTES

The Committee noted two corrections to be made to the attendance.

RESOLVED – That, pending the above corrections, the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 31 January 2019 be agreed as an accurate record.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

The Committee received a list of outstanding actions, noting those which were on the agenda or were scheduled for a future date or meeting. The Committee was advised of ongoing outreach work, including a seminar with thirty other funders that had taken place earlier in the month. City Bridge Trust officers had also attended a successful seminar on resettlement and rehabilitation of offenders in February, with an action plan to follow. The Committee also noted that another Members Briefing on Bridging Divides would be scheduled for May or June 2019.

The CGO advised that a shortlist for the two external co-optee positions had been agreed, with interviews in front of a panel of the Chair, Deputy Chairman and the CGO to take place on 22 March 2019.

RESOLVED – That the Outstanding Actions update be noted.

5. **PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee received the regular progress report of the Chief Grants Officer & Director of City Bridge Trust (CGO) and discussed the updates provided.

Brexit Update

The CGO provided the Committee with a verbal update on Brexit. Officers had liaised with the NCVO who had produced a Brexit preparation guide which was proving popular within the sector. A number of different aspects of the charity sector were being taken into account, such as structural funds. The Government had pledged to underwrite all successful bids for EU funding until the end of the current funding cycle in 2023. Whilst there were many variables and uncertainty, conversations were ongoing regarding mitigation of the impact of a no-deal Brexit on themes relevant to the sector such as immigration status, social division and inequality.

The CGO advised the Committee that a full briefing note would be circulated to Members, including a link to the NCVO publication.

Impact and Learning Update

The CGO advised that Renaisi, the Bridging Divides learning partner, was conducting work on the values of City Bridge Trust, and as part of this work Members would be invited to contribute their views. The Chair added that responses to the survey would be appreciated.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

6. **FINAL DEPARTMENTAL HIGH-LEVEL BUSINESS PLAN 2019/20**

The Committee considered a report of the CGO presenting the final high-level business plan for the City Bridge Trust Department for 2019/20. The Chair advised the Committee of suggested amendments, principally that the business

plan should reference Philanthropy House, as it formed part of the implementation of the Philanthropy Strategy.

A Member advised that the business plan needed to take full account of the wider review of the governance of Bridge House Estates. The CGO responded that this work was ongoing through the Task and Finish group, which would soon be reporting to Committees. Any decisions on funding allocation would be made in conjunction with Members. Multiple committees would be consulted on the narrative of the charitable review so far and the way forward, and to inform on the requirements of the bridges, plus developing distinct investment strategies for the charity, and for each of the permanent endowment and unrestricted income funds within the Bridge House Estates fund. The Chair asked that an item encompassing this be added to the outstanding actions list.

The Chair also advised reviewing the target dates set within the 'What we will measure' section to ensure they were correct and appropriate.

RESOLVED – That, pending amendments resulting from the feedback from Members, the City Bridge Trust's high-level business plan be approved.

7. **GRANTS BUDGET AND APPLICATIONS TODAY**

The Committee received a report of the CGO summarising grant applications recommended for decision at the meeting, and those that had been considered since the last meeting under the schemes of delegation. The Committee noted that if all grants recommended at the meeting be approved, there would be an overspend of £666,343 above the year 1 (2018/19) Bridging Divides budget allocation, which could be offset in the remaining years.

A Member suggested that the Bridging Divides criteria summary pack circulated electronically to Members before meetings be reviewed, and distilled into a single page to be added to the agenda pack if possible.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

8. **GRANTS AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES RECOMMENDATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS**

a) **British Refugee Council**

The CGO introduced the application and gave the Committee an update on the Cornerstone Fund.

APPROVED (£220,800 over three years £90,900; £68,900; £61,000) towards the establishment of a forum to enable refugee community organisations to engage effectively with policy and decision makers in London. The grant is conditional on a full budget for 2019-20 being provided, together with management accounts for 2018-19 which cover the full financial year.

b) **Race on The Agenda**

APPROVED £257,100 over the years (£93,100; £82,000; £82,000) towards a programme of communications and media support services benefitting approximately 200 BAMER organisations.

c) **Beacon Fellowship Charitable Trust (The Beacon Collaborative)**

The Head of Philanthropy Strategy introduced the application for a strategic initiative to be funded under the Philanthropy Strategy. The Committee noted that City Bridge Trust would be co-funding with other well-known funders including Arts Council England.

