

Minutes

of a meeting of the

Abingdon and North East

Area Committee

held on Monday, 11 March 2019 at 7.00 pm

at the Meeting Room 1, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, OX14 4SB



Open to the public, including the press

Present:

Members: Councillors Mike Badcock (Chairman), Helen Pighills (Vice-Chairman), Ed Blagrove, Margaret Crick, Robert Hall, Dudley Hoddinott, Vicky Jenkins, Bob Johnston, Chris Palmer, Judy Roberts and Emily Smith

Officers: Kathy Deacon, Abbie Mulcairn, Cheryl Reeves, Shona Ware

Ab.7 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Alice Badcock, Katie Finch, Debby Hallett, Monica Lovatt, Sandy Lovatt and Catherine Webber.

Ab.8 Minutes

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2018 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

Ab.9 Declarations of interest

Councillor Bob Johnston declared that he had predetermined his opinion on the application from Be Free Young Carers and as such he would step down from the committee when the item was considered and voted on.

Councillor Margaret Crick declared that she was a trustee of Oxfordshire Play Association but was coming to the meeting with an open mind and with the officers recommended scoring in mind, and therefore would remain on the committee.

Councillors Margaret Crick, Helen Pighills and Mike Badcock declared that they were members of Christ Hospital charity which had previously considered one of the applicants for a grant. They noted that they were coming to the meeting with an open mind and had not predetermined their opinions and therefore would remain on the committee.

Ab.10 Urgent business and chairman's announcements

None.

Ab.11 Public participation

Speakers representing their applications were present for two of the three applications. They would speak when their application was under consideration, and also had the opportunity to respond to questions of clarification from the committee. The speakers were as follows:

Be Free Young Carers: John Tabor

Abingdon Squash and Racketball Club: Alan Horton

Ab.12 New Homes Bonus Grants 2018/19 - Round two

Be Free Young Carers

The officer introduced the application by Be Free Young Carers for £900 towards a £5,714 scheme to replace their Client Management Software with a more up to date system. The Officer clarified that the score for New Homes in parish(es) could not be changed as this was based on the number of properties in the district the organisation covered, of which they scored the maximum.

Councillor Bob Johnson stood down from the committee and did not vote on the item.

John Tabor, representing Be Free Young Carers, spoke in support of the application and answered questions of clarification from the committee. The committee debated the item.

RESOLVED:

1. To approve the officer's recommended score of 8 points out of a possible 12.
2. To approve the officer's recommended grant of 11.81 per cent of the total cost, capped to £675, £225 less than the amount requested.

Oxfordshire Play Association

The officer introduced the application by Oxfordshire Play Association for a grant for £4,983 towards the running of a £9,966 South Abingdon Saturdays scheme. The Officer explained the recommended scoring and clarified members questions about the location of the scheme.

No speakers were present for this application. The committee debated the item.

RESOLVED:

1. To approve the officer's recommended score of 7 points out of a possible 12.
2. To approve the officers recommended grant of 37.50 per cent of the total cost, capped to £2,288 (based on eligible costs of £6,102), £2695 less than the amount requested.

Abingdon Squash and Racketball Club

The officer introduced the application by Abingdon Squash and Racketball Club for a grant of £2,997 towards the total cost of £5,995 worth of new clubroom furniture.

Alan Horton, a representative for Abingdon Squash and Racketball Club spoke in support of the application and answered questions of clarification from the committee.

The committee debated the item.

The officers clarified why they had scored 1 out of a possible 3 for community benefit, but following further clarification about the wider membership of the club from the public speaker, the committee moved to increase the score to 2. This increased the total score from 7 to 8 for Abingdon Squash and Racketball Club, and the Officer clarified that this would keep the application at a medium priority.

RESOLVED:

1. To increase the score for community benefit from 1 to 2 which would raise the total score for the application to 8 out of a possible 12.
2. To approve the officer's recommended grant of 37.50 per cent of the total cost, capped to £2,248, £749 less than the requested amount.

The meeting closed at 7:40pm