

Voluntary and Community Sector Committee - 9 November 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Voluntary and Community Sector Committee held at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 9 November 2015 at 6.00 pm.

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

Also present: **Councillor:** **Jean-Roger Kaseki (observer)**

Councillor Richard Watts in the Chair

57 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item 1)**

Received from Councillors Theresa Debono and Rakhia Ismail.

58 **DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item 2)**

None.

59 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)**

None.

60 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)**

Subject to the inclusion of Councillor Kaseki's name in the list of attendees for the meeting, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

61 **THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR STRATEGY 2016 - 2020 AND THE EXTENSION OF GRANT AWARDS FROM THE VCS GRANTS FUND AND THE ADVICE FUND TO 30 JUNE 2016 (Item B1)**

The report was amended on submission as follows:

Recommendation 2.2 and all other instances in the report – change “31st June 2016” and “31st September 2015” to “30th June 2015” and “30th September 2015”

RESOLVED:

(a) That the Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy 2016 – 2020, attached as Appendix 1 to the report of the Executive Member for Economic and Community Development, be approved.

(b) That current grant awards from the VCS Grants Fund and the Advice Fund to the organisations listed in Appendix 2 to the report be approved for a minimum of three months to 30 June 2016, and potentially up to a maximum of six months up to 30 September 2016.

Reasons for decision

Agreeing to extend the grants would provide the voluntary sector with greater financial certainty in the near term and would enable the trustees of local organisations to plan ahead and agree their budgets for 2016.

Other options considered

None

Conflicts of interest/Any dispensations granted

None.

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LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND AWARDS (Item C2)

The Chair had agreed that this item be considered as urgent business in order that grants could be paid in time to run Christmas activities.

RESOLVED:

(a) That the proposals submitted by Ward councillors for Local Initiatives Funding detailed in 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, in the lead up to the Christmas period, the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Human Resources) be authorised to agree the allocation of up to £1,000 each for proposals received prior to the next meeting, subject to the Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Human Resources) being satisfied that all necessary checks have been made and any other issues resolved.

(c) That it be noted that the Executive Member for Economic and Community Development would 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.

The meeting ended at 6.20 pm

CHAIR