RESOLVED – That the City Bridge Trust Committee:

- a) Approve a grant of up to £368,000 over 3 years to the Beacon Fellowship Charitable Trust to support a range of initiatives to develop greater philanthropic giving amongst high net worth individuals as part of a long-term collaborative set of activities. The indicative allocation of these funds is as set out in paragraph 10 below. The grant is conditional upon confirmation of funding at a similar level from Arts Council England (ACE) and the satisfactory negotiation of key outcomes, milestones, delivery arrangements and payment schedules for each workstream (approval of the outcomes of such negotiation to be delegated to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman);
- b) From this sum of £368,000 it also recommended that:
 - i) the annual grants of up to E30,000 p.a. towards the reconfigured Beacon awards for 2019-20 and 2020-21 are conditional on demonstrating that each constitutes an appropriate proportion of the overall cost of these awards (given BHE's ancillary object that surplus funds must be applied for the benefit of the inhabitants of Greater London); and
 - ii) the £60,000 towards the (Ultra) High Net Worth (UHNW) research is conditional on the organisation demonstrating that this constitutes an appropriate proportion of the overall cost (given BHE's ancillary object that surplus funds must be applied for the benefit of the inhabitants of Greater London).

d) **Centre for Youth Impact**

In response to a query from a Member, the CGO confirmed that Centre for Youth Impact had been registered as a charity.

RESOLVED – That the City Bridge Trust Committee agree a grant of £60,000 over two years (2 x £30,000) to the Centre for Youth Impact to support twenty London-based youth organisations to improve the quality of their evaluation activities.

e) **Afghanistan and Central Asian Association**

APPROVED £121,000 over three years (£42,000; £39,500; £39,500) towards the costs of the Lewisham and Croydon Integration Workers, classroom rental, on-costs and research into the most appropriate accreditation for ACAA's ESOL provision.

f) **Asylum Support Appeals Project**

APPROVED £90,000 over a further two years (2x £45,000) towards 50% of the salary costs of a Solicitor; 40% of a Duty Scheme Co-ordinator; and 10% of the Director's salary; plus associated running costs.

g) **Citizens Advice Bureaux Service Camden**

APPROVED £172,200 over three years (£56,300, £57,400, £58,500) for the salary, project and management costs of a f/t specialist UC Advice Worker.

h) **Free Representation Unit**

APPROVED £142,500 core funding over five years (£38,500, £33,500, £28,500, £23,500, £18,500) to provide free legal advice and representation in tribunals to vulnerable clients and those on low incomes in London.

i) **New Horizon Youth Centre**

The Committee noted the revised request for a five-year grant rather than three.

APPROVED £250,000 over five years (5 x £50,000) for the salary, support and on costs of a full-time Advice and Support Worker.

j) **Pro Bono Community**

APPROVED £74,000 over two further years (£36,500, £37,500) for a part-time Training and Volunteer Co-ordinator (2.5 d/p/w), training costs and overheads to train law students to volunteer in community advice agencies in London.

k) **Federation of London Youth Clubs**

In response to a query from a Member, the CGO advised that the forecasted reduction in income for 2019 was related to the ending of a large contract to deliver the Talent Match programme.

APPROVED £390,000 over three years (3 x £130,000) towards the costs of the City Leaders project.

l) **Magpie Dance**

APPROVED £100,000 over three years (£33,333; £33,333; £33,334) towards the costs of the Youth and Adult dance groups; a new regular class for adults and a contribution to core and administrative costs. The grant is conditional on confirmation that the organisation's accounting for grant income is SORP compliant from 2019 onwards.

m) **Myatt's Field Park Project**

APPROVED £249,200 over five years (£49,700; £49,700; £49,800; £50,000; £50,000) towards a part-time (14 hours per week) Volunteer Co-ordinator, a Community Gardener (21 hours per week) and associated running costs.

n) **Opening Doors London**

APPROVED £300,000 over five years (5 x £60,000) for the Ambassadors programme, specifically a p/t (21 hpw) Policy Officer and p/t (21 hpw) Ambassador Support Officer plus some operational and support costs.

o) **Paddington Development Trust**

APPROVED £275,600 over five years (£57,300; £53,200; £54, 100; £55,000; £56,000) towards a full time Volunteer Manager and associated running costs.

p) **QPR in the Community Trust**

APPROVED £153,000 (£22,200; £32,400; £32,400; £33,000; £33,000) towards the cost of activity staff and tutors, venue costs, administration and monitoring, plus 10% towards charity management costs to provide Extra Time Clubs - subject to receipt of fully signed accounts for 2017/18.

q) **Reach Volunteering**

APPROVED £294,100 over 6 years (£61,300; £61,000; £59,300; £58,300; £54,200) to meet the salary and on-costs of the pan-London volunteering programme.

r) **Streetwise Opera**

In response to a query from a Member, the CGO drew the Committee's attention to a reference to another grant application, to the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, and advised that whilst the charity's reserves were below target, the charity would not be in difficulty if the Paul Hamlyn Foundation grant application was unsuccessful. With regards to the nature of the charity's work and outcomes, the CGO advised that the arts played a valuable role in supporting those experiencing homelessness, and had a positive impact on mental health.

