

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of a **MEETING** of the **COMMUNITY POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP**
held on 20 December 2021 at 2.15 pm

Present

Councillors

Mrs M E Squires (Chairman)
W Burke, L J Cruwys, J M Downes,
B Holdman, S Pugh and Mrs E J Slade

Apologies

Councillor(s)

Mrs E M Andrews

Also Present

Councillor(s)

R M Deed and D J Knowles

Also Present

Officer(s):

Andrew Jarrett (Deputy Chief Executive (S151)), Jill May (Director of Business Improvement and Operations), John Bodley-Scott (Economic Development Team Leader), Clare Robathan (Policy and Research Officer) and Carole Oliphant (Member Services Officer)

37 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (03.04)

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs E M Andrews.

38 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT (03.27)

Members were reminded of the need to make declarations where appropriate.

39 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (03.33)

There were no members of the public present.

40 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (03.45)

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th November 2021 were approved as a correct record and **SIGNED** by the Chairman.

41 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS (04.13)

The Chairman had no announcements to make.

42 GRANTS WORKING GROUP FINAL REPORT (04.20)

The Group had before it a *report from the Director of Place presenting the recommendations from the Community PDG Grants Working Group.

The Economic Development Team Leader outlined the contents of the report and explained that the Working Group had carried out a thorough review and that they had received presentations from all of the Strategic Partners.

Consideration was given to:

- Members views that although they were satisfied with the recommendation that there was not a mechanism for new organisations to apply for a Grant.

It was therefore **RECOMMENDED** to the Cabinet that:

1. The total Strategic Grants budget to remain at £138,500 for a period of 2 years, and that individual awards to Strategic Partners to remain at the 2020-2021 levels for this period.
2. The level of grant awards to individual partners for 2022-23 and 2023-24 were therefore recommended as:

| Organisation | Award 2021-2022 (£) | Award 2022-2023 (£) | Award 2023-2024 (£) |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| CHAT | 12,500 | 12,500 | 12,500 |
| Citizen's Advice | 15,500 | 15,500 | 15,500 |
| INVOLVE | 12,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| Mid Devon Mobility | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 |
| Grand Western Canal | 45,000 | 45,000 | 45,000 |
| Tiverton Museum | 27,500 | 27,500 | 27,500 |
| TIS | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Total | £138,500 | £138,500 | £138,500 |

(Proposed by the Chairman)

Reason for the decision: The allocation of grants provides support to external agencies delivering services that advance the Council's Homes, Community and Economy priorities.

Notes:

- I. Cllr L J Cruwys declared a personal interest as he was a Member of the Canal Advisory Committee
- II. *Report previously circulated and attached to the minutes

43 **MTFP PDF REPORT, 16/11/2021 COMMUNITY POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP (12.30)**

The Group had before it, and **NOTED**, the *Medium Term Financial Plan from the Deputy Chief Executive (S151) which covered the period 2022/2023-2026/2027 and provided options available in order for the Council to set a balanced budget.

The Leader explained that the budget was not just identifying cuts but the Council needed to look at improving revenue income.

The Deputy Chief Executive (S151) explained that updated detailed reports would be brought to the next meeting and would include details of the Governments funding

settlement which had just been announced. He stated that Leadership Team and Corporate Management had been tasked to look at £500k of savings and the effect that this would have on core services.

Consideration was given to:

- Car parking and leisure revenue had been impacted by the pandemic and it was still not clear if or when the levels would return to pre pandemic levels
- The Council needed to look at structural budget issues and those which were temporary and any shortfall may need a mixture of solutions including the use of reserves
- Commercial ventures which provided economic growth for the District should be investigated and long terms plans to realise these should be considered
- Any economic growth needed to be the right growth, in the right area and in the right way
- There had been issues with the external collection agency who collected the revenue from the car parking machines but this was being addressed.

Note: *Report previously circulated and attached to the minutes.

(The meeting ended at 2.54 pm)

CHAIRMAN