

**SEDGEMOOR DISTRICT COUNCIL
GRANTS AWARD SUB COMMITTEE ADVISORY PANEL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Grants Award Sub Committee Advisory Panel
held remotely on
Monday 12 December 2022 at 2.30pm**

Councillors J Keen (Chairman)

Present: B Bolt
J Cordiner
P Costello
G Godwin-Pearson
C Riches

Officers Emmaline Kay – Grants Officer

Present: Lizzie Bull – Parks Assistant
Dorothy O’Farrell – Legal Advisor to Committee

19. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Perry.

20. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 7 June 2022 and 19 July 2022 were confirmed as a correct record.

21. URGENT BUSINESS

None.

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

23. PROJECT GRANTS

The Chairman explained that there was £810.00 of grant funding remaining and suggested that the four applications to be heard consecutively, followed by a discussion on how to distribute the available funds.

Benji Kingston

The Committee heard from Benji Kingston’s mother, who explained Benji had started his second year on the Royal Ballet School’s Mid Associate Programme,

in their specialist Boys Class. The lessons were held on Saturdays at the Royal Ballet School in London. The request was for £500 to help with the increasing costs of lessons, travel, and uniform.

Isabelle Curd

The Committee were informed of Isabelle's progression as a member of the Trampoline Team at Quayside Trampolining and Gymnastics Club. She had begun competing regionally, now progressing to compete nationally. The request was for £500 to help towards travel, kit and accommodation costs.

Seeds of Hope CIC

Kris Scotting explained to the Committee that Seeds of Hope CIC, a not-for-profit social enterprise, provided mental health support to the community through gardening activities and maintaining local community green spaces across the district for the wider community to enjoy and engage with. The request was for £2,500.

Burnham Book Festival

The Committee were informed of the request from a group of residents who had joined together to organise a literacy festival, connecting the local community with reading and writing. This was the second year of the festival being held. The request was for £800.

Members of the Committee, mindful of the fact that a balance of £810 was available, were originally minded to support all four applications by dividing this fairly between the four applications. However, following further debate, Members, conscious of the current mental health crisis facing the nation, resolved as follows.

RESOLVED:

To award Benji Kingston £205.

To award Isabelle Curd £205.

To award Seeds of Hope CIC £300.

To award Burnham Book Festival £100.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.

REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.

The Chairman confirmed that there was now no grants funding remaining. As a result, the Grants Award Sub-Committee would no longer be able to consider Grant applications in this financial year.

24. RLT3 FUNDING

Lympsham Sports Club

Sally Ferguson spoke to the committee as the clerk of Lympsham Parish Council on behalf of Lympsham Sports Club. The request was for funding towards preparing the ground for foundations, as part of a wider project to build an extension, delivering improved changing room facilities to increase capacity and enable further community inclusion. The request was for a contribution of 80% which was £6,600, with the remainder funded by the Parish Council.

In order to ensure that the relevant RLT3 Funding was applied to appropriate projects before the end of this financial year, the Committee unanimously supported the application and agreed that the full amount of relevant RLT3 funding available be awarded as the request for funding satisfied the RLT3 policy requirements.

RESOLVED:

To award Lympsham Parish Council RLT3 funding of £7,712.78.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.

REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.

Spaxton Sports Club

Cllr Bolt queried whether he had a declaration of interest to make as he had directed the club to the Parks Assistant as the Ward Councillor. The Legal Officer confirmed that he did not.

Members heard from Ben Rich of behalf of Spaxton Cricket Club regarding the success of the club and the hopes for getting more community involvement in cricket. The application for RLT3 funding was for a contribution towards the erection of essential Ball Stop Netting to the West Boundary of Spaxton Playing Field Cricket Ground.

The Committee supported the application and recognised the netting was essential to safeguard neighbouring properties.

RESOLVED:

To award Spaxton Parish Council RLT3 funding of £5,266.19.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: As set out in the officer report.

REASONS FOR DECISION: As set out in the officer report.

25. RLT2 FUNDING

Members received a report detailing the amount of RLT2 funding which remained for each Parish/town in the district and the applications that had been agreed in 2022.

RESOLVED:

To note the RLT2 funding granted in 2022/2023 and the amounts remaining for each Parish/Town Council.

In answer to a question on how unused amounts of RLT2 monies from one parish could be gifted to another, to enable them to complete a project, the Parks Assistant confirmed that this is possible where written consent is given from two neighbouring or close by parishes.

The Chairman thanked the Committee for their input and contributions towards leaving a strong legacy for the Council. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman were thanked by Members for their dedication towards the Committee over the years.

Meeting ended 3:31pm

CHAIRMAN