APPROVED £132,000 over three years (£43,000; £44,000; £45,000) towards the delivery of services and activities offered to people experiencing homelessness (performers) across London, including contributions towards workshop leaders, workshops, performers' costs and other associated running costs.

s) **The Garden Classroom (TGC)**

APPROVED £57,500 over two further years (£29,000; £28,500) for 4dpw of the Education and Community Manager; and 1dpw of the Finance Officers Salary costs. Year 1 includes £1,250 towards AAT Level 3 Training costs.

t) **Zoological Society of London**

The CGO advised the Committee that Thames 21, who undertook similar work, often worked closely with the charity but had different focusses, with ZSL focussing on wildlife and Thames 21 focussed on litter and the physical health of the river.

APPROVED £99,400 over two further years (£49,100, £50,300) for the salary of two part-time posts (0.8 Project Manager and 0.2 Project Coordinator) and related Tidal Thames Conservation project costs.

u) **deafPLUS**

APPROVED £95,700 over two years (£47,400, £48,300) for a part time LWHL Project Trainer (25 hpw), and part time LWHL Project Officer (10 hpw) and associated running costs.

v) **Evolve Housing + Support**

APPROVED £69,000 over two years (£36,000; £34,000) for further two years of continuation funding towards the mental health services Evolve Housing + Support deliver for homeless clients.

w) **Lambeth and Southwark Mind**

APPROVED £120,000 over two further years (2 x £60,000) for the salary costs of the f/t CEO & Clinical Director.

x) **Limes Community and Children's Centre**

APPROVED £83,150 over two further years (£41,150; £42,000) to support the salary cost of two part time Coordinators (16hpw each), Sessional Staff and associated project costs to deliver the Creative Journeys project.

y) **MyBnk**

APPROVED £135,000 over three years (£50,000; £45,000; £40,000) to contribute to MyBnk's specialist support services for disabled young people or care leavers in London.

z) **Safer London Foundation**

APPROVED £296,200 over five years (£56,900; £58,100; £59,200; £60,400; £61,600) to fund the Young Men's Service Project Manager full-time (35hpw) and associated project costs and management overheads to deliver and expand The Harmful Sexual Behaviours Project in London.

aa) **St Augustine's Community Care Trust**

APPROVED £70,300 over two further years (£34,700; £35,600) towards the salary costs of a full time Chief Executive Officer.

bb) **Stockwell Partnership**

APPROVED Core funding over five years (£20,000; £18,000; £16,000; £14,000; £12,000) to underpin the work the Stockwell Partnership does supporting migrant communities to access mainstream services and connect with their community.

cc) **women@thewell**

APPROVED £77,000 over two further years (£38,000; £39,000) towards four days/week salary costs of a Support and Advocacy Worker and running costs of a life skills programme for women who have offended or are at risk of offending or re-offending.

Noting the number of two-year extension applications, a Member asked what support was available for organisations when their grants ran out. The CGO responded that many organisations depended on time-limited Trust funding and would apply for a grant from another Trust after the expiry of their City Bridge Trust grant. The Chair added City Bridge Trust strived to give clear steers to organisations on how to be sustainable, and the Funder Plus offer would be an area where City Bridge Trust could build on this.

9. **TO CONSIDER REPORTS OF THE CHIEF GRANTS OFFICER AND DIRECTOR OF CITY BRIDGE TRUST AS FOLLOWS: -**

a) **Ideas Please Initiative - Responding to the Resilience Risk**

The Committee considered a report of the CGO on the Ideas Please initiative. It was proposed to launch a call for applications through the Ideas Please mechanism. Inviting organisations to design and deliver six-month pilot interventions to develop the resilience of their frontline workers. The proposal had developed from conversations at learning visits and was being also built

upon by London Funders. There had been interest from other funders and an offer to contribute to costs had already been received.

Members were positive about the proposal, and suggested that if successful, the proposal might even be applied beyond the charity sector into the public sector. The CGO responded that officers had collected information and learning to this end and would continue to work to draw knowledge together.

