

Small Grants Panel

Meeting Notes of the Small Grants Panel held on 23 June 2011 Nicholson Room, The Copeland Centre

Present: Brian Hough (NDA)
Julie Betteridge (CBC)
Kevin Little (CCC)
Rachel Graham (CCF – Community Development Worker)
Paula Ratcliffe (CCF – Community Development Worker)

1. Apologies for absence

Paul Dodson (CCC)
Diane Ward (CBC)

Absent
K Elliott (CCF – Grants Officer)

2. Disclosures of interest

None

3. Notes of the Previous Meeting

20 May 2011 Notes approved

Actions from previous meeting:

Whitehaven Harbour Pontoon Investment – a concept paper from WHC will go to BEC executive.

ERUFC – BH updated that no funding would be forthcoming from NDA direct to EURFC. PR to meet with applicant 13 July. CRT to be considered to approach for funding.

4. Deferred applications from previous grants panel:

Phoenix Enterprise Centre

Application no: 960035

Grant Request: £20,000

Grant decision deferred.

Development Officer visited PEC with Chris Pickles CBC. Extract of email forwarded to panel that was approved.

The applicant expressed they have been cautious with their approach to the fund and only asked for one year funding based on the amount of match funding available to them and also the need to practically identify the exact needs of some of our digitally excluded communities, they wanted to identify the needs based on evaluation and user feedback through practical experience.

The applicant and development officer came up with the following proposal:

- *If the panel approve year one funding 50 % of grant would be paid upfront (£10,000)*

- After 6 months the applicant could submit a evaluation plan (based on evidence collated by the group including development logs ,interviews and statistics) standard CCF progress report and development plan for a three year project which will trigger the remaining Year 1 funding.
- At this point the Year 2 and 3 development plan/budget would go potentially to the CCF board if above £50,000 for a decision. This would also mean they have some match to draw in further match funding. And the development officers can work with the group to access this.
- This approach would enable the project to get up and running and allow PEC to tailor a wider 3 year project based on evaluation and user feedback.
- Avoid repeat applications to the Fund and encourage a forward planning exercise

The applicant anticipates that the project would service the Cleator Moor, Frizington, Egremont area and with the further development of a 3 year programme and if demand was high enough they could create partnerships to develop outreach workshops in Egremont, Whitehaven, Millom.

From the visit today I am satisfied that the applicant will be able to deliver this project well from the information they gave on partnership working and existing provision and the above proposal would enable a structured delivery of a wider 3 year project.

The applicant also has match funding that needs to be spent this financial year and needs to get the project up and running by June 1st. That is why I have emailed the panel for a decision instead of going to the next meeting. Although they did offer to do a presentation if required.

5. Award of Small Grants

New Rainbow Pre-School – Self Sustainability Objective

Application no: 960097

Grant Request: £8,400

BH asked for details with regard to the Business Plan. CDW advised that the application was appraised by the Grants Officer without being in receipt of the business plan.

Grant approved £8,400 with standard conditions.

- Grant panel approved that should match funding not be secured the grant could be increased to a maximum of £20,500 (the total shortfall for 3 years).

6. Emerging Projects Discussion

BH updated that an investment paper will be submitted to the board based on several emerging projects including Whitehaven Harbour and Pow Beck development. Where projects are eligible for both BEC and Copeland Community Fund they will be tabled at the BEC executive first.

7. AOB

North Copeland Youth Partnership – The group have had £9,088 approved from CCF last year, a condition of the grant was that the group should submit a BIG lottery Reaching Communities bid by the end of the year, the group have applied but have been unsuccessful.

The group are now looking for alternative match funding for Year 2 of the project and to also to recruit an additional worker for the Youth Club.

RG has asked the group to draft a budget and revise the request to CCF.

The panel agreed that the applicant need not reapply and the revisions be brought back to the panel.

Friends of Millom Park – have had grant from Community Spaces increased leaving much smaller shortfall of £1,861.50. They have enquired if they can use the funding for benches, additional equipment or picnic tables. **Panel agreed.**

Drigg and Carelton – the panel agreed that RST should have delegated authority for the renewal of offer letters for the annual commitment of £50,000 subject to an annual monitoring visit.

JB to liaise with locality working to discuss the potential of Drigg and Carleton working in partnership with other communities to invest their annual commitment funding.

Team budget and enabling fund – the 2011/12 contribution for the team wages and enabling Fund is now due.

JB to liaise with Joy Bain at CBC to arrange invoice to transfer £130,000 from CCC.

8. Date of Next Meeting

18 July 2011, 12.00 in the Nicholson Room, The Copeland Centre