

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY GRANT SUB-COMMITTEE - 9 DECEMBER 2015

(To be read in conjunction with the Agenda for the Meeting)

**Present**

Cllr Jim Edwards  
Cllr Brian Ellis  
Cllr Denis Leigh

Cllr David Round  
Cllr Nick Williams

**Also Present**

Cllr Carole King

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda item 2.)

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS (Agenda item 3.)

Councillor David Round declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in the grant application for Haslemere Museum and left the room during consideration of this grant.

The following non-pecuniary interests were declared from Members:

Councillor Denis Leigh	-	Orchard Club
Councillor Nick Williams	-	Farncombe Day Centre, St Marks and the Godalming Museum
Councillor Brian Ellis	-	Rowleys Day Centre, Cranford Job Seekers Club, Cranleigh Youth Council

3. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (Agenda item 4.)

At 9.35am the Sub-Committee RESOLVED that, pursuant to Procedure Rule 20 and in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the item(s), there would be disclosure to them of exempt information (as defined by Section 1001 of the Act) of the description specified in the appropriate paragraph(s) of the revised Part 1 of the revised Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, namely:-

3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

4. INITIAL ALLOCATIONS SUGGESTED BY THE GRANTS PANEL (Agenda item 5.)

The Sub-Committee received the initial allocations suggested by the Grants Panel. Officers reported that seven organisations were now being funded under a Service Level Agreement. These organisations would, therefore, not be considered as part of the Grants Process.

The Sub-Committee discussed the individual applications and the Grant Panel's proposed amounts (which are detailed in Annexe 1 to the agenda report).

After considering all of the Grants Panel's initial proposals, the Sub-Committee endorsed all except two of the proposed grants which were partly endorsed and rejected one. The following observations were made during discussion.

Rowleys Centre for the Community

The Sub-Committee noted that any grant awarded in 2016/17 would be ring fenced to support its running costs and consideration would be given to funding the service through a Service Level Agreement in the future if the organisation met the appropriate requirements, including the establishment of a new management team.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

Brightwells Gostrey Centre

The Sub-Committee agreed that Brightwells Gostrey Centre did not need additional funding as the costs associated with the relocation to the Memorial hall site were separate from the grant scheme.. Furthermore, the Council managed the maintenance of the building so there was no need for a larger grant to cover this aspect.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

Farnham Assist

The Sub-Committee noted the service met the needs of more mobile, independent older people and it continued to provide high quality services and had delivered everything it said it would do in 2015/16. Members agreed that as the application identified a number of new activities for 2016/17 and increased service-delivery it should receive a higher grant than the previous year. Consequently the Sub-Committee agreed that Farnham Assist should receive an increase in funding of £1,000 to meet the needs of older residents and in recognition of its high performance.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

Age UK Surrey

The Sub-Committee noted that Council had started to build a strong partnership with Age UK Surrey during the year. Age UK Surrey planned to develop, extend and enhance its existing information and advice service to increase provision for

Waverley residents in 2016/17. Consequently, Members agreed with the Panel's recommendation to award funding of £9,000 to develop this service and a further £6,000 towards Age UK Surrey's work in Waverley to support the development of the Council's partnership with the organisation and deliver services for older people.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

#### Farnham Maltings

The Sub-Committee noted the application was for the Maltings Arts and Elders area of work supporting older people. Members recognised that the Maltings were funded by the Council through an SLA towards the delivery of community outreach, youth development and arts & elders activities. Consequently, recognising the good work being delivered by the Maltings, members agreed with the recommendation that funding should not be awarded.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

#### Voluntary Action South West Surrey

The Sub-Committee noted that the VASWS was delivering well and particularly supported small voluntary organisations that operated in Waverley. It was felt that there were other sources of funding for the organisation and that they should be awarded the same as 2015/16.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

#### St Marks Community Centre, Wrecclesham Community Centre and Jubilee Church

The Sub-Committee was advised that all three organisations had been funded over a number of years and should be more sustainable by now to not continually require support from the grant scheme. And, although there was slight concern about cutting the grant, Members supported the proposal as long as they were given support from officers in other ways.

The Grants Panels recommendations were endorsed.

#### Guildford Action for Care

The Sub-Committee noted that the application focussed on the Guildford Action for Families service which provided support as part of the step-down process from the Council's Family Support Team and although it was based in Guildford it did support Waverley residents. The Sub-Committee agreed with the Panel's recommendation that it was an appropriate time to award funding to support the Waverley service and families.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

### The Woodlarks Centre

The Sub-Committee agreed with the Panel's recommendation that the application did not meet the criteria as the request for funding was to support individuals.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

### Cranfold Job Seekers Club

The Sub-Committee noted that the service was for securing jobs for people and had improved in recent years. Members suggested whether or not they could expand the service to help other areas.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

### Help in Elstead

The Sub-Committee noted that this was volunteer based and offered good value for money and met the priorities of the Ageing Well Strategy. However, there were other avenues for funding and support and Members agreed with the recommendation for a reduced grant subject to Officers helping them with this process.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

### 3 Counties Money Advice and Surrey Welfare Rights

The Sub-Committee agreed with the Panel's recommendations for both organisations not to award funding as, similar to last year, recognised that the Council worked in partnership with and funded Citizens Advice through an SLA to provide support to residents.

The Grants Panels recommendations were endorsed.

### Godalming and Haslemere Museum

The Sub-Committee noted that the Museum had been given support to help reimburse volunteers' parking costs but this had been known to be temporary and it was partly agreed that this part of the grant should be ceased.

Reviewing both grants, there was concern from some Members about the imbalance of funding between the museums in the Borough. Consequently, although some were in favour of the recommendations others felt that the whole grant should not be cut for Haslemere but only a partial reduction.

The Grants Panels recommendations were partly endorsed.

### Haslemere Hall

The Sub-Committee noted that the Council had provided additional funding towards the roof project and that the Hall had been offered support to apply for S106 funding

towards its heating. Regardless of these alternative means of funding, some Members felt that there should only be a partial reduction to the grant.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

#### Rural Life Centre

The Sub-Committee noted that the Rural Life Centre was unique and delivered a good service, but, noted that similar organisations were being recommended a reduction in funding and felt that the same approach should be applied to the Centre. Consequently, the Sub-Committee rejected the recommendation and felt that it should be halved.

The Grants Panel recommendation was rejected.

#### 40 Degreez

The Sub-Committee noted that the top floor of the centre was used by Surrey CC and it had been advised to expect a continual reduction in grant funding of which, over the last two years this had been the case.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

#### Disability Challengers

The Sub-Committee noted that the service met the Council's corporate objectives and delivered good work and essential play and leisure opportunities for disabled children. Consequently, Members agreed with the recommendation to award the same level of funding.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

#### High Sheriff of Surrey Youth Awards

The Sub-Committee noted that this modest amount supported a large number of young people in the Borough. Consequently, Members agreed with the recommendation to award the same level of funding.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

#### A Place to Be

The Sub-Committee agreed with the recommendation that the service had been funded over a number of years and should be more sustainable by now without funding from the grant scheme. Support would be given in other ways by officers.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

The Eikon Charity

The Sub-Committee noted that this was a youth organisation that delivered youth contracts for Surrey County Council youth services across the County.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

Cranleigh Youth Council

The Sub-Committee noted that this project had some work to go and was something that was being delivered by the Parish Council.

The Grants Panel recommendation was endorsed.

**The meeting commenced at 9.30am and concluded at 12.15pm.**

**Chairman**