

FINANCE GRANTS SUB (FINANCE) COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 12 May 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Grants Sub (Finance) Committee held at Guildhall on Tuesday, 12 May 2015 at 11.00 am

Present

Members:

Roger Chadwick (Chairman)
Jeremy Mayhew (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy John Barker
Nigel Challis
Deputy Anthony Eskenzi
Tom Hoffman
Jamie Ingham Clark
Philip Woodhouse

In Attendance

Officers:

Peter Kane	- Chamberlain
Steven Reynolds	- Chamberlain's Department
Emily Rimington	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Anne Pietsch	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Barbara Riddell	- Independent Grants Assessor
Julie Mayer	- Town Clerk's
Peter Lisley	- Assistant Town Clerk

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Randall Anderson and Oliver Lodge (on account of them attending another Committee) and Alderman Vincent Keaveny.

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

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the Finance Grants Sub Committee held on 18 November 2014 were approved.

Matters arising

In response to a question about the provision of the latest signed accounts, as a condition of acceptance of grant, the Independent Assessor advised that this was not always possible for those organisations which operated within a different financial year to that of the City of London Corporation. In such cases, the accounts were provided as soon as possible and the grant was paid once satisfactory receipt has been confirmed by Chamberlain's.

4. GUIDELINES FOR GRANTS

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

5. DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE SUB COMMITTEE

Members received a report of the Town Clerk, which set out decisions taken under delegated authority since the last meeting of the Committee.

The following grants had been approved under the Chairman's Discretionary Fund, in respect of charitable activities during the 2014 Christmas period:

1. £2,300 to the Stuart Low Trust, in order for them to run 4 Christmas Friday evening events at a cost of £2,300 (i.e. £575 per evening).
2. £2,500 to the Parent House, in order for them to buy 50 x £50 vouchers for a local supermarket and provide a Christmas 'boost' to 50 families, 10 of whom are volunteer workers for the organisation.
3. £2,500 to Solace Women's Aid in order to help women and children who arrive at their refuges over the Christmas period (provided across 14 sites in London), often with no belongings or personal items.

A grant of £6,000 was awarded to Quaker Homeless Action, to be funded from the Relief of Poverty fund.

RESOLVED: that, the report be noted.

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

There were no questions.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no items of urgent business.

9. GRANT APPLICATIONS

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

In response to questions about the structure of the report, particularly with regard to carry forwards and unallocated funds, the Chairman advised that the current Review of Grants, which would be presented to Members at various committees in June and July, sought a more strategic and streamlined procedure for the City of London Corporation's grants.

RESOLVED, that:

The following application be agreed and funded from the City Educational Trust Fund:

Royal Shakespeare Company - a grant in the sum of £20,000 towards a project with Eastbury Comprehensive School in Barking and Dagenham.

The following applications be agreed and funded from City's Cash:

The Friends of City Gardens - £7,000 over 2 years to cover basic running costs and health and safety training for their increasing number of volunteers.

Migration Museum – seeking a grant to establish a new national Migration Museum for Great Britain. This application was deferred to a delegated decision.

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

Flowers in the City	£3,000 to support the Flowers in the City Campaign.
Miracles	£3,000 towards the costs of welfare grants in Tower Hamlet over the next 3 years.
Epping Forest South District Scout Council	£5,000 towards the costs of demolishing the existing District Headquarters Scout Hall and replace it with a new hall.
Arkwright Scholarships Trust	£23,131 towards a pilot project to benefit disadvantaged students who are skilled in engineering and technical design.

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)
10	3 & 5
11	3

10. MONITORING REPORTS FROM RECIPIENTS OF GRANTS

The Sub Committee considered and received 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.

11. ANALYSIS OF GRANTS AGREED FOR THE FIVE YEARS 2010/11 TO 2014/15

The Sub Committee considered and received a report of the Chamberlain.

12. NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

13. 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.

The meeting ended at 12:05 pm

Chairman

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