

Minutes

of a meeting of the

Abingdon Area Committee

held on Tuesday, 19 January 2016 at 6.30 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), Ed Blagrove (Vice-Chairman), Alice Badcock, Margaret Crick, Stuart Davenport, Debby Hallett, Robert Hall, Dudley Hoddinott, Vicky Jenkins, Bob Johnston, Monica Lovatt, Sandy Lovatt, Chris Palmer, Judy Roberts, Emily Smith and Catherine Webber

Officers: Carole Cumming, Ron Schrieber and Shona Ware

Number of members of the public: 3

Ab.1 Apologies for absence

Councillors Gervaise Duffield, Katie Finch and Helen Pighills sent their apologies.

Ab.2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2014 were agreed as a correct record and the chair signed them as such.

Members requested that the minutes of the last meeting of the former North East Area Committee be submitted for approval. It was agreed to delegate authority to agree the minutes as a correct record to the chair in consultation with Councillors Debby Hallett and Bob Johnston.

Ab.3 Declarations of interest

Councillor Judy Roberts declared an interest in application VNBH\25 Dean Court Community Association (Cumnor) as chair of the trustees. She stood down from the committee to speak in support of the application then left the meeting taking no part in any discussions or voting on this item.

Councillor Alice Badcock declared an interest in application VNBH\16 Abingdon on Thames Town Council as an Abingdon town councillor. She stood down from the committee to speak in support of the application then left the meeting taking no part in any discussions or voting on this item.

Councillors Mike Badcock, Margaret Crick, Robert Hall, Vicky Jenkins, Monica Lovatt and Sandy Lovatt declared an interest in application VNBH\16 Abingdon on Thames Town Council as Abingdon town councillors. They stood down from the committee and left the meeting taking no part in any discussions or voting on this item.

Ab.4 Urgent business

None.

Ab.5 Terms of reference

The committee noted its terms of reference and area boundary as set by the Council.

Ab.6 Statements, petitions and questions from the public relating to matters affecting the committee

The following members of the public each addressed the committee, making statements in support of their grant applications:

- Tricia Wormald on behalf of the Abingdon Bridge
- Richard Kennell on behalf of South Oxfordshire Food and Education Alliance (SOFEA)
- Richard Snow on behalf of Oxford Wood Recycling Ltd.

Ab.7 New homes bonus and capital grants 2015/16

The committee considered the head of corporate strategy's report on new homes bonus grants and capital grants. The council had received six applications for new homes bonus grants relating to the Abingdon area, and four applications for capital grants.

New Homes Bonus grant applications

Each new homes bonus grant application had been assessed against the new homes bonus grants criteria and scoring matrix. The officer's recommended scores were set out in the report. The committee assessed the applications against the grants criteria and the officer's recommended scores as follows.

Dean Court Community Association (Cumnor) VNHN\25

Car park improvements (with Sovereign) and acoustic panels in the hall.

The officer recommendation was to award 100% of the amount requested based on the grant scoring system.

Councillor Judy Roberts declared an interest in this application as the chair of the trustees. She stood down from the committee to speak in support of the application then left the meeting taking no part in any discussions or voting on this item.

RESOLVED (for 15; against 0; abstentions 0)

To agree the officer recommendation

The Abingdon Bridge VNHB\27

Outreach work on legal highs

The officer recommendation was to award 75% of the amount requested based on the grant scoring system.

Tricia Wormald, a representative of the Abingdon Bridge, spoke in support of this application.

RESOLVED (for 14; against 0; abstentions 2)

To increase the score awarded for the community benefit criterion from 1 to 3 points after receiving additional information about the number of beneficiaries and level of need from the applicant at the meeting.

Abingdon on Thames Town Council VNHB\16

Fun in the Park 2016

The officer recommendation was to award 100% of the amount requested based on the grant scoring system.

Councillor Alice Badcock declared an interest in this application as an Abingdon town councillor. She stood down from the committee to speak in support of the application then left the meeting taking no part in any discussions or voting on this item.

Councillors Mike Badcock, Margaret Crick, Robert Hall, Vicky Jenkins, Monica Lovatt and Sandy Lovatt declared an interest in this application as Abingdon town councillors. They stood down from the committee and left the meeting taking no part in any discussions or voting on this item.

