

GRANTS COMMITTEE

Thursday 25 February 2010

Present:-

Councillor Vanessa Newcombe (Chair)
Councillors Gale, Robson and R Smith

Also Present

Director Community and Environment, Head of Leisure and Museums, Projects and Business Manager, Principal Accountant (SH), Senior Valuer (TJ), Festival and Events Manager, Community Inclusion and Engagement Officer, Policy Officer (MP-J), Play Development Manager and Member Services Officer (SJS)

1 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2009 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as correct.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members declared the following personal interests:-

COUNCILLOR	MINUTE
Councillor Gale	4 (Trustee of Exwick Community Association) 6 (Chair of Exeter Community Transport Association and his wife is a Trustee of Exeter Community Transport Association)
Councillor Newcombe	4 (Trustee of the Citizens Advice Bureau and on the Committee of Turntable) 5 (Trustee of the Citizens Advice Bureau & on the Committee of Turntable)
Councillor Robson	4 (Director of Wonford Community Centre and Trustee of Exeter Relate)
Councillor Mrs R Smith	9 (knows Bethany and Eleanor Partridge)

3 **UPDATE ON THE CURRENT GRANTS BUDGET**

The Principal Accountant outlined to Members the current budget position with regards to the grants budget and stated that the funds available for the core, project and individual talent scheme was £422,063, including the current balance of £3,893 in 2009/10 that would be requested to be carried forward to 2010/11.

The total amount of the grants recommended for approval was £421,666 leaving a balance of £397.

4 **RENT GRANTS**

Councillor Gale declared a personal interest as Trustee of Exwick Community Association.

Councillor Newcombe declared a personal interest as a Trustee of the Citizens Advice Bureau and was also on the Committee of Turntable.

Councillor Robson declared a personal interest as a Director of Wonford Community Centre and a Trustee of Exeter Relate.

RESOLVED to recommend to Executive that:-

- (1) the decisions as set out below be implemented in respect of the bodies indicated; and
- (2) the Director Community and Environment and the Head of Treasury Services, subject to prior consultation with the Chair, be authorised to agree a grant increase to those organisations indicated by an asterisk to match any increase in rental following forthcoming rent reviews and also, where applicable, a pro rata reduction in grant where a rent reduction occurs following a reduction in the amount of accommodation occupied.

DECISIONS

Community/Social Need

RECOMMENDED

Citizens Advice Bureau	£33,190
Exeter Age Concern	£9,500
Exeter CVS	£63,425
Exeter Relate*	£11,600
Turntable	£9,000

Museums

Topsham Museum*	£4,354
-----------------	--------

Arts

Exeter Phoenix*	£43,500
Exeter Barnfield	£8,000
Magic Carpet – Scrapstore (The rental stated is a fully serviced rent i.e. includes rates, heating, lighting, building insurance, maintenance etc.)	£3,000

Sport/Recreation

Exeter BMX Track	£18,000
Exeter Cycle Speedway Club	£9,750
Exeter Water Sports Association	£6,350
Merry Go Round Toy and Leisure Library - Scrapstore (The rental stated is a fully serviced rent i.e. includes rates, heating, lighting, building insurance, maintenance etc.)	£1,750

Community Associations

Alphington Community Association	£6,000
Exwick Community Association	£6,500
Newtown Community Association*	£2,000
Stoke Hill Community Association*	£8,300
Sylvania Play and Community Facilities Association	£1,250
Topsham Community Association*	£6,800
Wonford Community and Learning Centre Ltd	£3,750
Stoke Hill Pre-School Group	£800

(Schedule circulated)

5

CORE GRANTS

Councillor Newcombe declared a personal interest as Trustee of the Citizens Advice Bureau and was also on the Committee of Turntable.

Members were updated on the current position regarding Exeter Northcott Theatre.

RESOLVED to recommend to Executive that the decisions as set out below be implemented in respect of the bodies indicated;

DECISIONS

	CORE GRANTS	RECOMMENDED
BODY		
Community/Social Need		
Citizens Advice Bureau	£70,489	3 year rolling funding agreement
Devon Council for Racial Equality	£1,500	support for BME community
Exeter CVS	£13,367	3 year rolling funding agreement
Living Options	£5,000	supports people with disabilities within the City
Paperchain	£4,500	recycling in the City generally, volunteers with disabilities, supports the City Council's objectives

Turntable	£6,000	environmentally friendly project, 30% of those helped take up housing association tenancies and 50% Council tenancies
Age Concern	£5,000	to help support Age Concern to continue to provide services to Exeter residents

Arts

Arts organisations subject to Service Level Agreements (3 year rolling funding agreements - a to f)

