

KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL

Audit, Grants and Charities Committee

**Monday 26th October 2020 at 7.00 pm
(Via Zoom)**

- PRESENT** Councillors Matt Severn (Chair), Julia Dunlop (Vice Chair), Rachael Hogg, Geoff Cook and Douglas Rathbone (Deputy Mayor)
- Jason Rushworth, Newsquest
- APOLOGIES** None
- OFFICERS** Judith Lomax (Town Treasurer), Chris Bagshaw (Town Clerk) and Nicky King (Council Secretary)
- 366/20/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- None.
- 367/20/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- None.
- 368/20/21 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27TH JULY 2020**
- The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 27th July 2020, which had been approved by full Council on 7th September 2020.
- Councillor Rathbone proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Cook and carried unanimously.
- RESOLVED** That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27th July 2020 be accepted as a correct record.
- MATTERS ARISING** (Not on Agenda)
- 369/20/21** None.
- 370/20/21 BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENT – SIX MONTHS ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020**
- The Budgetary Control Statement for the first half of the financial year was presented. The Treasurer advised that a Government Covid grant of £10k had been applied for and received. This will provide additional income for this financial year. There is no stipulation that its expenditure has to be Covid related.
- There is more budget remaining that would normally be expected at this point in the year due to the pandemic. Day to day running costs such as staff expenses etc are much as normal.

Councillor Dunlop proposed that the Budgetary Control Statement be approved. This was seconded by Councillor R Hogg and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That the Budgetary Control Statement be approved

371/20/21 INVESTMENT POLICY

Members were asked to consider the report on the Investment Policy for 2021/22. It was highlighted that the Internal Auditors have repeated their recommendation on spreading investments in their report on the 2019/20 accounts. The Treasurer advised that she has been looking into alternative investment options to spread the risk. Historically £180,000 has been invested with the Cumberland Building Society in a three months' notice account due to the high interest rate offered. This interest rate has reduced over recent years and currently stands at 0.7%.

The Town Clerk explained about the Local Authority Mutual Investment Trust used by Workington Town Council for its investments. It is an Investment Fund in property which uses its own assets to invest and then gives a return on that property. The fund is available to Local Authorities and has been in existence since the 1940's. It is run by the Churches, Charities and Local Authorities (CCLA) which takes a small commission.

A general discussion ensued. Committee agreed to investigate the CCLA option further. Councillor Cook proposed the Treasurer and Town Clerk request a report and/or presentation from the CCLA and the matter be added to the agenda of the next meeting for further discussion. This was seconded by Councillor Rathbone and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED Treasurer and Town Clerk to request a report and/or presentation from the CCLA. Item to be added to the agenda of the next meeting.

372/20/21 2021/22 BUDGET

373/20/21 a) Budget Proposals

Committee considered the budget requirements for 2021/22. The Treasurer commented that grant applications received for the next financial year currently exceed this year's budget and Committee may wish to consider increasing the budget for next year. Following discussion Members agreed they were not minded to increase the budget due to current Covid related pressure on finances and taking into account the additional £10k Government Covid grant received.

Councillor Cook proposed the budget proposals be accepted without change. This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED That the Budget Proposals for 2021/22 be accepted without change

374/20/21**b) Draft Reserves Policy 2021/22**

Committee considered the Draft Reserves Policy for 2021/22. The Treasurer highlighted that the Arts & Heritage Fund was credited with £8k last year following the sale of furniture.

Councillor Cook proposed that Council be recommended to approve the Draft Reserves Policy without amendment. This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That Council approve the Draft Reserves Policy for 2021/22 without amendment.

375/20/21**GRANT APPLICATIONS 2021/22**

The Treasurer advised that £21,500 has already been allocated for the third year payment for the 3-year grants awarded in 2019/20. Further applications received to date total £27,450, giving a total of £48,950. The total budget available is £41,000.

Councillor Cook raised the matter of the additional £10k Government Covid grant and asked how its expenditure should be decided. The Town Clerk suggested Committee discuss the matter and agree a suggestion, whether this be making up shortfalls in the grants programme or some other way.

Councillor Dunlop asked whether there was a timeframe for when the grant money has to be spent. The Treasurer will check on this point. She also asked how much money was available from budget and this was confirmed as £19,500 (excluding the £10k grant).

At this point Councillor Severn declared an interest in the application from Manna House as his wife is employed by them.

Committee then proceeded to consider the applications and the following recommendations were made:

Growing Well - request for £500.

Councillor Cook proposed a grant of £500 be awarded. This was seconded by Councillor R Hogg and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £500 be awarded.

Manna House - request for £5,000.

It was noted the request is almost double that of last year and was due to Covid related shortfall. Councillor Cook proposed a grant of £2,500 be awarded. Application to be earmarked for an additional amount of £2,500 from the £10,000 Government Covid grant. This was seconded by Councillor R Hogg and carried with 1 abstention.

Note: Councillor Severn took no part in the discussion for this application.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £2,500 be awarded. Application to be earmarked for an additional amount of £2,500 from the £10,000 Government Covid grant.

North West Air Ambulance Charity – request for £1,000.
Councillor Cook proposed a grant of £1,000 be awarded. This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £1,000 be awarded.

Great North Air Ambulance Service – request for £1,000
Councillor Cook proposed a grant of £1,000 be awarded. This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £1,000 be awarded.

South Lakeland Equality & Diversity Partnership – request for £150
Councillor Cook proposed deferment until later in the year. Councillor R Hogg proposed a grant of £100 be awarded as per last year. The proposal to defer was seconded by Councillor Rathbone and carried unanimously. Treasurer to liaise with the applicant.

RECOMMENDATION That the application be deferred.

1127 (Kendal) Squadron RAF Cadets – request for £1,500
Councillor Cook proposed a grant of £1,500 be awarded. Councillor R Hogg proposed a grant of £1,000 and this was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £1,000 be awarded.

Kendal Windows on Art - request for £750
Councillor Cook proposed a grant of £750 be awarded. This was seconded by Councillor R Hogg and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £750 be awarded.

Cumbria Alcohol and Drug Advisory Service – request for £5,850
Committee recommended that no grant be awarded due to the fact funding is requested towards a salary which is against normal KTC policy. Treasurer to liaise with the applicant to ensure they are aware of how applications are considered and ask if they have an alternative project they wish to apply for.

RECOMMENDATION That no grant be awarded due to the fact funding is requested towards a salary.

South Lakeland Hydrotherapy Trust – request for £3,000
Councillor Dunlop proposed a grant of £3,000 be awarded. This was seconded by Councillor R Hogg and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £3,000 be awarded.

Fairoak Housing Association/Friends of Fairoak – request for £500
Councillor Cook proposed a grant of £500 be awarded. This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £500 be awarded.

Outside-In Cumbria – request for £5,000

Councillor Dunlop proposed a grant of £2,500 be awarded. Application to be earmarked for an additional amount of £2,500 from the £10,000 Government Covid grant. This was seconded by Councillor Cook and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £2,500 be awarded. Application to be earmarked for an additional amount of £2,500 from the £10,000 Government Covid grant

Abbot Hall Bowling Club – request for £50

Councillor R Hogg proposed a grant of £50 be awarded. This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £50 be awarded.

Dance Ability – request for £100

Councillor Dunlop proposed a grant of £100 be awarded. This was seconded by Councillor R Hogg and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £100 be awarded.

Kendal Lads and Girls Club – request for £600

Councillor R Hogg proposed a grant of £600 be awarded. This was seconded by Councillor Cook and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £600 be awarded.

Lakeland Canoe Club – request for £2,450

Councillor Severn proposed a grant of £989 be awarded (the cost of 1 boat). This was seconded by Councillor Dunlop and carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION That a grant of £989 be awarded.

It was noted that following the award of grants agreed, a budget of £5,011 was available for the remainder of the year. The Treasurer commented that she had received a further application today for the best part of £5,000 and more were likely to be received.

Applications earmarked for an additional award from the £10,000 Government Covid grant were as follows:

Manna House – £2,500

1127 (Kendal) Squadron – £500

Outside-In – £2,500

376/20/21 ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

The Treasurer will contact grant recipients to request reports for inclusion in the newsletter.

377/20/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

January 2021 (to be advised).

The meeting closed at 8.27pm.

Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council	
370	Budgetary Control Statement	RES	That the Budgetary Control Statement be approved
371	Investment Policy	RES	Treasurer and Town Clerk to request a report and/or presentation from the CCLA. Item to be added to the agenda of the next meeting.
373	2021/22 Budget – Budget Proposals	RES	That the Budget Proposals for 2021/22 be accepted without change
374	2021/22 Budget – Draft Reserves Policy 2021/22	REC	That Council approve the Draft Reserves Policy for 2021/22 without amendment.
375	Grant Applications 2021/22	REC	<p>Growing Well – that a grant of £500 be awarded.</p> <p>Manna House – that a grant of £2,500 be awarded. Application to be earmarked for an additional amount of £2,500 from the £10,000 Government Covid grant.</p> <p>North West Air Ambulance Charity - that a grant of £1,000 be awarded.</p> <p>Great North Air Ambulance Service – that a grant of £1,000 be awarded.</p> <p>South Lakeland Equality & Diversity Partnership - that the application be deferred.</p> <p>1127 (Kendal) Squadron RAF Cadets - that a grant of £1,000 be awarded.</p> <p>Kendal Windows on Art - that a grant of £750 be awarded.</p> <p>Cumbria Alcohol and Drug Advisory Service - that no grant be awarded due to the fact funding is requested towards a salary.</p> <p>South Lakeland Hydrotherapy Trust - that a grant of £3,000 be awarded.</p> <p>Fairoak Housing Association/Friends of Fairoak - that a grant of £500 be awarded.</p>

		<p>Outside-In Cumbria - that a grant of £2,500 be awarded. Application to be earmarked for an additional amount of £2,500 from the £10,000 Government Covid grant.</p> <p>Abbot Hall Bowling Club - that a grant of £50 be awarded.</p> <p>Dance Ability - that a grant of £100 be awarded.</p> <p>Kendal Lads and Girls Club – that a grant of £600 be awarded.</p> <p>Lakeland Canoe Club - that a grant of £989 be awarded.</p> <p>Applications earmarked for an additional award from the £10,000 Government Covid grant as follows: Manna House – £2,500 1127 (Kendal) Squadron – £500 Outside-In – £2,500</p>
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