



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY POLICY AND RESOURCES

COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 13th JANUARY 2025

PRESENT: Cllr. B. Waterhouse (Chair); Cllrs: S. Goodheart, F. Oppler,
N. Smith, P. Wells, P. Woodall and Mrs. G. Yeates

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. R. Vervecken (Civic & Office Manager)
1 Member seated in the public gallery
3 members of the public

The Meeting opened at 6.31pm

104. 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.

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

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

No apologies had been received from Cllr. Mrs. Warr.

106. 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. 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 vote when their application was discussed. He also declared an Ordinary Interest in any discussion relating to the Bognor Regis Armed Forces Day application, stating that his business is sponsoring the event

107. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND STATEMENTS

The Chair adjourned the Meeting at 6.33pm

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.

Representatives of the Bognor Regis Armed Forces Day Committee spoke of the significance of this year's event, which will serve as an opportunity to thank and celebrate the Armed Forces past, present and future, particularly with 2025 marking the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. The event in Bognor Regis this year hopes to build on the success of aspects such as the flying display enjoyed in 2024, with an extended parade planned for this year's event on Saturday 21st June 2025. A 'poppy wall' is being planned as a tribute to the 216 men and women who lost their lives during the War, with the community being encouraged to knit and crochet poppies to help form this special tribute. It was emphasised that many elements of the event depended on the level of funding awarded by Bognor Regis Town Council, whom the representatives hoped would want to support this event in 2025, particularly given the significance of the VE Day Anniversary.

The Chair of the Bognor Regis Carnival Association informed Members that this year marked the 10th Anniversary of the Carnival. With last year's event being 'bigger and better' than ever, the plan, funding dependent, is to continue to expand to bring even larger crowds to Bognor Regis, for this already inclusive and well-loved event.

A representative of 60 Minutes of Classical Music spoke of the 16th birthday of the organisation taking place in February 2025. With 50 concerts a year, all provided at a reasonable rate, the applicant went on to describe the atmosphere created at the concerts, describing it as 'different from any other'. With the concerts providing local people with an opportunity to access the arts, it is hoped that with further funding from the Town Council, this can be built upon again this year. Recent interviews with BBC Radio 4 were cited as particular successes, with the two main concerts for 2025 also detailed.

The Chair reconvened the Meeting at 6.42pm

108. CONSIDERATION OF PARTNERSHIP FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Cllr. Goodheart declared an Ordinary Interest in any discussion relating to Rox Music and Arts Organisation owing to his involvement with them. He also declared an Ordinary Interest in Bognor Pier Trust C.I.C. as a member and the Bognor Regis Twinning Association as the Town Council's representative

Cllr. Wells redeclared his Ordinary Interest in relation to the Bognor Pier Trust C.I.C., stating that he would not take part in the discussions nor the vote for Partnership Funding

Cllr. Woodall declared an Ordinary Interest in discussion relating to the Bognor Regis Carnival Association, as the Town Council's representative

The Committee Clerk detailed the applications identified for consideration under Partnership Funding, along with the amount of funding available to be awarded.

Members discussed the Chair's recommendations for consideration of Partnership Funding, which had been identified from the Grant Aid applications received for 2025. These were Bognor Pier Trust C.I.C., Bognor Regis Carnival Association and Bognor Regis Seafront Lights (Illuminate event). Members supported these recommendations, agreeing that they best fitted the partnership criteria agreed by Members of the Policy and Resources Committee, at their meeting held on 3rd June 2024 (Min. 17 refers).

The Chair suggested liaison should be held with the relevant organisations, to ensure these partnership proposals are in line with what the organisations are proposing to achieve with any funding provided and best value can be

attained.

Following the discussion, Members **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to enter into a three-year Partnership Funding Agreement with Bognor Pier Trust C.I.C., Bognor Regis Carnival Association and Bognor Regis Seafront Lights (Illuminate event), thus enabling liaison with the applicants once the agreement is reached on the funding levels to be awarded over the 3-year period. Final ratification of the level of funding to be awarded will be conducted by the Policy and Resources Committee at the next meeting.

Cllrs. Goodheart and Wells abstained from the vote.

109. CONSIDERATION OF GRANT AID FUNDING FOR 2025

Cllr. Mrs. Yeates declared an Ordinary Interest in any discussion relating to My Sister's House, having received hospitality from them at an event attended as Deputy Mayor, for which a hospitality form had been completed through the office. She stated she would not vote on this application

The Chair reported that over £69,000 had been requested from the 25 applications received for Grant Aid 2025, with the budget having once again been set at £15,000.

A Member spoke of the large number of youth applications submitted under the Grant Aid process and queried whether there was a more appropriate pot of funding for these to be directed toward. The Civic & Office Manager confirmed that many of these youth organisations, upon contact with the office, had been advised of the Youth & Young Persons Budget, which is a budget allocated by the Environmental and Leisure Committee. It was reported that some of the youth applications had also expressed plans to submit applications through the Youth & Young Persons Budget, when the new round of funding becomes available for this. Members acknowledged that it was up to the applicants to decide which funding stream to apply under, with final decisions then on how to allocate appropriate funding down to the individual Committees.

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.

Following an initial review of all the Grant Aid 2025 applications, including the Chair's recommendations for each, Members revisited each application and reaffirmed their decisions.

Members **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Grant Aid 2025 awards, as summarised to Members by the Civic & Office Manager, and as attached to the Minutes as **Appendix 1**.

Cllr. Wells abstained from voting on Bognor Regis Armed Forces Day application, due to his Ordinary Interest

The Meeting closed at 7.12pm

Applicant		Amount Requested Grant Aid 2025	P&R Decision for Grant Aid 2025	Comments
1	4 Sight Vision Support	£10,270.00	£1,000.00	
2	60 Minutes of Classical Music	£3,530.00	£1,000.00	
3	Arun Community Transport	£500.00	£250.00	
4	Arun Counselling Centre	£1,500.00	£500.00	
5	Bognor Coastal Art Trail	£2,000.00	£1,000.00	
6	Bognor Pier Trust CIC	£3,919.15	N/A	Partnership Funding
7	Bognor Regis Armed Forces Day Committee	£3,000.00	£2,120.00	
8	Bognor Regis Carnival Association	£4,500.00	N/A	Partnership Funding
9	Bognor Regis Foodbank	£4,402.26	£500.00	
10	Bognor Regis Shopmobility	£1,000.00	£500.00	
11	Bognor Regis Twinning Association (App. 1)	£500.00	£400.00	
12	Bognor Regis Twinning Association (App. 2)	£900.00	£500.00	
13	Bognor Regis Seafront Lights (Illuminate 2025 event)	£5,000.00	N/A	Partnership Funding
14	Family Support Work (FSW)	£1,000.00	£500.00	
15	Girlguiding Bognor Regis Division	£500.00	£500.00	
16	Girlguiding Bognor Regis South	£200.00	£200.00	
17	My Sisters' House CIO	£500.00	£500.00	
18	Resourceful Community Scrapstore CIC	£480.00	£480.00	
19	Rotary Club of Chichester Harbour	£5,000.00	£0.00	
20	Rox Music & Arts Organisation	£3,000.00	£1,000.00	
21	South Coast Sports Coastal CIC (App. 1)	£10,775.00	£1,800.00	
22	South Coast Sports Coastal CIC (App. 2)	£2,920.00	£0.00	
23	The Aldingbourne Trust	£2,992.00	£1,500.00	
24	West Sussex Guitar Club	£500.00	£250.00	
25	Youth of Bognor (YOB Camp)	£1,000.00	£500.00	
Total Amount Awarded			£15,000	
			£0	Unallocated