STREET TRADING CONSENT FEE WAIVER APPLICATION

1 SUMMARY

1.1. This report requests Members to determine the fee due if Street Trading Consent is granted for a Second Hand Book Stall to be sited outside 89 High Street, Rayleigh between 8:30am and 4pm on Wednesday, 16th April 2003. The application form and plan is at Appendix 1.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Street Trading Consent is required for selling or exposing or offering for sale any article (including a living thing) in a designated street.
- 2.2 The provisions in the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 to control street trading are adoptive. The Council has resolved to adopt these provisions and therefore the determination of applications for Street Trading Consent is a statutory function. The Council has discretion to charge such fees as they consider are reasonable for the grant or renewal of Street Trading Consent.
- 2.3 Members have resolved that applications from charities and community groups for a waiver of the fee for granting a Street Trading Consent be reported for consideration (Minute 437/98).

2 FEE WAIVER APPLICATION

- 2.1 The application has been received from the Chairman of Guidewoods 2000 Committee who has requested that consideration be given to waiving the fee required for the grant of the Consent.
- 2.2 Guidewoods 2000 is a registered charity and the sale of books will help raise money for their building fund. The project is to provide a youth community centre for residential use at Guidewoods, Bullwood Approach, Hockley by:
 - Replacing their current World War II army huts with a new activity, educational and training centre for young people, to complement their four acre woodland site;
 - Providing a comfortable environment for overnight accommodation for community youth groups to use as a resource;
 - Making provision and equal opportunities for young people with disabilities and their carers, to take advantage of the centre;
 - Developing our commitment to health and safety through improved facilities.

2.3 A letter dated 7.2.03 enclosed with the application (see Appendix 2) provides full details about Guidewoods 2000.

4 PARISH IMPLICATIONS

4.1 This is a community project to undertake the sustainable and environmental development of Guidewoods, Bullwood Approach, Hockley and when completed will benefit the whole of the Rochford area.

5 **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Loss of £120 income if a 100% fee waiver is granted.
- 5.2 Members have previously delegated authority to the Head of Housing, Health & Community Care to determine applications for the waiver of public entertainment licence fees up to £1,000 (Minute 412/02) and a similar delegation might be considered for all future licence/consent fee waivers.

6 **RECOMMENDATION**

It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**:

- (1) The fee due if a Street Trading Consent is granted in respect of this application.
- (2) That authority be delegated to the Head of Housing, Health & Community Care to determine applications for the waiver of licence/consent fees up to £1,000. (HHHCC)

G P Woolhouse Head of Housing, Health & Community Care

Background Papers:

Letter and application for the grant of Street Trading Consent from Guidewoods 2000 dated 7.2.03.

For further information please contact Robert Peacey on:

Tel: 01702 318053 E-Mail: <u>robert.peacey@rochford.gov.uk</u>

133 **GUIDEWOODS 2000** 63 Love Lane Charity No. 302071 Rayleigh Essox SS6 7DX Tel/Fax: (01268) 770221 Email: DEREK@shephard8.freeserve.co.uk 7.2.03 Mr Robert Peacey **Rochford District Council** Council Offices South Street Rochford Essex SS4 1BW Your ref: RLP/20024306/EG Dear Mr Peacoy

Application for the Grant of Street Trading Consent Guidewoods 2000

Please find enclosed completed application, two photos and plan as discussed on 5th February 2003, and relevant information of our project. I am writing on behalf of the Fund Raising Committee of Rayleight and Castle Point Divisions of the Guide Association.

Would the connell please consider waiving the fee of £120 in this instance as we think that it is highly unlikely that this amount will be raised on the day. Guidewoods 2000 is a registered charity and the sale of books referred to will be a one-day only activity to help raise funds for our current building fund. This community project is to undertake the sustainable and environmental development of our site known as Guidewoods, Bullwood Approach, Hockley, Essex and when completed, will benefit the whole of the Rochford area.

For the past 35 years this site has been an introduction to countless young people to the outdoors and appreciation of this historic setting. It has helped them to develop emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually so that they may make a positive contribution to the community and the wider world. The site gives them an opportunity to be away from home in a woodland acting where they can acquire and practice leadership skills, decision making, taking responsibility as well as encouraging teamwork. This secure site comprises three acres of ancient woodland and one acre of grassland, a haven for birds and smaller species of wildlife with an abundance of flora and fauna. Each tree within the site has a preservation order attached. Our environmental programme of composting, coppioing and recycling wooden waste will continue, as at present, with all domations reserved from these activities used for the maintenance of the site.

We have approximately 1,800 members in the Rochford area in Guiding alone that could use the site, in addition to all the other youth organisations that have expressed a desire to use our new facilities.

17.3

The project is to provide a unique and magical youth community centre for residential use by:

- Replacing our current World War II army huts with a new activity, educational and training contro for young people, to complement our four-acre ancient woodland site
- Providing a comfortable environment for overnight accommodation for community youth groups to use as a resource
- Making provision and equal opportunities for young people with disabilities and their carers, to take advantage of the centre
- Developing our commitment to health and safety through improved incitities.

To date we have enthusiastically embraved this opportunity to improve our facilities and have raised the magnificent sum of £200,000 of the £265,000 needed, through fund raising ovents, donations and pledges. We have had Lottery bids declined as 'youth is no longer a priority' and we are not a 'politically correct' group within the Eastern Region allocation area.

The present site was opened in 1968 and has been self-funding from that time. This is a capital project and once operational will not require ongoing revenue. Our Business Plan is based on the levels of expected use and the site will continue to be run on a self-funding, non-profit making basis. Managerial and site maintenance is carried out by volunteers - 1200 hours in the past year.

For your information, I have consulted through my position as vice-chair of the Basex Council for Voluntary Youth Services, with the Youth Worker Parums of Southend and Thurtock together with local voluntary and statutory services of Southend, Rayleigh, Rochford and South East Essex. Through these discussions, I have, identified an urgent need for residential accommodation for youth, disadvantaged children, disabled and adult training at low cost. My past position, held for twelve years, as Duke of Edinburgh Adviser for South East Essex has made me fully aware of the need for young people to gain self-counidence and independence; we are confident our project will help us to achieve this.

Unless we replace our present building, the site will fall into disuse and neglect, which I feel would be a tragedy in that it will deprive future generations of youngsters the opportunity to enjoy the experiences our site can offer.

Other information available should you require: Full Business Plan (14 pages); Andited accounts; Annual report, Current Financial Statement; Plans; Estimated Building Costs; Best Value letter; Guidelines for current site.

Should your committee look favourably upon our cause, all monies raised on this day by our volunteers will help us to meet our shortfall. Your support for this project would help meet the needs of the community and will be much appreciated by everyone involved.

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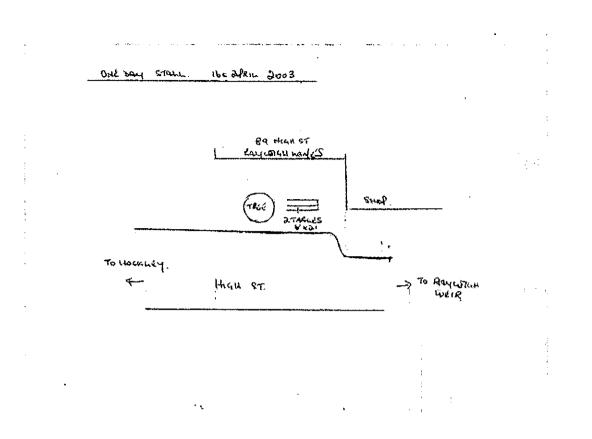
Yours sincerely

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Pat Shephard Chairman, Guidewoods 2000 Committee

POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE – 11th March 2003 Item 17

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