RESOLVED – That the City Bridge Trust Committee:

- a) Agree the name of the programme as *Responding to the Resilience Risk*;
- b) Agree the indicative allocation of funds, as outlined in para 24, from your 2019/20 budget and which includes an allocation of £100,000 for pilot grants; and
- c) Instruct officers to report on funding awarded under designated authority to your Committee in September 2019.

b) **Applications Recommended for Rejection**

In response to a query from a Member, the CGO expanded on the reason for recommending rejection of the application from Trees for Cities. Feedback would be provided to the organisation if requested.

RESOLVED – That the Committee reject the grant applications listed in the accompanying schedule.

c) **CBT Approach to Climate Action**

The Committee considered a report of the CGO setting out the work City Bridge Trust has done to date to encourage improved environmental practice and proposing further steps to strengthen the charitable sector's knowledge and capacity, based on City Bridge Trust's value of 'care for the environment', as set out in Bridging Divides.

The CGO introduced the report and asked Members what actions they felt the City Bridge Trust Committee could lead on. The Committee was advised that City Bridge Trust would also hold discussions with other funders about what they were doing and opportunities to work together. The Chair drew Members' attentions to the proposals starting on page 139 and asked the Committee which they felt should be prioritised.

Members endorsed the proposals and were supportive of the direction of travel. A Member said that they were delighted with the report and with the proposition of the City Bridge Trust providing leadership in this area, for which the entire City of London Corporation was responsible. The Member asked how City Bridge Trust planned to tie in with other parts of the organisation. Due to the

importance of environmental work, prioritising actions was hugely challenging, and all proposals should be pursued as far as was possible.

The Deputy Chairman added that items l and m had also been the focus of the Investment Committee and Investment Boards, for example in the City of London Corporation becoming a signatory to the Principles of Responsible Investing (PRI) and developing an Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Policy. A Member added that ESG rating was now an important consideration of the Financial Investment Board in selecting fund managers, and suggested that this could be extended to grantees.

The CGO advised the Committee that the City Bridge Trust would continue to challenge trustees as they had done before. There were key officers in place that would enable and support cross-departmental action. Members would also have oversight across the piece through Committee work. The Chair added that a Climate Action task and finish group of officers had been established, led by the Director of Economic Development, which could bring different workstreams together and drive the action plan.

A Member said that they supported all the proposals put forward, and suggested organising them according to the amount of commitment required, prioritising 'quick wins' that would be easier to implement.

RESOLVED – That the City Bridge Trust Committee:

- a) Provide feedback, as above, on the proposed next steps for CBT to pursue on climate action; and
- b) Approve the development of a costed plan on climate action for consideration at a subsequent Committee.

d) **Funds Approved or Declined under Delegated Authority**

The Committee received a report of the CGO which advised Members of eleven expenditure items, totalling £140,560, which had been presented for approval under delegated authority to the CGO in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chairman.

RESOLVED - That the report be received, and its contents noted.

e) **Withdrawn and Lapsed Applications**

The Committee received a report of the CGO which provided details of five applications which had been withdrawn or had lapsed.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

f) **Variations to Grants/Funds Awarded**

The Committee received a report of the CGO which advised Members of a variation to ten grants agreed by the CGO since the last meeting.

In response to a query from a Member, the CGO advised that the full amount for eco-audit funding was not reclaimed where some work was pending or had already taken place. Where no work towards the process had been done then the full amount would be recovered.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

g) **Grants Analysis, Trends and Management**

The Committee received a report of the CGO providing an update on progress against the Committee's 2018/19 grants budgets and summarising those grants awarded and in management.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

h) **Strategic Initiatives - Monitoring Visits**

The Committee received a report of the CGO providing a monitoring updates for two current Strategic Initiatives, the Bridge to Work programme and the Age UK/Action Fraud initiative. The Chair advised that there had been an excellent take up and response to the Bridge to Work programme. The CGO added that the Age UK project had now completed, and this interim evaluation suggested it had been successful. An action plan would be devised to build on the work done so far.

RESOLVED – That the report be received.

i) **Report on Learning Visits**

The Committee received a report of the CGO about two visits that had taken place.

RESOLVED – That the report be received.

j) **City Bridge Trust Communications & Events Attended**

The Committee received a report of the CGO updating on the communications work of the City Bridge Trust.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

10. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT**

There was no other business.

12. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item No.	Exempt Paragraphs
13 – 14	3
15	3, 5
16 – 17	-

13. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2019 be agreed as an accurate record.

14. **PIPELINE OF PRO-ACTIVE STRATEGIC GRANTS**

The Committee received a report of the CGO.

15. **BUSINESS CASE FOR THE 'PHILANTHROPY HOUSE' CONCEPT**

The Committee received a report of the CGO.

16. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

17. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There was one item of other business.

The meeting closed at 3.10 pm

Chairman

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