

Minutes

of a meeting of the

Faringdon Area Committee

held on Tuesday, 24 January 2017 at 6.30 pm
at The Beacon, Wantage

Open to the public, including the press

Present:

Members: Councillors Simon Howell (Chairman), Eric Batts (Vice-Chairman), Roger Cox, Anthony Hayward, Robert Sharp and Elaine Ware.

Officers: Carole Cumming, Matthew Gaskin and Susan Harbour.

Number of members of the public: 5

FA.7 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Mohinder Kainth.

FA.8 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2016 were agreed by the committee as an accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman as such.

FA.9 Declarations of interest

Robert Sharp declared an interest as a life member of the Tom Brown's School Museum.

FA.10 Urgent business

The Chairman announced plans to allow for the delegation of grant awards below a certain threshold, number of applications, and where there was no competition for resources; to the head of service, in consultation with the Chairman of the committee. The views of members were sought and these would be compiled, together with those of the other area committees, and recommended to the Cabinet member for grants. It was agreed that the grants team would work on proposals based on consultation with the three area committees. This committee noted that the policy needed improving and welcomed the plans for change.

FA.11 Statements, petitions and questions from the public relating to matters affecting the committee

All applicants had been invited to attend the meeting to represent the interests of their bid. The following speakers attended and spoke to support their applications and to respond to outstanding questions of clarification from the committee.

Phillip Tyler, committee member for Faringdon Town Football Club, spoke in support of the New Homes Bonus application to refurbish and extend the club's changing room. The speaker declared that the organisation would contribute £15,000 as opposed to £10,000. He also spoke in support of the club's Capital Grants application to replace the clubhouse side door and security shutter to enhance safety, security and wheelchair access.

Karen Pilcher, representative of Uffington Parish Council, spoke in support of the New Homes Bonus application to carry out stonework repairs to Tom Brown's School Museum, which has worn significantly over time and required repair.

Louise Smith, representative of the Pump House Project, spoke in support of the Capital Grants application to resurface the stage and provide outside shelter for buggies.

FA.12 Community grants

1) NEW HOMES BONUS GRANTS SCHEME

- a) **Faringdon Town Football Club** had applied for New Homes Bonus funding to refurbish and improve the club's changing facilities. This had been recommended by officers as a medium priority for funding.

Following clarification from the speaker that the organisation would contribute £15,000 as opposed to £10,000, the committee decided to increase the 'Funding the project' scoring from one to two points giving the application a total score of nine out of 15.

RESOLVED: to award 67.21 per cent of the requested amount (£20,000), capped to £13,442, from the New Homes Bonus fund to Faringdon Town Football Club to refurbish and improve the changing facilities.

- b) **Uffington Parish Council** had applied for New Homes Bonus funding in order to carry out stonework repairs to Tom Brown's School Museum. This had been recommended by officers as a medium priority for funding.

The committee discussed the item and agreed to accept the officer's recommendation of 6 points, leaving this as a medium priority for funding.

RESOLVED: to award 67.21 per cent of the requested amount (£10,000), capped to £6,721, from the New Homes Bonus fund to Uffington Parish Council to carry out stonework repairs to Tom Brown's School Museum.

2) CAPITAL GRANTS SCHEME

- a) **Faringdon Town Football Club** had applied for Capital Grants funding to replace the existing clubhouse side door and security shutters. This had been recommended by officers as a high priority for funding.

The committee discussed the item and agreed to accept the officer's recommendation of 10 points, leaving this as a high priority for funding.

RESOLVED: to award 100 per cent of the requested amount, capped to £1,000, from the Capital Grants Fund to Faringdon Town Football Club to replace the existing clubhouse side door and security shutters.

- b) The Pump House Project** had applied for Capital Grants funding to replace the existing stage floor and improve outside storage for buggies by creating a lean-to shelter. This had been recommended by officers as a high priority for funding.

The committee discussed the item and agreed to accept the officer's recommendation of 9 points, leaving this as a high priority for funding.

RESOLVED: to award 100 per cent of the requested amount, capped to £3,143, from the Capital Grants fund to the Pump House Project to replace the existing stage floor and improve outside storage for buggies by creating a lean-to shelter at the Pump House in Faringdon.

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm