

# Minutes

of a meeting of the

## Abingdon Area Committee

held at 9am on Wednesday 6 April 2011

at the Guildhall, Abingdon

Open to the public, including the press

### Present:

Members: Councillor Paul Burton, Mary de Vere, Tony de Vere, Gervase Duffield, Beth Fleming, Jim Halliday, Angela Lawrence, Pat Lonergan, Julie Mayhew-Archer Janet Morgan, Alison Rooke, Laurel Symons and Richard Webber

Officers: Jayne Bolton, Steve Culliford, Clare Kingston, Ed Neiburg and Toby Warren

Number of members of the public: 7

### Ab.16 Election of a chair

**RESOLVED:** To elect Councillor Alison Rooke as chair of the Abingdon Area Committee for the remainder of the 2010/11 municipal year.

### Ab.17 Election of a vice-chair

**RESOLVED:** To elect Councillor Beth Fleming as vice-chair of the Abingdon Area Committee for the remainder of the 2010/11 municipal year.

### Ab.18 Apologies for absence

Councillor Julia Bricknell had sent her apologies for absence.

### Ab.19 Minutes

**RESOLVED:** To adopt as a correct record the minutes of the committee meeting held on 5 November 2009 and agree that the chair signs them.

### Ab.20 Declarations of interest

Councillors declared the following interests in the community grants item (minute Ab.23 refers):

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Personal/prejudicial</b>	<b>Interest</b>
Mary de Vere	Personal and prejudicial	She had been involved with the South Abingdon Community Led Planning Group
Janet Morgan	Personal and prejudicial	She was a member of the Abingdon Bridge management committee
Laurel Symons	Personal and prejudicial	She was a member of the Abingdon Bridge management committee
Angela Lawrence	Personal	She was a member of Abingdon Town Council
Paul Burton, Mary de Vere, Tony de Vere, Beth Fleming, Jim Halliday, Angela Lawrence, Pat Lonergan, Julie Mayhew-Archer, Alison Rooke, and Richard Webber	Personal	They knew some of the speakers at the meeting or knew members of the community groups applying for grants.

## **Ab.21 Urgent business and chair's announcements**

The chair announced that the application for a community grant from Abingdon 24<sup>th</sup> Scout Group had been withdrawn from the agenda and the application would be referred to the North East Area Committee, as it was located within that area.

## **Ab.22 Statements, petitions and questions from the public relating to matters affecting the area committee.**

The committee heard five statements from members of the public.

- (1) Alastair Fear spoke on behalf of the Abingdon Town Amateur Boxing Club in support of its community grant application. He outlined the benefits of the club to young people of the town and hoped the committee could award a grant towards the club's plans for a new training hall.
- (2) Gary Hibbens spoke on behalf of Abingdon Bridge. This supported young people of Abingdon and helped them to engage in their community and take on a sense of ownership and belonging. He sought funds towards this project.
- (3) Marcus Nurton made a statement in support of Abingdon Rowing Club's grant application. The club had exhausted its funds removing an asbestos roof at its headquarters and now needed additional funding to carry out re-wiring.
- (4) Rosemary Joseph spoke on behalf of Abingdon Music Festival seeking a grant towards its one-day master class in conducting an orchestra. This was open to all and was free of charge.

Vale of White Horse District Council – Abingdon Area Committee minutes

- (5) Malcolm Ross made a statement on behalf of the Abingdon Performing Arts Group in support of Abingdon Arts Festival 2012, highlighting the benefits of the festival to the local area.

## **Ab.23 Community grants**

Councillors Janet Morgan and Laurel Symons both declared personal and prejudicial interests in the application by Abingdon Bridge and Councillor Mary de Vere declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application by the South Abingdon Community Led Planning Group. All three councillors left the meeting during consideration of these grant applications.

The committee considered report 121/10 of the head of corporate strategy. The report set out details of fourteen community grant applications. New grants criteria had been introduced by the Executive to assess the grant applications. The committee noted that it had a budget of £26,391 for grants in the 2011/12 financial year.

The committee declined to offer a grant to Abingdon Chamber Concerts as councillors believed that it would have little community benefit. The committee also referred the application from Abingdon 24<sup>th</sup> Scout Group to the North East Area Committee as its headquarters was located in the north east area of the district.

### **RESOLVED:**

- (a) to approve the following grants:

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Grant</b>
Nasio Trust	To support the self-development of young people	£3,250
Abingdon Bridge	To support the self-development of young people	£5,000
Abingdon Performing Arts Group	Towards the costs of the 2012 Abingdon Arts Festival	£2,500
Film Oxford	Towards two outdoor summer film events	£350
South Abingdon Community Led Planning Group	Towards a volunteer community led project to encourage solutions to local problems	£3,308
Abingdon Carbon Cutters	Towards a community food project to foster community spirit	£500

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Grant</b>
Caudwell Day Centre	To install new central heating	£1,750, subject to match funding from Drayton Parish Council
Abingdon Town Amateur Boxing Club	Towards a new training hall	£4,000, subject to the submission of receipts to the council
Abingdon Music Festival Association	To help provide a one-day conducting master class	£350
Archway Foundation	Towards support for lonely people	£500
Abingdon Town Band	To support the sustaining players' project	£1,000
Abingdon Rowing Club	To re-wire the club's headquarters	£500 and suggest the club applies to Abingdon Town Council also

- (b) To offer no grant to Abingdon Chamber Concerts; and
- (c) To refer the application from Abingdon 24<sup>th</sup> Scout Group to the North East Area Committee as its headquarters is located in the north east area of the district.

### **Exempt information under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972**

None

The meeting rose at 10.30 am