

GRANTS COMMITTEE

Thursday 24 February 2011

Present:-

Councillor Vanessa Newcombe (Chair)
Councillors Crow, Mottram, Payne and Spackman

Also Present

Director Community and Environment, Acting Head of Estates Services, Projects and Business Manager, Festivals and Events Manager, Community Inclusion and Engagement Officer, Policy Officer (MP-J), Valuer - Estates Services and Member Services Officer (SJS)

1 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members declared the following personal *(prejudicial) interests:-

COUNCILLOR	MINUTE
Councillor Crow	4*(close friend of the Manager of Exeter Relate)
Councillor Newcombe	4 (Committee Member of Turntable) 5 (Committee Member of Turntable)

2 **UPDATE ON THE CURRENT GRANTS BUDGET**

The Director Community and Environment outlined to Members the current budget position with regards to the grants budget and stated that the funds available for core grants was £366,210.

The total amount of the core grants recommended for approval was £363,710 leaving a balance of £2,500.

3 **SERVICE AGREEMENTS WITH STRATEGIC ARTS ORGANISATIONS**

The Festival and Events Manager presented the report to approve the annual grant funding for 2011/12 to the Strategic Arts Organisations and the arrangements for the approval of new Service Agreements with the Strategic Arts Organisations.

Members were updated on the process that had been undertaken to decide how the funding was allocated to the Arts Organisations.

In response to a Member's question, the Festival and Events Manager stated that the work shops run by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra would stop although the concerts would continue to be held in the city.

RESOLVED to recommend to Executive that:-

- (1) the reduced levels of funding to individual Strategic Arts Organisations as set out in 5.1 are approved;
- (2) until further notice funding shall be on an annual basis and subject to the six and 12 month monitoring of agreed outputs and targets; and

- (3) final approval of individual Service Agreements for Strategic Arts Organisations for 2011/12 shall be agreed by the Head of Economy and Tourism, the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Tourism and the Chair of this Committee by the end of May 2011.

(Report circulated)

4

RENT GRANTS

Councillor Crow declared a personal and prejudicial interest as the Manager of Exeter Relate is a close friend and left the meeting during consideration of this item.

Councillor Newcombe declared a personal interest as a Committee Member of Turntable.

The Director Community and Environment updated Members on the position with regards to the rents for Magic Carpet and the Toy Library as the Scrapstore with which they shared a building was working towards setting up as a charitable organisation.

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*	£10,500

Museums

Topsham Museum*	£4,354
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Arts

Exeter Phoenix*	£60,180
Exeter Barnfield	£8,000

Magic Carpet – Scrapstore building*	£1,000
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Sport/Recreation

Exeter BMX Track*	£18,000
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Exeter Cycle Speedway Club*	£9,750
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Exeter Water Sports Association*	£6,350
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Merry Go Round Toy and Leisure Library – Scrapstore building*	£825
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Community Associations

Alphington Community Association	£6,000
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Exwick Community Association*	£6,500
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Newtown Community Association*	£2,000
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Stoke Hill Community Association*	£8,300
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Sylvania Play and Community Facilities Association	£1,250
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Topsham Community Association	£7,900
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Wonford Community and Learning Centre Ltd*	£3,750
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Stoke Hill Pre-School Group	£800
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(Schedule circulated)

5

CORE GRANTS

Councillor Newcombe declared a personal interest as Committee Member of Turntable.

The Festival and Events Manager updated Members on the position with regards to discussions that had taken place with Exeter Arts Council and advised that the recommendation had been revised. It had been agreed that Exeter Arts Council should retain decision making and overall financial responsibility for the fund of £10,000 for the distribution and payment of Arts Grants on the condition that no more than £500 from this sum was allocated for the costs of running a charitable organisation and that Exeter Arts Council seek to increase the funding available for distribution by looking into, and making applications to, other sources of funding available to charities. The administration of the distribution of grants including the calling of meetings would be undertaken by Council Officers in the Arts and Events team.

Members welcomed that an agreement had been reached with Exeter Arts Council.

The Project and Business Manager updated Members on the position with regards to the grants for Exeter Community Transport Association. He advised that Devon County Council were anticipated to fund ECTA to the same level this coming year as the previous year.

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	provides a service free at point of delivery and accessible to all people residing in Exeter. Contacts made with clients dealing with issues such as housing, consumer and benefit issues, employment and debt
Exeter CVS	£13,367	provides valuable support to voluntary organisations
Plymouth & Devon Council for Racial Equality	£1,500	support for BME community
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
Exeter Age Concern	£5,000	to help support Age Concern to continue to provide services to Exeter residents
Exeter Community Transport Association – Ring & Ride	£13,140	one of five services provided by ECTA, to help people with disabilities access all areas of Exeter through various mobility solutions
Exeter Community Transport Association - Taxicard	£4,100	allows disabled people to claim back 50% of taxi fares to a maximum annual limit

Arts

Arts organisations subject to
Service Level Agreements
(a to g)

(a)	Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra	£0
(b)	Exeter Northcott	£70,321
(c)	Spacex	£11,365
(d)	Theatre Alibi	£17,686
(e)	Wren Trust	£0
(f)	Exeter Phoenix	£108,238
(g)	Exeter Barnfield	£8,250

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

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

Exeter Arts Council	£10,000	Following discussions with Exeter Arts Council it has been agreed that Exeter Arts Council should retain decision making and overall financial responsibility for the fund of £10,000 for the distribution and payment of Arts Grants on the condition that no more than £500 from this sum is allocated for the costs of running a charitable organisation and that Exeter Arts Council seek to increase the funding available for distribution by looking into, and making applications to, other sources of funding available to charities. The administration of the distribution of grants including the calling of meetings will be undertaken by Council Officers in the Arts and Events team
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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

(Report circulated)

6

NEW CORE/PROJECT GRANTS

Members whilst acknowledging the position with the grants budget expressed their concern that the Council was unable to support Exeter Community Transport Association – Shopmobility.

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

DECISIONS

BODY	RECOMMENDED	COMMENTS
Exeter Community Transport Association - Shopmobility	REFUSE	No new grant funds available 2011/12

(Report circulated)

(The meeting commenced at 4.30 pm and closed at 5.05 pm)

Chair