

Grants to Outside Organisations Sub-Committee – 26 July 2007

Minutes of the meeting of the **Grants to Outside Organisations Sub-Committee** held on **26 July 2007** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr T G Cutmore

Cllr Mrs H L A Glynn
Cllr K J Gordon

Cllr R A Oatham
Cllr Mrs M J Webster

VISITING

Cllr P F A Webster

OFFICERS PRESENT

P Warren	-	Chief Executive
S Pitts	-	Community Planning Officer
J Bostock	-	Principal Committee Administrator

ALSO PRESENT

R Rowson (Chairman of Trustees) and J McPherson (Manager of the Volunteer Centre), Rayleigh, Rochford and District Association for Voluntary Service.

5 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr T G Cutmore declared a personal interest in the item under consideration by virtue of being a Director and Chairman of the Ground Work Trust.

Cllr Mrs H L A Glynn wished to indicate that, notwithstanding involvement with a number of voluntary groups, she had no connection with the Rayleigh, Rochford and District Association for Voluntary Service.

7 GRANTS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS – RAYLEIGH, ROCHFORD AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive on the grant application from the Rayleigh, Rochford and District Association for Voluntary Service (RAVS).

The Chairman welcomed the representatives from RAVS who were in attendance to address any questions the Sub-Committee may have prior to a final decision.

Responding to questions, the representatives from RAVS outlined how projects are developed, the work undertaken with partners, how the work of

RAVS can relate to Local Area Agreement priorities and the core salary costs associated with the current staffing structure. Over eighty voluntary organisations were affiliated to RAVS. Discussion also centred on projects such as Wyburn Community Transport, the Young Carers Project and the Laptop Scheme and RAVS involvement with these. The representatives of RAVS left the meeting whilst the Sub-Committee reached a conclusion on the grant application. During discussion, Members noted the role which RAVS could play in assisting with the development of a vibrant voluntary sector community. It was also noted that recent changes had been made to the staffing/Governance structure, the organisation now being a charitable company limited by guarantee, and that the organisation had the potential to access funding for community projects in areas where the Council would not be able to. Reference was made to the levels of financial support provided to similar bodies by other Councils in Essex.

The Sub-Committee felt that it would be appropriate to ally any funding to the achievement of appropriate milestones, combined with a facility for regular review (three monthly by officers and six monthly review by Members). Reference was made to the value of involving the Sub-Committee Members that had been involved in determining the application.

Resolved

That, subject to it being related to key milestones and regular review (three monthly by officers and six monthly by Members), a three year service level agreement be developed for RAVS on the basis of funding allocations of £6,000 for 2007/08, £15,000 for 2008/09 and £27,000 for 2009/10, subject to meeting the milestones as set out.

The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm and closed at 6.40 pm.

Chairman

Date

If you would like these minutes in large print, braille or another language please contact 01702 546366.