

GRANTS ASSESSMENT PANEL

Tuesday, 6th September, 2011

Present:- Councillor Mrs Dylis Cornes – in the Chair

Councillors Eagles, Fear, Heames, Holland, H Johnson and J Walklate

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

That the minutes of the meeting held on 14th June be approved as a correct record.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. SMALL GRANTS

The panel considered the applications submitted with a view to determining whether a grant should be awarded and if so at what level. At the meeting held on 14th June 2011 a total of £4,800 was awarded which left a balance of £17,200.

The Committee considered that a grant should not be awarded to the North Staffs Special Adventure Playground for the acquisition of a lease for a new outdoor play area due to the fact that this grant would be used cover the legal fees required to complete a lease agreement with the Council. It was stated that investigations had been carried out regarding the possibility of a reduction in fees for the NSSAP but this had not been possible. The Committee agreed that a letter be drafted to the Leader of the Council regarding the charging policy for charitable organisations.

The Committee discussed the issue of repeat grant applications as concern had been expressed about applicants submitting applications on an annual basis. The Committee agreed that applications would be accepted for 2 consecutive years but that there would then have to be a break of one year before any further applications would be accepted. This policy would also be carried over to the Cultural Grants Scheme.

The Committee was informed of a grants review that had been undertaken by the Council.

Resolved: - (a) That the following grants be awarded:

Ref.	Organisation.	Amount.
SG 1112 04	Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St. Andrew's Church, Westlands.	£1,500.00.
SG 1112 07	Samaritans of Stoke & New castle-under-Lyme.	£1,500.00.
SG 1112 08.	Stoke-on-Trent, Newcastle & District Newspaper for the Blind.	£716.00.

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SG 1112 09.	North Staffs Special Adventure Playground.	£0
SG 1112 10.	North Staffs Special Adventure Playground.	£1,500.00.

- (b) That a letter be written to the Leader of the Council regarding charging charitable organisations.
- (c) That grants be accepted to 2 consecutive years and then a one year break and that this policy also apply to cultural grants.

4. COMMUNITY CHEST

A report was submitted informing Members of Community Chest applications that had been processed for the period April 2011 to August 2011.

The panel discussed the application from Kidsgrove Town Council but due to the fact that the application had been submitted retrospectively the application was refused.

Resolved: - (a) That the application from Kidsgrove Town Council be refused.

5. APPLICATIONS FOR CULTURAL GRANTS

The applications for cultural Grants were discussed by the Committee. It was considered that further information was required regarding Art Brasil before a decision could be made. It was stated that dance classes were currently being held at Keele University and the Committee requested that information regarding attendance at these classes and the proposed workshops be sought along with details as to when the events would be happening. If the events were imminent then the Committee agreed that answers to the above questions could be emailed to them in order for a decision to be made.

Resolved: - (a) That the following applications be granted:

Applicant	Awarded
Jude Theatres (Young Ones Drama)	£1181
Staffordshire Knights Youth Band	£1500

(b) That further information be sought regarding Art Brasil and emailed to the Committee prior to a decision being made.

6. URGENT BUSINESS

COUNCILLOR MRS DYLLIS CORNES
Chair