

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017, 7.15PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GREENACRE CENTRE, STOTFOLD**

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Committee Members present: A Cooper (Chairman)

Mrs A Clarey	B Collier
Mrs M Cooper	S Hayes
Mrs J Hyde	B Saunders

Also present: the Town Clerk – Mrs K Elliott-Turner

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**38/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence, as all Committee Members were present.

**39/17 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS INTERESTS ON MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE AGENDA**

Councillor Mrs Clarey declared an interest in the grant application from the Stotfold Good Neighbour Group as she is a Group member.

Councillor Saunders declared an interest in the grant application from Stotfold Guides as he is the Chairman of the Mossman Centre, which the Guides lease from the Town Council.

Councillor Hayes declared an interest in the grant application from Stotfold Guides as his wife is their President.

All indicated that they would leave the meeting for voting.

Members were reminded that if at any time during the meeting they feel they have an interest in an item being discussed, they should declare it at that point.

**40/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & RESPONSES**

None present.

**41/17 CLERK'S REPORT, CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED & MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION**

Nothing to report.

**42/17 GRANT APPLICATIONS AND FEEDBACK FORMS RECEIVED**

Members considered new applications for funding (budget available for all grants £5,765).

Grants are awarded where the money is to be used for the direct benefit of the area, or part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants, and benefit obtained must be commensurate with the expenditure incurred. The decision of whether benefit would be in the interest of the area, or its inhabitants, and whether it would be commensurate with the expenditure incurred is made by the Council. Grants are awarded at the Council's discretion.

Having previously declared an interest, Councillors Mrs Clarey, Saunders and Hayes left the meeting during discussion and voting on the grant applications from the Stotfold Good Neighbour Group and Stotfold Guides, as appropriate, and returned for consideration and voting for all other applications.

**RECOMMENDED** that the following grants are approved:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Purpose of Grant</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
Academy of Central Bedfordshire	Contribute towards costs to create an outdoor sitting/learning area (LGA 1972 S137)	£1,000
2 <sup>nd</sup> Stotfold Guides	Purchase camping equipment & cookers. Also to replace tents (LG (MP) Act 1976 s19)	£1,000
Stotfold Bowls Club	Re-level edging of Bowls Green and to install pop-up sprinkler (LG (MP) Act 1976 s19)	£1,000
Stotfold Good Neighbour Group	Purchase equipment to provide chair based exercise for elderly (LGA 1972 s137)	£502.25
Stotfold & District Children's Centre	Training staff for Baby Yoga sessions (LGA 1972 s137)	£852
Poppy Appeal	Poppy wreaths for Remembrance Sunday November 2017 (LGA 1972 s137)	£175

With regard to specific applications, the following comments and recommendation were made to applicants:

- Academy of Central Bedfordshire – Members discussed which power the Town Council could use to make a grant to a school, which is funded by the local education authority. They are able to use Local Government Act 1972 s137, if they consider that it would be of benefit to the wider inhabitants of Stotfold. Members are aware that some Stotfold children attend the Academy and so felt that we could use that power. Checks will be made on those numbers, to be available for the Council meeting at which the above recommendation is to be considered.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Stotfold Guides – the applicant is recommended that as they are intending on purchasing the camping items from the company Go Outdoors, they should consider getting one of their loyalty cards, which saves them 10% on items they purchase – thereby making their recommended grant amount go further.

With regard to grants made under S137, it was:

**RECOMMENDED** that subject to approval of the above grants, the sum of £2,529.25 is vired from the grants budget to the Section 137 budget to cover grants awarded under Section 137 powers.

#### **43/17 PROJECTOR – MAPLE ROOM**

Members considered a quote from HertsMedia to provide and install a ceiling mounted projector for the Maple Room at £1,005.70 plus vat.

**RESOLVED** that the quote from HertsMedia to provide and install a ceiling mounted projector for the Maple Room at £1,005.70 plus vat is accepted.

**44/17 EXECUTIVE ACTION – REPLACEMENT COMPUTERS**

To approve executive action taken by the Clerk, with assistance of Councillor Hayes, in replacing two older office computers at a cost of £1,480 plus vat. One computer was no longer operational, and the second was suffering from problems due to its age and would have needed replacing in the near future in any case. As a result, the Clerk was able to negotiate a deal on replacement of two computers.

**RESOLVED** that the executive action taken by the Clerk in replacing two computers at a cost of £1,480 plus vat is approved.

**45/17 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES, RELEVANT TO THIS COMMITTEE ONLY**

Nothing to report.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7.49pm

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATED**