FINANCE GRANTS SUB COMMITTEE

11 DECEMBER 2012

Minutes of the meeting of the FINANCE GRANTS SUB COMMITTEE held at Guildhall, EC2 on TUESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2012 at 12 noon.

Present

Members:

Roger Chadwick (Chairman)
Nigel Challis
Simon Duckworth
Deputy Rev Stephen Haines
Tom Hoffman
Wendy Hyde
Anthony Llewelyn-Davies
Jeremy Mayhew
John Scott

Billy Dove – Ex-officio

Officers:

Ignacio Falcon Steve Reynolds Di Smith Town Clerk's Office
 Chamberlain's Department
 Community & Children's Services
 Department

Also present:

Barbara Riddell

- Independent Grant Assessor

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Ray Catt and Alderman Sir Paul Judge.

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

John Scott declared an interest in items 8(a) and (d) by virtue of past association with the applicants and in item 9 by virtue of association with the Worshipful Co. of International Bankers.

Both Roger Chadwick and Wendy Hyde declared an interest in item 9 by virtue of association with the Worshipful Co. of World Traders.

None of the above were considered to be pecuniary interests.

3. MINUTES

The public minutes of the meeting held on 29 May 2012 were approved.

4. GUIDELINES FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Sub Committee received the Guidelines to be observed by the Grants Sub Committee.

5. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions

6. URGENT ITEMS

There were no items of urgent business.

7. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting of the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act as follows:-

Item No.

Paragraph(s) in Schedule 12A

8 - 12

3

MATTERS CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED

8. GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Sub Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain outlining applications for Finance Committee assistance received since the last meeting.

RESOLVED: That:-

(i) the following applications be agreed to and that they be funded from City's Cash:-

Barts City Life Saver

A one-off grant of £5,000 towards Life Support Training.

Friends of Guildhall Art Gallery

A one-off grant of £5,000 towards a production of Medea in the Roman amphitheatre as part of the Classics Gateway project supported by the Mayor of London's Love Latin Scheme

St Marks Church, Clerkenwell

A one-off grant to cover the remaining costs of new toilets and baby changing facilities against the funds raised by the church so far. The grant shall not exceed £10,000.

The Stuart Low Trust

A one-off grant of £2,500 towards an activity programme for people with mental health problems aged 25-35.

(ii) the following applications be not agreed to:-

City of London Choir

That no contribution be awarded to a concert at the Barbican in November 2012 as this was not considered to be the most appropriate use of funds available.

Stairway to Heaven Memorial Trust

That no contribution be awarded to the Bethnal Green Tube Disaster Memorial as this was not considered to be the most appropriate use of funds available.

Prisoners Abroad

That no contribution be awarded towards the costs of a corporate fund raiser as this was not considered to be the most appropriate use of funds available.

The Bicycle Helmet Initiative Trust

That no contribution be awarded to provide safer cycling sessions as this was not considered to be the most appropriate use of funds available. It was suggested, however, that the Trust be recommended to engage with the Sir John Cass School to explore alternative funding arrangements.

9. REPORTS FROM RECIPIENTS OF GRANTS

The Sub Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk providing Members with information on those organisations that have been awarded grants by the Finance Grants Sub Committee.

RESOLVED: That the report be received and its contents noted.

10. BENEFITS AND GRANTS IN KIND

The Sub Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk providing Members with information the current recipients of benefits and grant in kind.

A Member queried how the various items listed on the report were agreed and expressed concern about the level and purpose of some benefits, in particular, one being provided to the Worshipful Company of Carmen. The Town Clerk clarified that the purpose of the report was to outline the totality of benefits and grants in kind agreed by the various Corporation Committees, and that the Grants Sub-Committee was not responsible for scrutinising the purpose or level of these.

RESOLVED: That:-

 the updated report and note the recipients of benefits and grants in kind relating to 2012/13 be received;

- (ii) the policy that no benefits and grants in kind to charities or other external organisations should be made by committees or officers without the agreement of your Committee subject to a de minimis of £2,500 be reaffirmed;
- (iii) one new benefit in kind relating to the provision of a free season ticket to Broadway Homelessness and Support to park a car at Whites Row Car Park, which is valued at the parking season ticket price of £4,264 be approved; and
- (iv) the definition of benefits and grants in kind be confirmed.

11. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

12. URGENT BUSINESS

Christmas Donations

The Chairman referred to donations of £5,000 made to three charities (Crisis, Providence Row and St Mungo's) from the Relief of Poverty Charity in the Christmas of 2011 and asked the Sub-Committee whether they would consider making similar donations to be paid ahead of this year's Christmas. The Sub-Committee agreed therefore to pay up to £5,000 to each of those three charities on the condition that they were running suitable Christmas campaigns, and instructed the Town Clerk to provide the Chairman with information on their current Christmas initiatives.

City of London Reserve Forces and Cadets Association

A Member, who was also a City of London Corporation representative on the City's RFCA, wanted to express the Association's gratitude for the financial support provided by this Sub-Committee over the past several years.

The meeting closed at 1.05 pm.

CHAIRMAN

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