

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 13 July 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee held at Committee Room 1, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 13 July 2015 at 6.00 pm.

Present: **Councillors:** Andy Hull, Asima Shaikh and Richard Watts

Also present: **Observers:** Jean-Roger Kaseki
(Councillors)

Councillor Asima Shaikh in the Chair

45 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item A1)

Received from Councillor Rakhia Ismail.

Apologies for lateness received from Councillor Richard Watts.

46 DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item A2)

None.

47 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item A3)

Councillor Andy Hull declared a personal interest in agenda item B3 – New discretionary rate relief awards – as a trustee of B2B Create and as someone who has had contact with Wu Shi Taiji Quan and Qi Gong Association.

Councillor Asima Shaikh declared a personal interest in agenda item B3 – New discretionary rate relief awards –as someone who had attended classes at Wu Shi Taiji Quan and Qi Gong Association.

48 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Item A4)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

49 LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND (Item B1)

A revised Appendix A was laid round.

RESOLVED:

(a) That the proposals submitted by Ward councilors and detailed in revised Appendix A (attached to these minutes) of the report of the Executive Member for Economic and Community Development, be approved in principle, subject to the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Human Resources) being satisfied that the necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.

(b) That, subject to the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Human Resources) being satisfied that all necessary checks have been made and issues resolved, the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Human Resources) be authorised to agree the allocation of up to £1,000 per Ward for proposals for summer events and activities received

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 13 July 2015

during the remainder of July and August 2015 and prior to the next meeting of the Committee.

(c) That it be noted that the Executive Member for Economic and Community Development will be informed of all events approved under resolution (b) above.

(d) That the amendments to Ward budgets resulting from project funding being returned, detailed in Appendix A of the report, be also noted.

Reasons for decision

To assist in developing and sustaining a healthy voluntary and community sector in Islington.

Other options considered

None

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted

None

50 **ISLINGTON COMMUNITY CHEST 2015/16: ROUND ONE AWARDS (Item B2)**

RESOLVED:

(a) That Islington Community Chest grant awards for 2015/16 be approved to the organisations detailed in Appendix A of the report of the Executive Member for Economic and Community Development.

(b) That the foci for Community Chest grant awards be reviewed in the autumn of each year, to ensure that they synchronise with the Council's overall priorities for that year.

(c) That Cripplegate Foundation be recommended to carry out proactive work with organisations working with people with mental health issues to make them aware of and encourage more applications for Community Chest awards from these types of organisations.

Reasons for decision

To nurture and sustain an innovative and resilient voluntary and community sector in Islington, by providing resources for smaller organisations that find it hard to access funding from other programmes.

Other options considered

None

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted

None

51 **DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF: AWARDS FOR NEWLY ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS (Item B3)**

RESOLVED:

(a) That discretionary rate relief be awarded to B2B Create, Minority Matters, Stuart Low Trust and Wu Shi Taiji Quan and Qi Gong Association to 31 March 2020, backdated to when they moved into their premises and with costs as detailed in paragraph 6.2 of the report of the Executive Member for Economic and Community Development.

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 13 July 2015

(b) That the applications from the British Red Cross Society and Iften Academy Limited be rejected on the grounds that they do not meet the Council's criteria for discretionary rate relief.

Reason for decisions

Awarding discretionary rate relief to charitable and non-profit making bodies was a cost effective way of supporting local organisations and helped to sustain a healthy voluntary sector.

Other options considered

None

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensation granted

None

Reasons for decision – as specified in the report

Other options considered – none

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted – none

The meeting ended at 6.10 pm

CHAIR