



# HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

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## Grants Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at 6pm on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017  
Council Chamber, Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere

<b>Chairman</b>	Cllr Drake*
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	Cllr Carter*
<b>Councillors</b>	Abeyesundara*, Arrick, Blades*, Dover*, Edwards*, Hall*, Hewett*, King*, Newbury, Rodgers, Round*, Sherratt*

\*Present

**Meeting clerked by:** Sarah Nash, Deputy Town Clerk.

**Present:** 8 members of the public

### **1/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Newbury.

### **2/17 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Cllr Edwards declared a non-pecuniary interest as the Haslemere Town Council representative for Tennyson's Sure Start and he is also the Chair of the Governing board for Shottermill Infant School.

### **3/17 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Agreed and signed as a true record.

### **4/17 BUDGET**

The Committee noted the 2016/2017 Budget as follows:

Approved 2016/2017 Revenue Grants	£29,886.20
Approved Small grants budget for 2016/2017	£10,000.00
<b>Total small grant budget remaining</b>	<b>£ 5,700.00</b>

### **5/17 REVITALISE RESPITE HOLIDAYS (£500)**

***Financial support for two essential respite breaks***

This application was deferred from the last meeting pending further information. The grant applicant has now addressed the questions raised by the Grants Committee as follows:

**Q: If the grant were to be awarded would it go towards a Haslemere resident's respite break or will it go into a central pot?**

A: If the grant were awarded, it would be allocated to a Haslemere resident's break. We can provide anonymised information regarding beneficiaries from the area who would directly benefit.

**Q: What proportion of the grant is match funded? Is any of this amount provided by Social Services?**

A: Our application was for £500, this is less than 20% of the overall cost of providing two breaks. The remainder of the cost is met by our guests, who may receive benefits from local social services that contribute towards their payments. So although there is no specific match funding arrangement, it is possible that social services are contributing towards the break via our guests' DLA/PIP/individual budget arrangements.

**Q: How does the organisation decide who qualifies for the break?**

A: Guests that come to us are predominantly physically disabled, but may also live with dementia, or disabilities with associated learning difficulties such as Down's syndrome. Guests can come to us via self-referral, referral from local statutory services, or (in the case of some guests at our Sandpipers centre) as part of an arrangement for rehabilitation with a spinal care unit. In the main, a preliminary assessment of need is conducted by our bookings team, mostly to determine what assistance is needed during their stay. If there is a query about the level of need required, then our nursing staff will conduct a further assessment with the guest prior to the break taking place.

The Committee agreed that there is still information lacking for this application. The Committee would like to know who in particular has benefitted from this service in Haslemere.

Councillor King proposed that the Deputy Clerk contacts the applicant again asking for evidence of the service they have provided for Haslemere. If names cannot be revealed for reasons of data protection Haslemere Town Council would request to have information on the number of people who have benefitted in Haslemere along with the ward in which they reside. This application will only be revisited at one more grants meeting.

**Recommended: The grant application for £500 is deferred pending further information.**

**6/17 HASLEMERE AIR CADETS 1268 SQUADRON (£300)**

***Purchase two televisions with DVD and USB for training rooms and funds towards the cost of a new minibus.***

The Committee discussed this application and made the following points:

- The Committee wholeheartedly supported the work of this organisation and their active involvement with the community.
- Councillor King suggested that the amount being requested should be doubled to go further towards the replacement of their minibus, Councillor Abeyesundara suggested that in fact £1000 should be awarded.
- Councillor Dover stressed that he could not support an amount exceeding the application.
- Flt. Lt. John Bristow clarified that no more than £300 is needed for the televisions however any financial support would be appreciated for the minibus. He confirmed that he would be happy to increase his application to £1000.

Councillor Abeyesundara proposed that £1000 be awarded for this applicant, this was seconded by Councillor Hall. The majority voted in favour of this proposal.

**Recommended: That an increased grant amount of £1000 is awarded.**

Councillor Abeyesundara took this opportunity to publically thank Ft. Lt. John Bristow for the service he has given to the community over the last 50 years.

**7/17 GREAT WAR CENTENARY FLAGPOLE APPEAL (£1000)**

***To restore the flagpole on top of St Christopher's Church to commemorate the 100 years since the end of the Great War in 2018.***

The Committee discussed this application and made the following points:

- The benefit a replacement flagpole would give to the community as a whole was questioned.
- The cost of the replacement was questioned, a number of councillors suggested that it could be sourced at a much lower cost.
- The material of the flagpole being used was also questioned, if fibre glass were to be used rather than wood it would be cheaper.
- The fact that the building is listed was discussed. Conservation officers would expect any changes to the fabric of the exterior of a building to be like for like.
- Councillor Abeyesundara suggested that the flagpole would benefit the wider community, it is one of only three public flagpoles within Haslemere Town Council's administrative area.
- Cllr Edwards stated as the Poppy Organiser that he had a non-pecuniary interest in this application, and although he is supportive of it, he would not be voting.

- Robert Fox summarised the costs:
  - £3,200: to construct and deliver the flagpole
  - £3,500: to have the flagpole erected
  - Circa £5,000: Leadwork repair around the flagpole

Councillor Abeysundara proposed that this application is deferred until the Committee has been provided with artwork for the project and full detail of the proposal. Three quotations should be sought before resubmitting to Haslemere Town Council and the application should be made by the Haslemere PCC if they are to be paid the grant should it be awarded. It was also suggested that Waverley Borough Council should at least be asked for their stance on using a different material. This was seconded by Councillor Round. This was unanimously agreed by the Committee.

**Recommended: The grant application for £1000 is deferred pending further information.**

**8/17 H.H.H. CONCERTS (£750)**

***To financially support musical events for Grayswood Primary School and elderly residents from a number of local care homes.***

The Committee discussed this application and made the following points:

- The Chairman of HHH Concerts explained that the original quote of £1500 for the cost of putting on the charitable day had actually decreased, however the cost for musicians, hall, and transport would still come to the requested amount of £750.
- The Committee felt that the organisation does a wonderful job, and any organisation which engages younger generations in music should be commended.

Councillor Carter proposed that the full £750 should be awarded, this was seconded by Councillor Round. The Committee voted unanimously in favour of this proposal.

**Recommended: The grant application for £750 is awarded.**

**9/17 TENNYSON'S CHILDREN'S CENTRE (£900)**

***Financial support for a conversational English group for parents with English as an additional language.***

The Committee discussed this application and made the following points:

- Many of the Committee were very encouraged by this application which is aimed at a minority community to benefit entire families.
- Councillor Round questioned whether this should in fact fall under Surrey County Council's responsibility.
- Councillor Edwards stressed the importance of initiatives such as this as opportunities are limited for socially excluded individuals; this would help in some way to address this issue.
- Rachel Gardiner confirmed that up to 18 people attended the taster course and this would be very likely to increase over time.
- Councillor Abeysundara suggested that if Haslemere Town Council were to award this grant the Council should also promote the initiative through its website and social media.

Councillor Sherratt proposed that the full grant of £900 is awarded, this was seconded by Councillor King. The Committee voted unanimously in favour.

**Recommended: The grant application for £900 is awarded.**

**10/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

9<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

Meeting closed at 6.55pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman of Grants**