(a)	Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra	£11,865
(b)	Exeter Northcott *	£85,231
(c)	Spacex	£11,365
(d)	Theatre Alibi	£19,196
(e)	Wren Trust	£16,205
(f)	Exeter Phoenix	£131,198
(g)	Exeter Barnfield	£10,000

Magic Carpet	£1,500	support for regular arts activities for people with disabilities and special needs in the City
--------------	--------	--

Sport and Leisure

Merry Go Round Toy and Leisure Library - Scrapstore	£1,000	to enable the toy library in the Scrapstore to remain open
---	--------	--

Grant-Aiding Bodies

Exeter Arts Council	£13,500	delivers a cost effective efficient grant distribution organisation; the grants allocated support the objectives of the Arts and Media Strategy
---------------------	---------	---

Exeter Council for Sport and Recreation	£5,000	an efficient and effective body which administers valuable small grants for sport
Play Grants	£5,000	an efficient and effective body which administers valuable small grants for play

* delegated to the Leader to agreed the detailed terms on which the grant is paid, subject to further discussion with Exeter Northcott Administrator.

(Report circulated)

6

NEW CORE AND PROJECT GRANTS

A Member stated that she regretted that monies were not available to support Home-Start as they provided a valuable service to Exeter City Council tenants.

RESOLVED to recommend to Executive that the decisions as set out below be implemented in respect of the bodies indicated:-

DECISIONS

BODY	RECOMMENDED	COMMENTS
Devon Welfare Rights Unit (CAB)	REFUSE	Had for past three years received funding as Council officers had attended benefits training. The City Council provides grant funding for core costs to CAB – Devon Welfare Rights Unit is part of CAB. No new grant funds available 2010/11
Exeter Phoenix	£2,500	a worthwhile use of a potentially difficult site and furthered the Council's objectives for the arts in the City
Exeter Community Transport Association	REFUSE	In 2007/8 and 2008/9, Shopmobility received a contribution of a total £11,650 towards its core costs from the budget of the Economy and Development Directorate, which was a one off. Two of ECTA's

other services receive annual contributions from the Council's Economy and Development budgets, namely £4,100 for Taxicard and £13,140 for Ring and Ride. No new grant funds available 2010/11

Home-Start

REFUSE Undertakes good work when working with Council tenants. No new grant funds available 2010/11

7

SERVICE AGREEMENTS WITH STRATEGIC ARTS ORGANISATIONS

The Festival and Events Manager presented the report to approve the Service Profiles, targets and measures which would be the basis of Service Agreements with the Exeter Northcott Theatre, Theatre Alibi, Spacex Gallery, Wren Trust, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Exeter Phoenix and Exeter Barnfield for 2010/2011.

Members stated that they regretted the current position that Exeter Northcott was in and that the theatre had undertaken exceptional work with young people and made a valued contribution to the City.

RESOLVED to recommend to Executive that:-

- (1) the Service Profiles and Agreements for Theatre Alibi, Spacex, Wren Music, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Exeter Northcott for 2010/11 are agreed as the basis for approval of the release of 80% of the grants detailed in 5.2 of the circulated report;
- (2) The Service Profiles and Service Agreements for Exeter Phoenix and Exeter Barnfield Theatre are agreed as the basis for approval of the release of equal quarterly payments of the grants detailed in 5.2 of the circulated report; and
- (3) the remaining 20% of the grants for Theatre Alibi, Spacex, Wren Music, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Exeter Northcott together with the final quarter payment for Exeter Phoenix and Exeter Barnfield Theatre be released in January 2011 subject to a report being submitted to the Grants Committee in December 2010 and the Committee being satisfied with the actions being proposed.

(Report circulated)

8

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**EXETER CITY COUNCIL GRANTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – INDIVIDUAL
TALENT SCHEME**

Councillor Mrs R Smith declared a personal interest as she knows Bethany and Eleanor Partridge.

Members discussed the grants budget position and regretted that because of the lack of monies available the applications would be refused. Members suggested that applicants approach the Hele Trust with regards to possible funding.

(i) **Bethany Partridge – Age 17: - Sport/Activity: Singing**

This application met the Council's criteria for the individual talent scheme.

RESOLVED to recommend to Executive that this grant be refused due to the current grant budget position.

(ii) **Eleanor Partridge - Age 15: - Sport/Activity: Singing**

This application did not meet the Council's criteria for the individual talent scheme.

RESOLVED to recommend to Executive that this grant be refused as it did not meet the Council's criteria for the individual talent scheme.

(iii) **Kate McGinley - Age 18: – Sport/Activity: Netball**

This application met the Council's criteria for the individual talent scheme.

RESOLVED to recommend to Executive that this grant be refused due to the current grant budget position.

RESOLVED to recommend to Executive that the Individual Talent Scheme be suspended due to the grants budget position.

(Report circulated)

(The meeting commenced at 4.30 pm and closed at 4.55 pm)

Chair