FINANCE GRANTS SUB (FINANCE) COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 18 November 2014

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Grants Sub (Finance) Committee held at Guildhall on Tuesday, 18 November 2014 at 11.30 am

Present

Members:
Roger Chadwick (Chairman)
Jeremy Mayhew (Deputy Chairman)
Randall Anderson
Deputy John Barker
Nigel Challis
Deputy Anthony Eskenzi
Tom Hoffman
Jamie Ingham Clark
Alderman Vincent Keaveny

In Attendance

Officers:

Emily Rillington	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Anne Pietsch	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Laura Donegani	- Town Clerk's
Sue Baxter	- Town Clerk's
Steve Telling	- Chamberlain's
Barbara Riddell	- Independent Grants Assessor
Julie Mayer	- Town Clerk's

1. **APOLOGIES**
   Apologies were received from Philip Woodhouse and Simon Duckworth.

2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
   - Oliver Lodge declared a general interest in respect of item 8 (grant application for Clean up UK) as the Chief Executive is a personal friend. Mr Lodge offered to withdraw when the application was discussed.

   - Barbara Riddell (Independent Assessor to the Finance Grants Sub Committee) declared a general interest as her husband, Nicholas Riddell, had written a historical document in respect of St Matthias Church (item 8). Mr Riddell undertook this work on a voluntary, unpaid basis, in order to assist the church and the local community. Mrs Riddell offered to withdraw when the application was discussed.

- Julie Mayer (Clerk to the Committee, with no decision making powers) declared a general interest in respect of item 8 (the Grant Application for Hall Mead School) as her partner works at the School. Ms Mayer offered to withdraw when the application was discussed.

3. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Finance Grants Sub Committee held on 27 May 2014 were approved.

4. **GUIDELINES FOR GRANTS**

The Sub Committee received the guidelines to be observed when considering grant applications.

5. **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

The Sub Committee received a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Town Clerk, outlining applications for Finance Grants Sub Committee assistance, since the last meeting.

RESOLVED, that:

<u>The following applications be agreed and funded from the City Educational Trust Fund:</u>

- **Clio's Company -** A grant of £7,700 towards the cost of developing new drama education workshops, subject to receipt of draft accounts for the year to 31 August 2014; showing a breakeven or better position and a satisfactory income and expenditure report for 2014/15.

- **Youth Dance England -** A grant of £10,000 to ensure that Youth Dance England is as accessible as possible to young people with disabilities.

- **Dr Johnson's House -** A grant of £10,000 a year for 3 years, commencing 2015/16 and an additional grant of £15,000 (in 2014/15) towards special projects, subject to the receipt of satisfactory audited accounts for 2013/14.

<u>The following application be agreed and funded from the City of London Corporation's Relief of Poverty Charity:</u>

- **Crisis UK -** A grant of £5,000 towards a residential centre in London over Christmas 2014.

<u>The following applications be agreed and funded from City's Cash:</u>

- **Prisoners of Conscience Appeal Fund -** A grant of £25,000 to last for 3 years, towards the cost of bursaries.

- **St Matthias Church Stoke Newington -** A grant towards the restoration of the church roof (£20,000) and for printing costs of a booklet (£1,500). Members noted that this application had been supported by the City of London Benefices Sub Committee and asked for some further information in respect of support to other benefices churches. Members also stressed that support for Phase 1 of this project would not automatically indicate support for Phase 2.

- **Research Autism -** A grant of £5,000 towards the cost of 100 subsidised places at 2 conferences, to be held by Research Autism in 2015, subject to the production of satisfactory audited accounts for 2013/14,

- **Personal Support Unit -** Members asked if the funding (£25,000) could be put to a specific project and the Independent Assessor and Town Clerk agreed to go back to the company with this request.

  RESOLVED, that:
  Authority be delegated to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Finance Grants Sub Committee, to consider a revised application, in respect of a specific project. Final approval to be subject to the receipt of satisfactory audited accounts for 2013/14.

<u>The following applications not be agreed as, at this time, Members did not consider them to be the most appropriate use of funds:</u>

- **Hall Mead School -** £21,061 towards the cost of upgrading the school's sports facilities.

- **Bangladesh Football Association Ltd -** £10,000 towards the cost of delivering a volunteering programme to young people.

- **Top Spiritz Ltd -** £6,200 towards the cost of providing therapeutic creative workshops for individuals who suffer from emotional stress.

- **Panorama of the Thames -** As much as possible towards the cost of creating a visual record of London's bridges; today and from the past.

- **The Heroes Band -** £4,710 towards the cost of purchasing music band equipment for its musical performances to raise donations for the Help for Heroes charity.

- **Clean-up UK -** £19,500 towards the cost of helping people living in deprived London Communities, to keep the area free of litter, clean and safe.

- **Ethos UK -** £10,000 towards the cost of a new project supporting dementia.

- **Happy Days Children's Charity -** £5,000 towards the cost of providing leisure time activities for children and young people with special needs.

6. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
In response to a question about the unusually high volume of applications to this meeting of the Finance Grants Sub Committee, the Town Clerk advised that, in response to the recommendations from a recent Internal Audit Report, the Finance Grants Sub Committee was now more visible on the City Bridge Trust's (CBT) website; i.e. any applications to CBT, which did not meet their criteria were directed to the criteria and application form for a Finance Sub Committee Grant.

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
There were no items of urgent business.

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

Item No(s)	**Para No(s)**
9 – 12	3

9. **MONITORING REPORTS FROM RECIPIENTS OF GRANTS**
The Sub Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk, which provided Members with information on those organisations which had been awarded grants by the Finance Grants Sub Committee.

RESOLVED, that:
The Report from Recipients of Grants be noted.

10. **BENEFITS IN KIND 2014/15**
The Sub Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain which informed Members of the current recipients of benefits and grants in kind.

11. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**
There were no questions.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**
Members received an urgent item of business whilst the public were excluded.

The meeting ended at 1.10 pm

Chairman

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