



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY POLICY AND RESOURCES

COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 8th JANUARY 2024

PRESENT: Cllr. B. Waterhouse (Chair); Cllrs: J. Barrett, S. Goodheart,
N. Smith, P. Wells and P. Woodall

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. R. Vervecken (Civic & Office Manager)
Mrs. J. Davis (Assistant Clerk)
3 members of the public

The Meeting opened at 6.30pm

102. WELCOME BY CHAIR

The Chair welcomed everyone present and read the Council's opening statement with particular attention drawn to the evacuation procedure in the event of the fire alarm sounding and the Council's Standing Orders relating to public question time.

103. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND THEIR APPROVAL, SUBJECT TO MEETING THE AGREED CRITERIA

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Miss. Needs, Oppler and Ralph, with the Clerk recommending that the reasons given were acceptable. These absences were therefore **APPROVED** unanimously by Members.

104. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair addressed those Members present to ask if they wished to confirm any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registrable and/or Ordinary Interests that they may have in relation to items on this Agenda.

As noted on the Agenda, Members and Officers should make their declaration by stating:

- a) the item they have the Interest in
- b) whether it is a Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registrable or Ordinary Interest
- c) the nature of the Interest

- d) if it is an Ordinary Interest whether they intend to temporarily leave the meeting for the discussion and vote
- e) if it is a Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Registrable Interest, and therefore must temporarily leave the meeting for the discussion and vote, whether they will be exercising their right to speak on this matter under Public Question Time.

They then need to re-declare their Interest and the nature of the Interest at the commencement of the item or when the Interest becomes apparent. They should request that it be recorded in the Minutes that they will leave the meeting and will neither take part in discussion, nor vote on the item.

As per the Agenda, it is each Member's own responsibility to notify the Monitoring Officer of all Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Registrable or Ordinary Interests notifiable under the Council's Code of Conduct, not already recorded on their Register of Interests Form, within 28 days.

The Chair reminded Members to declare their Interests as any arise or again at the relative point in the meeting if they have already.

Cllr. Goodheart declared an Ordinary Interest in Agenda item 6 in any discussion relating to Rox Music and Arts Organisation, stating he would not vote on this application owing to his involvement with them. He also declared an Ordinary Interest in the Bognor Regis Heritage & Arts Partnership Board, as a member

Cllr. Wells declared an Ordinary Interest in Agenda item 6 in relation to the Bognor Pier Trust C.I.C., and stated that as a member of the Trust, he would not take part when their application was discussed nor vote. He also declared an Ordinary Interest in the Bognor Regis Local History Society, as a member, on which he would not vote. Cllr. Wells declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in St Wilfrid's Hospice, stating that he would leave the room if necessary, having recently had dealings with them

Cllr. Woodall declared an Ordinary Interest in Agenda item 6 in any discussion relating to the Bognor Regis Carnival, Grandads Front Room C.I.C. or Southdown Music Festival, as a Town Council Representative to these groups

105. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND STATEMENTS

The Chair adjourned the Meeting at 6.34pm

The few members of the public present were afforded the opportunity to address Members directly on their Grant Aid applications, including their intentions for use of the funds, should their applications be successful.

One of those seated in the gallery stated that, in his opinion, the Town Council had been very generous in recent years, with the amount of funding made available to outside organisations, applying through the Grant Aid scheme. He felt that it would be sensible for all applicants to be 'self-aware', undertaking their own fundraising throughout the year, whilst also looking at other options, such as match-funding, rather than relying so heavily on the Town Council, for the majority of their revenue, particularly where a Grant Aid application was to cover 'running costs'.

The Chair reconvened the Meeting at 6.45pm

106. CONSIDERATION OF PARTNERSHIP FUNDING AND CRITERIA

Before moving to review the applications, the Chair reminded Members of the discussions that had previously taken place about the Town Council's 2024/25 Budget at the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 11th December 2023, which had included a recommended budget for Grant Aid 2024 and Partnership Funding (Min. 98.2 refers). It was Minuted that "the importance of supporting local groups should be balanced against a desire to see groups moving towards becoming more self-sufficient, sourcing funding from elsewhere, rather than continuing to rely on the Town Council's limited resources".

106.1 Bognor Regis Seafront Lights

Members noted the previous three-year agreement with Bognor Regis Seafront Lights, in which they received £9,000 per annum towards the cost of the provision and maintenance of decorative illuminations along Bognor Regis Seafront, had now come to an end. Members were, therefore, asked by the organisation to consider supporting them financially again, through a new three-year funding commitment.

Members unanimously **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to enter into a new three-year Partnership Funding Agreement with Bognor Regis Seafront Lights, to continue in their support of the decorative illuminations along Bognor Regis seafront, with a decreasing funding stream, as follows: -

- Year 1 (2024) - £6,000
- Year 2 (2025) - £4,500
- Year 3 (2026) - £3,000

106.2 Southdowns Music Festival

Members unanimously **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to enter into a three-year Partnership Funding Agreement with the Southdowns Music Festival, to continue to support this popular event within Bognor Regis Town Centre, with a decreasing funding stream, as follows: -

- Year 1 (2024) - £9,000
- Year 2 (2025) - £8,000
- Year 3 (2026) - £7,000

107. CONSIDERATION OF GRANT AID FUNDING FOR 2024

The Chair reported that over £99,000 had been requested from the 39 applications received for Grant Aid 2024, with the decreased budget standing at just £15,000, which inevitably meant many organisations would be left disappointed.

Members considered each application for Grant Aid, with regard given to the criteria set and the document checklist, which detailed what documents had been supplied with each application.

Cllr. Goodheart declared an Ordinary Interest in discussion relating to Bognor Coastal Art Trail, due to previously being involved with them, Bognorphenia C.I.C. as a Trustee, as well as Bognor Regis Local History Society and Bognor Regis Twinning Association, as a member of both organisations

Cllr. Wells redeclared his Ordinary Interest in discussion relating to the Bognor Pier Trust C.I.C., as a member

Following an initial review of all the Grant Aid 2024 applications, Members revisited each application and reaffirmed their decisions.

Members **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Grant Aid 2024 awards, as summarised to Members by the Assistant Clerk, and as attached to the Minutes as **Appendix 1**. Specific conditions were imposed for some grants as detailed (appended to file Minutes).

The Meeting closed at 7.54pm

Extraordinary P&R Committee Meeting 8th January 2024

Appendix 1

Applicant		Amount requested Grant Aid 2024	P&R decision for Grant Aid 2024	Comments
1	4 Sight Vision Support	£7,755.00	£1,000.00	
2	60 Minutes of Classical Music	£4,540.00	£750.00	
3	Age UK West Sussex, Brighton & Hove	£600.00	£0.00	
4	Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey Sussex	£500.00	£0.00	
5	Arun and Chichester Citizens Advice	£3,000.00	£500.00	
6	Arun Community Transport	£500.00	£100.00	
7	Arun Counselling Centre	£2,835.00	£0.00	
8	Bognor Coastal Art Trail	£3,000.00	£1,000.00	
9	Bognor Pier Trust C.I.C.	£5,606.89	£1,000.00	
10	Bognor Regis and Chichester District Samaritans	£950.00	£300.00	
11	Bognor Regis Armed Forces Day	£3,000.00	£800.00	
12	Bognor Regis Carnival Association	£6,500.00	£1,200.00	Conditional
13	Bognor Regis Town Show	£4,500.00	£800.00	
14	Bognorphenia C.I.C.	£2,500.00	£1,000.00	
15	Bognor Regis Local History Society	£1,500.00	£300.00	
16	Bognor Regis Seafront Lights (event)	£1,500.00	£0.00	
17	Bognor Regis Shopmobility	£7,500.00	£500.00	
18	Bognor Regis Twinning Association	£900.00	£400.00	
19	CAPITAL Project Trust	£500.00	£0.00	
20	Chestnut Tree House	£690.00	£0.00	
21	Family Support Work	£1,000.00	£300.00	
22	Felpham and Middleton Horticultural Society	£500.00	£0.00	
23	Girlguiding Bognor Regis	£500.00	£500.00	
24	Girlguiding Bognor Regis South District	£200.00	£200.00	
25	Grandads Front Room C.I.C.	£2,820.00	£2,000.00	
26	Home Start Arun Worthing and Adur	£1,000.00	£0.00	
27	My Sister's House C.I.O.	£500.00	£350.00	
28	Neighbourhood Watch (Hawthorn Road North Scheme)	£1,000.00	£0.00	
29	Pregnancy Options Centre	£1,000.00	£0.00	
30	Regis School of Music C.I.O.	£3,000.00	£500.00	
31	Rox Music & Arts Organisation	£7,000.00	£1,000.00	
32	Shore Community Church	£1,000.00	£0.00	
33	Soc!ety Dance Academy Ltd	£2,933.36	£0.00	
34	Southdowns Music Festival	£10,000.00	N/A	refer to Partnership Funding
35	St Wilfrid's Hospice (South Coast)	£1,000.00	£0.00	
36	UK Harvest	£3,000.00	£0.00	
37	West Sussex Guitar Club	£1,500.00	£200.00	
38	Young People's Shop	£2,316.00	£0.00	
39	Youth of Bognor (YoB Camp)	£1,000.00	£300.00	
Total Amount Rewarded			£15,000.00	
			£0.00	(unallocated)