In the chair's absence, Cllr Ed Blagrove took the chair.

RESOLVED (for 9; against 0; abstentions 0)

To agree the officer recommendation

South Oxfordshire Food and Education Alliance (SOFEA) VNHB\23

"Futures placed" (recruitment service linked to their "Get to Work" programme)

The officer recommendation was to award 75% of the amount requested based on the grant scoring system.

Richard Kennell, a representative of SOFEA, spoke in support of this application.

RESOLVED (for 16; against 0; abstentions 0)

To increase the score awarded for both the funding the project and organisation's contribution criteria from 1 to 3 points and the community benefit score from 1 to 2 points following an update from the applicant at the meeting.

South & Vale Carers Centre VNBH\2

Five replacement laptops

The officer recommendation was to award 75% of the amount requested based on the grant scoring system.

RESOLVED (for 16; against 0; abstentions 0)

To increase the score awarded for the community benefit criterion from 1 to 2 points as there was a secondary benefit to the carers that the outreach workers will visit so increasing the range of benefit.

My Life My Choice VNHB\4

Expanding support groups

The officer recommendation was to award 100% of the amount requested based on the grant scoring system.

RESOLVED (for 16; against 0; abstentions 0)

To agree the officer recommendation

Capital grant applications

Each capital grant application had been assessed against the capital grants criteria and scoring matrix. The officer's recommended scores were set out in the report. The committee assessed the applications against the grants criteria and the officer's recommended scores as follow.

North Hinksey Preschool ValeCG\24

Toilet refurbishment and replacement flooring

The officer recommendation was to award 100% of the amount requested based on the grant scoring system.

RESOLVED (for 15; against 0; abstentions 1)

To agree the officer recommendation

Abingdon Vale Cricket Club ValeCG\39

Replacement mower

The officer recommendation was to award 75% of the amount requested based on the grant scoring system.

RESOLVED (for 16; against 0; abstentions 0)

To agree the officer recommendation

Oxford Wood Recycling Ltd. ValeCG\30

Mezzanine floor and tools

The officer recommendation was to award 75% of the amount requested based on the grant scoring system.

Richard Snow, a representative of Oxford Wood Recycling Ltd., spoke in support of this application and reported that the outcome of the organisation's application for Big Lottery grant funding was pending.

RESOLVED (for 16; against 0; abstentions 0)

- (1) To increase the score awarded for the new facilities or activities criterion from 2 to 3 points and for community benefit from 1 to 2 points after receiving additional information from the applicant at the meeting.
- (2) To reduce the maximum award amount to £8,157 if their lottery grant application was successful.

Drayton (Abingdon) Parish Council ValeCG\36

Playground refurbishment

The officer recommendation was to award 100% of the amount requested based on the grant scoring system.

RESOLVED (for 16; against 0; abstentions 0)

To agree the officer recommendation

RESOLVED: to

- (a) award new homes bonus grants as follows:

Applicant	Project	Grant
Dean Court Community Association (Cumnor)	Car park improvements (with Sovereign) and acoustic panels in the hall	£8,050
The Abingdon Bridge	Outreach work on legal highs	£5,000
Abingdon on Thames Town Council	Fun in the Park 2016 equipment	£3,000
South Oxfordshire Food and Education Alliance (SOFEA)	'Futures Placed' recruitment service linked to the 'Get to Work' programme	£4,493
South and Vale Carers' Centre	Replacement laptop computers	£1,101
My Life My Choice	Expanding support groups	£1,131
		Total £22,775

(b) award capital grants as follows:

Applicant	Project	Grant
North Hinksey Preschool	Toilet refurbishment and replacement flooring	£10,000
Abingdon Vale Cricket Club	Replacement mower	£2,475
Oxford Wood Recycling Ltd	Mezzanine floor and tools	£8,790 reducing to £8,157 if their lottery grant application is successful.
Drayton (Abingdon) Parish Council	Playground refurbishment	£7,500
		Total £28,765 (reducing to £28,132 if the Oxford Wood Recycling Ltd lottery grant application is successful).

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm