

## **POLICY COMMITTEE**

17<sup>th</sup> March 2014

**Present** – The Vice-Chairman, Councillor Foster in the Chair, and Councillors Beck, Paul English, Ireton, Kerwin-Davey (substitute for Heseltine) Staveley (substitute for Knowles-Fitton), Sutcliffe, Turner and Welch.

**Officers** – Chief Executive, Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration, Interim Finance Manager, Legal Services Manager, Economic Development Manager and Committee Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barrett, Heseltine, Knowles-Fitton, Lis, Myers and Wheeler.

Start: 6:30pm

Finish: 7pm

The minutes of the Committee's meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Note : Minute POL\$586 Transformation of Bentham Town Centre (Phase 1) : A Member expressed concern that Minute POL\$586 made no reference to the possible demolition of a building and this could be seen as misleading to the public. A question was also raised as to whether the resolution as worded authorised officers to submit an application for demolition of the building in question. The Chief Executive stated that the resolution was as read out at the meeting prior to the vote being taken. Members concerns had been discussed with the Monitoring Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer and both had advised that the resolution gave the necessary authority, including submission of an application for demolition.

### **Exclusion of the Public**

**Resolved** – That in accordance with the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules, the public is excluded from the meeting during consideration of the business at Minute POL589 (marked\$) on the grounds that it is not in the public interest to disclose the Category 3 (financial or business affairs of any particular person including the Council) exempt information therein.

### **Minutes for Report**

POL.588

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Committee was addressed by Mr Milton Pearson, Craven Community and Voluntary Services' (CCVS) Chief Executive Officer, who spoke in support of the organisation's application for funding under the Council's 2014/15 and 2015/16 core grant funding scheme. Mr Milton summarised the services delivered by the CCVS, its success in attracting funding into the voluntary sector within Craven, pressures faced by it in attracting funding to support its work and its role within the wider local voluntary sector. Mr Milton also highlighted the importance of core funding in assisting voluntary organisations across the District to become sustainable.

POL.\$589

### **COMMUNITY GRANTS – CORE FUNDING GRANTS**

Further to Minute POL.563/13-14, the Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration submitted

a report presenting the recommendations of the Community Grants Sub-Committee in respect of the award of funding under the Council's Community Core Funding Grant Scheme.

The Council had received 16 applications seeking total funding of £149,583 for the financial year 2014/15 and £156,617 for the financial year 2015/16, compared to budgetary provision in the sums of £72,738 and £65,464 respectively. Eight applications had been recommended for an award of funding, representing a total value in the sum of £70,004 for the 2014/15 financial year. Continuation of funding in 2015/16 was subject to satisfactory progress being made with regard to the implementation of the applicant's delivery plan accompanying the application, a review of financial circumstances and a willingness to work with the Council in exploring alternative funding streams. The total value of those "in principle" awards was £63,500. The Sub-Committee's recommendations were as follows

**a. That the following applications are not awarded core funding support in 2014/15**

- i. Craven Community and Voluntary Services – subject to funding being available the position should be reviewed for the 2015/16 financial year.
- ii. Ingleton Outdoor Swimming Pool – applicant to be advised that an application for a small to medium grant would be more appropriate in supporting them to achieve their plans for carrying out improvements to the facility.
- iii. Age UK North Yorkshire.
- iv. Settle Stories Ltd – applicant to be advised that the Council would be happy to consider requests through its small to medium grant scheme to support the costs of hosting a specific event/piece of activity.
- v. Skipton and Craven Cultural Company – applicant to be advised that the Council would be happy to consider a request for support towards the costs of staging the Art in the Pen event through its small to medium community grant scheme.
- vi. Settle Victoria Hall Ltd – applicant to be advised that the Council would be willing to consider funding a capital project to accelerate implementation of their income generating proposals.
- vii. Pioneer Projects (Celebratory Arts) Ltd – applicant to be advised that the Council would be happy to consider supporting a specific area of activity through the small to medium community grants scheme.
- viii. Skipton Puppet Festival – project's results unlikely to be delivered without funding of £19,000 in year two.

b. That, subject to the special conditions shown, if any, the following applicants are awarded core funding support as indicated;

i. Craven Volunteer Centre

Funding Requested : Year 1 £7,447 Year 2 £7,971.

Funding Awarded : Year 1 £5,900 Year 2 £5,000.

Condition : The Council would like to see more special projects / events being undertaken outside the Skipton and South Craven area.

ii. Craven Citizens Advice Bureau

Funding Requested : Year 1 £25,000 Year 2 £25,750.

Funding Awarded : Year 1 £17,704 Year 2 £17,000.

Conditions

1. The Service shall continue to have a local base / presence in Craven.

2. Service standards and processes for obtaining customer feedback to measure the level of satisfaction are to be agreed in consultation with the Council's Housing Services Department.

iii. Independent Domestic Abuse Service

Funding Requested : Year 1 £6,000 Year 2 £6,000.

Funding Awarded : Year 1 £4,000 Year 2 £4,000.

Condition : Separate income and expenditure statements and outcomes data are maintained for Craven District.

iv. Settle Area Swimming Pool

Funding Requested : Year 1 £20,000 Year 2 £18,000.

Funding Awarded : Year 1 £18,000 Year 2 £16,000.

Condition : Advice shall be obtained on both VAT registration and energy efficiency measures.

v. Glusburn Community and Arts Centre

Funding Requested : Year 1 £7,000 Year 2 £5,000.

Funding Awarded : Year 1 £5,900 Year 2 £5,000.

vi. Age UK North Craven - Village Agent Scheme.

Funding Requested : Year 1 £9,650 Year 2 £8,460.

Funding Awarded : Year 1 £4,000 Year 2 £4,000.

vii. Ingleton and District Tradespeoples' Association - Overground Underground Festival.

Funding Requested : Year 1 £7,070 Year 2 £6,100.

Funding Awarded : Year 1 £4,500 Year 2 £3,500.

viii. Skipton Baptist Church - Food Bank

Funding Requested : Year 1 £13,500 Year 2 £13,750.

Funding Awarded : Year 1 £10,000 Year 2 £9,000.

The Sub-Committee had also asked that this Committee agree to any surplus budget being held as a contingency and, if not required, carried forward into the 2015/16 financial year. In responding to a Member's question the Economic Development Manager explained why the Sub-Committee had concluded that Craven Community and Voluntary Services should not receive the Council's financial support in 2014/15, leaving the position to be reviewed for 2015/16 if circumstances changed.

**Resolved** – (1) That the core funding recommendations of the Community Grants Sub-Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014, as re-produced above, are approved.

(2) That the uncommitted core funding budget in the sums of £2,734 for 2014/15 and £1,964 for 2015/16 is held as a contingency and carried forward into the 2015/16 financial year if not required in 2014/15.

(Councillors Paul English and Welch declared interests under Appendix B of the Members' Code of Code drawing attention to their involvement with the Citizens' Advice Bureau and Settle Swimming Pool respectively by reason of their membership as a trustee or local authority appointment. Neither Member took part in the voting on this matter.)

### **Minutes for Decision**

- None -

Chairman