

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25th APRIL 2018 AT 7.10PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GREENACRE CENTRE, STOTFOLD

Committee Members present: A Cooper (Chairman)

B Collier

Mrs M Cooper

S Hayes

Mrs J Hyde

Also present: the Assistant Clerk

15/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors B Saunders and Mrs A Clarey

16/18 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS INTERESTS ON MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE AGENDA

B Collier for Item 5 regarding the Roecroft Centre. 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.

17/18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & RESPONSES

None present.

18/18 CLERK'S REPORT, CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED & MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION

Nothing to report.

19/18 GRANT APPLICATIONS & FEEDBACK FORMS RECEIVED

Members considered new applications for funding (budget available for all grants £10,000).

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, Councillor B Collier left the meeting during discussion and voting on the application from Roecroft Centre Charitable Trust and returned for consideration and voting for all other applications.

RESOLVED that the following grants are approved:

Organisation	Purpose of Grant	Amount Awarded
Roecroft Centre Charitable Trust Ltd	Repair and /or replacement of two security doors (LG (M.P.) Act 1976 s19)	£768.00
Autism Bedfordshire	Towards children's services for autistic children, carers & siblings – activity days, social club, trampolining, summer schemes.	£200

	(LGA 1972 s137)	
Revitalise Respite Holidays (previously named Vitalise)	Provision of revitalize break for 3 disabled residents and their carers at one of their holiday centres. (LGA 1972 s137)	£1000

RECOMMENDED that the following grant amounts are approved by Council:

Organisation	Purpose of Grant	Amount Awarded
Whitbread Wanderbus Ltd	Assist in vehicle running costs for concessionary bus (Transport Act 1985 s106a)	£4,000

FURTHER RECOMMENDED to vire over £1200 from the Grants budget to S137 to cover the amount awarded.

20/18 WEBSITE UPGRADE

Members were asked to consider the upgrade up the Council's website. This is provided by Vision ICT and was set up in 2009. The website is currently the original Version 4 of the software, however it is, and has always been, very difficult to administer. The Clerk feels that the website layout does not make best use of the space available. Rather than seek a completely new website through another company, it was suggested that the website is upgraded to the current Version 6 at a cost of £1,175 plus vat.

Members discussed the options and were in favour of upgrading the site, particularly as it is beginning to look dated. It was also noted that while the website holds a great deal of valuable information, much of this is hidden in the site and not visible on the front page. This makes access by the public limited.

RESOLVED that the Town Council website provided by Vision ICT be upgraded to Version 6 at a cost of £1,175 plus vat.

21/18 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES, RELEVANT TO THIS COMMITTEE ONLY

Nothing to report.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.38pm

CHAIRMAN

DATED