

THE CITY BRIDGE TRUST COMMITTEE

Thursday, 19 June 2014

Minutes of the meeting of The City Bridge Trust Committee held at Guildhall, EC2 on Thursday, 19 June 2014 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Jeremy Mayhew (Chairman)
Alderman Alison Gowman (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Billy Dove
Deputy Ken Ayers
Marianne Fredericks
Deputy the Revd Stephen Haines
Vivienne Littlechild
Edward Lord
Alderman Matthew Richardson
Ian Seaton

In Attendance:

Deputy John Bennett (Chief Commoner)

Officers:

| | | |
|---------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Philippa Sewell | - | Town Clerk's Department |
| Steven Reynolds | - | Chamberlain's Department |
| Laura Yeo | - | Chamberlain's Department |
| David Farnsworth | - | The City Bridge Trust |
| Jenny Field | - | The City Bridge Trust |
| Ciaran Rafferty | - | The City Bridge Trust |
| Tim Wilson | - | The City Bridge Trust |
| Jemma Grieve Combes | - | The City Bridge Trust |
| Joan Millbank | - | The City Bridge Trust |
| Julia Mirkin | - | The City Bridge Trust |
| Sandra Davidson | - | The City Bridge Trust |
| Rachel Mortell | - | Public Relations Office |

The Chairman welcomed the Chief Commoner to the meeting, and Members extended their congratulations to Deputy Billy Dove and Simon Duckworth for their recent OBEs.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor Alderman Fiona Woolf, Stuart Fraser, Deputy Stanley Ginsburg, and Wendy Mead.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**
RESOLVED – That minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2014 be approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

The City Bridge Trust team capacity

The Chief Grants Officer reported that recruitment for a maternity cover post and a 3 year Grants Officer post had been completed, and that resources were in place for the Social Investment Advisor although recruitment details were still being established.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

Communications

Members noted that a Member would be meeting with the Chief Grants Officer and PRO Officer in July to discuss the City Bridge Trust's Communications Strategy. Members agreed that a report be brought to the Committee meeting in July on current communication arrangements, with a strategic paper coming to the Committee meeting in September. They also requested continuity in the person attending Committee from PRO.

Grants Statistical Analysis

Members requested that the final summary on the Working With Londoners programme be reported at the Committee meeting in July.

Sported Foundation

Members noted that details for the recommended rejection were outlined in the report for item 9A.

RESOLVED – That:

- (a) A draft report be brought to the Committee meeting in July with proposals for the Trust's communications strategy;
- (b) Following comment by the Committee, a final version of the strategy will be brought to the Committee meeting in September;
- (c) There was continuity in the PRO officer attending Committee; and
- (d) The final summary on the Working With Londoners programme be reported at the Committee meeting in July.

5. **PROGRESS REPORT AND EVENTS**

The Committee received the regular progress report and events update of the Chief Grants Officer. He reported that the Trust's partnership with Buttle UK had been launched at a seminar at Mansion House on 6th May 2014, which had received good feedback and helped facilitate connections between the organisations.

In response to a question from the Chairman, the Chief Grants Officer confirmed that the new grant programme referred to in his report, authorised during the most recent quinquennial review, would have three broad areas of activity: capacity building, seed finance, and funding to test different models of impact intervention. This was a strand of work funded by the City Bridge Trust

to enable charities to diversify and apply for a grant via the £20million Social Investment Fund.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

6. **MORE EFFECTIVE GRANT MAKING**

The Committee received a report of the Chief Grants Officer, which outlined proposals after a review of current practices.

Members were informed that a company had been commissioned to undertake a benchmarking exercise; the full report would be presented at a future meeting, but the Chief Grants Officer advised that the Trust had compared favourably. Despite the high standard of work being carried out, Members noted that more time was needed for officers to keep up-to-date on the grant-giving context, to analyse and act on the lessons and trends from the grants portfolio, and to take a strategic view on the most effective grants spend and support activities.

As part of this, themed officer leads had been established and it was being proposed that the number of Committee meetings be reduced from ten to six, each receiving a focused update or updates on the programmatic areas from the Investing in Londoners grants programme, in addition to a strategic away half-day.

The Committee discussed the proposals, in particular the request to reduce the cycle of meetings. Members noted officers' assurances that this would not affect the quantity of grants made and the 4 month target from application to decision would remain. A Member expressed his concern that the resulting increase in business for each meeting would make it difficult for Members to read and absorb the papers before the meeting; the Committee were mindful of this concern and asked for the impact of the recommendations to be reviewed in October 2015.

RESOLVED – That:

- (a) The current cycle of ten CBT Committee meetings per year be reduced to six;
- (b) One strategic away half-day meeting for Committee Members is added;
- (c) At each Committee meeting, a focused update or updates is provided on one or more of the programmatic areas from the Investing in Londoners grants programme, e.g. older people; mental health;
- (d) The meeting schedule for the current year be amended as follows:
 1. This year (2014/15), the Committee meet, from now on, in July, September, November, January and March;
 2. That a strategic away half-day is held on October 23rd (the current day for the Committee meeting);
 3. From April 2015, the Committee aim to meet in May, July, September, November, January and March, with a strategic away half-day in October;
- (e) The impact of the above recommendations be reviewed in October 2015;

- (f) The Town Clerk circulates an email to Committee Members regarding availability for the proposed strategic away half-day on 23 October; and
- (g) The new assessment report format be adopted, including an additional line in the financial table to show the cost of generating funds as a percentage of income.

7. **GRANT APPLICATIONS STATISTICAL REPORT**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Grants Officer summarising applications received and action taken under the 2014/15 grants programmes. Members noted that, although it was still too early for any firm trends to emerge, Trust officers were encouraged by the good spread of applications, including those of a good quality received for the newer programmes. Members also noted that the number of applications remained steady, with a slight fluctuation correlating with the commonly-used end of the financial year.

In response to a Member's question, the Chamberlain advised that the request to carry forward the unspent 2013/14 grant budget would be reported to the Chamberlain and the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Resource Allocations Sub Committee at the end of June for their consideration. The Chamberlain also suggested that the £1million allocation from 'the Employability Initiative' should be reported, in future, as part of the overall grants budget.

In response to a Member's question, Trust officers advised that equalities data was collected with regard to the beneficiaries of the charity, generally at the monitoring stage. This data was often of poor quality, but officers undertook to provide an update at the strategic away half-day in October 2014.

RESOLVED – That:

- (a) The report be noted; and
- (b) Equalities data be considered at the strategic away half-day in October 2014.

8. **GRANT INDEX AND ASSESSMENT REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

8a **Attention Deficit Disorders Uniting Parenting in Havering, Barking & Dagenham and the Surrounding Area (Add+up) - Recommended Grant £94,000**

APPROVED - £94,000 over 3 years (£30,750; £31,250; £32,000) towards the salary costs of a full-time Development Manager.

8b **Healthy Living Projects Ltd - Recommended Grant £85,000**

APPROVED - £85,000 over three years (£27,500; £28,300; £29,200) for the costs of increasing current nursing provision by two days per week plus a contribution to the HLP's running costs, including the provision of alternative therapies.

8c Women's Therapy Centre - Recommended Grant £120,000

APPROVED - £120,000 over three years (£44,000; £40,000; £36,000) towards the salaries of a Community Development Therapist (15hrs/wk); Link Worker (17.5hrs/wk) and Therapists (371.5hrs/yr) and running costs of the Affirm project to provide psychotherapeutic support for women at risk of self-harm and suicide.

8d Tara Arts Group Ltd - Recommended Grant £40,000

Members discussed the free unrestricted reserves and noted that, as well as the expected uplift in the charity's Art Council grant, income was expected to double once the building was refurbished.

APPROVED - £40,000 for the provision of a platform passenger lift to improve access for all users of the theatre.

8e Wilton's Music Hall Trust - Recommended Grant £100,000

Members discussed the application, noting that money received by the Trust in the past from the City Corporation had funded structural repairs to the Grade II listed building. Members spoke of the new Managing Director's dedication and the strong role the Trust played in the local community.

APPROVED - £100,000 towards the costs of disabled access works in Phase 2 of the capital project.

8f AVA (Against Violence and Abuse) - Recommended Grant £127,700

Members queried the request for core funding and were advised that, as the core mission of the organisation contributed to the Trust's Safer London programme priorities, the grant was recommended for approval.

APPROVED - £127,500 over three years (£41,500; £39,400; £46,600) towards core costs, including the salaries of the Director (7.2hrs rising to 12hrs in year 3); Deputy Director(s) (12 hours reducing to 5.4 hours in years 2 and 3); and two administration posts (13.5 hrs), for AVA to support organisations and agencies in the field of domestic and sexual violence in London. The grant in year 3 is conditional upon sufficient funds being raised to make the work viable.

8g Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team (AMURT) UK - Recommended Grant £60,000

APPROVED - £60,000 over three years (£20,000; £20,000; £20,000) towards the direct running costs of Cooking for Life Classes, including the cookery teacher.

8h Enfield Voluntary Action - Recommended Grant £123,000

APPROVED - £123,000 over three years (£26,200; £48,200; £48,600) towards the salaries of a Community Accountant (20hrs) and Development and Funding Advice Manager (20hrs) and on-costs, to provide monitoring and evaluation and financial training support to voluntary and community organisations in Enfield.

8i GlobalGiving UK - Recommended Grant £79,450

In response to Members' queries, officers advised that this was a fundraising platform that raised money before passing it on to other charities, which was reflected in the target income described in the report. Members were concerned at potential problems as a result of the rapid rate of growth of this platform, but were advised that the core operation had remained stable.

APPROVED - £79,450 over three years (£27,500; £25,850; £26,100) towards a part-time (0.56 FTE) Volunteer Coordinator Manager, plus running costs, in order to expand the Global Giving Time platform for London-focused charities.

8j Race on the Agenda - Recommended Grant £55,000

Members discussed the application, noting that it addressed the Trust's "Strengthening London's Voluntary Sector" priority.

APPROVED - £55,000 over one year towards the full-time salary and associated running costs of a Specialist Project Officer providing training, capacity building support, and advice and information on the Equalities Act 2010. Release of the grant is subject to receipt of a satisfactory monitoring report for year 2 of the current grant.

8k Voice4Change England - Recommended Grant £60,000

Members noted that, although this was a National charity, this grant would fund London-based work.

APPROVED - £60,000 as a third year's contribution towards the full-time salary and associated running costs of a project developing models of collaborative and partnership working.

9. TO CONSIDER REPORTS OF THE CHIEF GRANTS OFFICER AS FOLLOWS:-

9a Grant Applications Recommended for Rejection

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Grants Officer which recommended that nine grant applications be rejected for the reasons identified in the schedule attached to the report.

RESOLVED – That the nine grant applications detailed in the schedule attached to the report be rejected.

9b Grants/expenditure considered under Delegated Authority

The Committee received a report of the Chief Grants Officer which advised Members of four expenditure items, totalling £40,380, which had been presented for approval under delegated authority to the Chief Grants Officer in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman. Members noted the Grants Officer's declaration by virtue of being a Trustee of London Funders.

Grants

- Arts For All - £21,000 over three years (3 x £7,000) towards the salary and running costs of "The Rainbow Club".
- KEEN London - £10,000 for a third and final year's support towards the costs of expanding weekly activities to East London for young people with behavioural, physical, and learning disabilities.
- Whittington Park Community Association - £4,380 for the costs of an access audit and disability awareness + safety training.

Strategic Initiative

- London Funders - £5,000 towards the £15,000 costs of commissioning research into the current and future landscape of play and youth services for children and young people in London. The grant is payable to London Funders who will manage the project.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

9c Variations to Grants previously awarded

The Committee received a report of the Chief Grants Officer which advised Members of variations to four grants agreed by the Chief Grants Officer since the last meeting.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

9d Reports on Monitoring Visits

The Committee considered the format of monitoring reports and agreed that the current format and length would remain for the next few meetings, until a newer, more succinct version could be available when the new monitoring process was fully operational. Members discussed recent visits and the Chairman encouraged Members to go on these visits, wherever possible.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

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

A Member queried whether sufficient checks were undertaken to ensure grant monies were being spent appropriately by charities. Officers responded that this was done during monitoring process; if no issues regarding compliance arose, no report would be made to the Committee.

RESOLVED – That, should any compliance issues occur between meetings, the Committee be notified accordingly.

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

Members noted that the Guildhall was currently hosting a Global Conference on Dementia.

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.

| <u>Item No.</u> | <u>Exempt Paragraphs</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 13 | 1,3 |
| 14-15 | - |

13. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2014 be approved as a correct record.

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

There were no non-public questions.

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

There were no items of other business.

The meeting ended at 3.03 pm

Chairman

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