



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2HG
01428 654305 / town.clerk@haslemeretc.org

Grants Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at 6pm on 9th March 2017
Council Chamber, Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere

Chairman	Cllr Drake
Vice Chairman	Cllr Carter*
Councillors	Abey Bandara*, Arrick, Blades*, Dover*, Edwards, Hall, Hewett*, King*, Newbury*, Rodgers, Round*, Sherratt*

*Present

Meeting clerked by: Sarah Nash, Deputy Town Clerk.

Present: 4 members of the public

11/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Drake, Edwards, Hall and Rodgers

12/17 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Cllr Round declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 5C - Haslemere Events application. Under clause 6(3) of the HTC Code of Conduct he left the room whilst this item was discussed.

13/17 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Agreed and signed as a true record.

14/17 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
Total small grant budget remaining	£ 3,050.00

15/17 CAMELSDALE SCOUT GROUP (£1000)

Maintenance/repair of 12 metal windows on their scout hut.

Rebecca Jones spoke in support of this application. It is expected that the scout hut will provide another 20 years' use, unlikely to be any more so there seems no point investing in new windows. It is hoped that the repairs to be undertaken will last for the 20 years at which point they will consider rebuilding.

The hut is a community building and is used by many other community groups. Rebecca confirmed that the users are being asked to contribute towards the maintenance needed. Lynchmere Parish Council has also been contacted for a grant for £4000 for some tents.

Councillor Sherratt proposed that the full request of £1000 is awarded, this was seconded by Councillor King and was unanimously agreed.

Recommended: that the full grant of £1000 is awarded to Camelsdale Scout Group.

16/17 HASLEMERE BOWLING CLUB (£700)

New laminate flooring to replace existing 25 year old carpet.

Don Gribble spoke in support of this application. The clubhouse was built in 1992, and is owned by Waverley Borough Council. The membership comprises 60 members at present. The bowling club is being heavily subsidised by Waverley, with maintenance costs circa £8000 per year. Over the next 5 years the subsidy will be removed gradually. The bowling club is hoping to sign a lease in two months. Don did advise that the irrigation system is dated so that £10,000 could be use rapidly.

Councillor Carter proposed that the full request of £700 is awarded, this was seconded by Councillor Abeyesundara and was unanimously agreed.

Recommended: that the full grant of £700 is awarded to Haslemere Bowling Club.

Item 5e of the agenda was brought forward.

17/17 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.

Ken Griffiths spoke in support of this application. The projects is far more than putting a flagpole up. It is hoped it will bring the community together to commemorate 100 years since the end of WW1. It will be an event to span over the whole of 2018. Poppies will cascade from the church tower, and it is hoped that some poppies will be planted on St Christopher's Green. The project will encourage children/schools to investigate the history of the names on the memorials, and the flag pole will be the lasting legacy. A bespoke flagpole appropriate for an Arts & Crafts building is required which will hopefully last a further 100 years.

The Committee debated this project; the following points were made:

- It was questioned whether public money should be spent on a church building. It was confirmed that parish councils have the power to do this if there is a wider community benefit.
- The Royal British Legion has been consulted and are supportive of the project. Councillor King requested that Ken Griffiths provide him with evidence of this.
- It was questioned whether other materials could be used. Councillor Abeyesundara advised that the flagpole has a dual purpose, the flagpole, along with trusses provide structural support.
- Councillor Dover suggested that when dealing with churches and the military detailed research should be undertaken to ensure that the correct protocol is followed.

Councillor Round proposed that the full request of £1000 is awarded, this was seconded by Councillor Abeyesundara. Eight councillors voted in favour, one against.

Recommended: that the full grant of £1000 is awarded to the Great War Centenary Flagpole Appeal.

Councillor Round left the meeting.

18/17 HASLEMERE EVENTS (PART OF HASLEMERE FESTIVAL) (£400)

Spring into Haslemere – a promotion of the businesses and organisations in Haslemere and Hindhead including an Easter bunny trail and a spend and win campaign.

The Committee discussed this application and made the following points:

- Councillor King noted that Haslemere Festival already has circa £50,000 in its bank account and questioned whether HTC should be awarding funds to an organisation who has this level of funds in its reserves.
- This project is much more than an Easter bunny trail, it will encourage people to visit shops they would not normally visit. As a town council we should be encouraging these projects to improve the vitality of our high streets.
- Councillor Dover questioned how far the town council should use tax payers money for commercial benefit.
- Why is Haslemere Events not using its own funds for this project? Some felt that it was the principle, HTC should be seen to show willingness to support businesses within the parish, and that Haslemere Events

should be thanked for all they do for the town. If it weren't for Haslemere Events doing all they do it would cost HTC far more financially.

- Councillor King proposed that £200 should be awarded as a goodwill gesture, however this was not seconded.

Councillor Carter proposed that the full request of £400 is awarded, this was seconded by Councillor Sherratt. Seven councillors voted in favour, one abstained.

Recommended: that the full grant of £400 is awarded to Haslemere Events.

Councillor Round returned to the meeting.

19/17 REVITALISE RESPITE HOLIDAYS (£500)

Financial support for two essential respite breaks

It was not felt that the evidence supplied was sufficient to justify awarding funding to this project.

Councillor Sherratt proposed that this grant application be refused, this was seconded by Councillor King and was unanimously agreed.

Recommended: that this grant application is refused.

20/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11th May 2017.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Chairman of Grants