

Minutes

of a meeting of the

West Area Committee

held at 6.00 pm on Tuesday, 4 February 2014

at the Council Chamber, The Abbey House, Abingdon



Open to the public, including the press

Present:

Members: Councillor Anthony Hayward (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Yvonne Constance, Roger Cox, Mohinder Kainth, Robert Sharp, Alison Thomson and Elaine Ware

Officers: Jayne Bolton, Carole Cumming, Susan Harbour and Sally Truman

Number of members of the public: 5

We.23 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Simon Howell and Melinda Tilley.

We.24 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2013 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and the vice-chairman (in the chair) signed them.

We.25 Declarations of interest

No councillors had disclosable pecuniary interests in any of the applications.

Some councillors had a conflict of interest, as they were part of the management committee or council of the applicant. These councillors declared their interests, as below, and did not take part in the debate or vote on these items.

Organisation	Project	
Faringdon Lawn Tennis Club	Folly Park summer Sportsfest	Alison Thomson, chair of Folly Sports Park
Faringdon Town Council	Faze outreach project (youth outreach)	Mohinder Kainth, director
Vicountess Barrington's Memorial Hall (Shrivenham)	New play equipment	Elaine Ware, Simon Howell: on management committee

We.26 Urgent business and chairman's announcements

Each item would be discussed on its own merits and assessed individually.

We.27 Statements, petitions and questions from the public relating to matters affecting the West Area Committee

Organisation	Project	Speakers
Faringdon Free Food	community orchard	Statement from Mark Crane
Faringdon Lawn Tennis Club	Folly Park summer Sportsfest	Sjoerd Vogt
Faringdon Town Council	Faze outreach project (youth outreach)	Mohinder Kainth in his capacity as a director of the project.
Faringdon Town Football Club	Tractor replacement	Phil Tyler, Faringdon Town Football Club
Pink Pigeons Trust	Trails around Faringdon	Sjoerd Vogt
Vicountess Barrington's Memorial Hall (Shrivenham)	New play equipment	Elaine Ware in her capacity as trustee of the Memorial Hall
Watchfield Parish Council	Recreation ground improvements	Mr Watson

We.28 New Homes Bonus - community funding 2013/14

The committee considered the head of corporate strategy's report that set out details of the new homes bonus community funding scheme. The cabinet member for grants had approved the policy and procedure and delegated authority to the four area committees to determine the grant applications. The Council had set a budget of £100,000 for this scheme. The apportionment between the area committees was based on the amount of housing growth in each area from April 2008 to March 2013. In the west area of the district, 514 new homes had been built in this five-year period, equating to a budget of £39,800 for the committee to award to applications under this scheme in the current financial year.

The committee noted that the council's chief finance officer had advised that any new homes bonus community funding that was not awarded by the end of this financial year could be carried forward to the following year's budget. The published draft budget for 2014/15 included a proposal for a further £100,000 new homes bonus community funding, for apportionment between the four area committees.

The committee carefully considered each application under this scheme. Thirteen applications had been received. The committee assessed these against a high, medium or low ranking for each parish, dependent on the number of new homes completed in the qualifying five-year period. Those parishes with the most new homes were awarded a 'high' ranking. The committee used this as a guide to prioritise the applications but was not bound by it.

The committee considered the application by the Wanborough Anti-Flood Group, but established that Watchfield, Shrivenham and other areas in the Vale would not be affected by the works sought and so agreed not to consider this further.

The following awards were made by the committee:

Ref no	Organisation	Scheme/Project	Grant Awarded
1207	Faringdon Lawn Tennis Club	Folly Park summer sportsfest	£3000
1208	Pink Pigeons trust	Trails around Faringdon	£600
1210	Faringdon Free Food	Community orchard	£600
1212	Viscountess Barrington's Memorial Hall (Shrivenham)	New play equipment	£5000
1213	Faringdon and District Chamber of Commerce	Faringdon loyalty card	£1000
1214	Faringdon and District Chamber of Commerce	Park Road hanging baskets	£0
1219	Wanborough Anti-Flood Group	Flood defences equipment for the Shrivenham and Bourton area	£0
1222	Faringdon Baptist Church	Refurbishment of kitchen and toilets	£8000
1224	Pump House Project (Faringdon)	Part time caretaker and facility manager	£5500
1226	Faringdon Town Football Club	Tractor	£7600
1230	Wilts & Berks Canal Trust	Repairs to excavator and 200m	£1000
1231	Faringdon Town Council	Faze outreach project (youth outreach)	£7000
1232	Watchfield Parish Council	Recreation ground improvements	£500
		Total	£39,800

All money allocated to this area committee was, therefore, awarded and there would be no carry forward to the next financial year.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm