

Ray Windfarm Fund CIC Meeting

Date 22nd February 2024
Reed Hall, Bellingham
Time 7.00pm

1. In attendance

Action

David Burn, (DB) Chair; Alison Thomson (AT); Paul Cowie (PC); Phil Lawless (PL); Lesley Gosling (LG); Sarah Crone (SC); Sarah Lunn (SL) Martin Dickson-Green (MDG); Martin Chilvers (MC); Peter Ramsden (PR); Joanne Willis, (JW) CDO (Minutes)

Apologies Chris Robson (CR)

Non-Attendance Katie Wood (KW)

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Minutes of the last meeting 25th January 2024 and matters arising

Accepted as a true record with the addition the grant award for RTC should be recorded as being a one-off for the salaried position, this may be reviewed in the future.

4. Minutes of the ARC 15th February 2024

Accepted as a true record.

5. Applications

- **359 Capheaton Parish Council £1,650**

Request for a grant to make and install a new village noticeboard, using a local business. Directors would have preferred some financial contribution to be forthcoming from the applicant. Directors suggested that “Supported by RWF” should be either engraved on the noticeboard or a plaque added which will help to raise awareness of the Funds.

Scoring – Impact 35 Organisation 15 Engagement and Inclusion 18 Planning and Delivery 20 = Total 88

Unanimous decision to award £1,500 towards the cost of a new noticeboard.

- **320 Complete Boundary Solutions £20,000**

This application is requesting a grant towards the start-up costs of a local fencing contractor. There is a huge demand for reliable fencers currently due to changes in agricultural subsidies and stewardship agreements. The information requested at the last CIC meeting has been forthcoming. Directors suggested conditions to the grant award, namely, the business situates the premises within the area of benefit, the employment position is filled from the area of benefit, a business bank account is set up, evidence of the match funding applied for being granted and if not that the position is in a financial position to begin trading and that receipted invoices are supplied for the machinery to be purchased.

Scoring – Impact 35 Organisation 15 Engagement and Inclusion 15 Planning and Delivery 15 = Total 80

Majority decision to award £20,000 once the conditions listed are met.

6. IVAR membership/ Director training

JW

PyC have passed on information about a membership they hold which could provide useful information for Directors, however, this only related to charitable giving and is not relevant to business grants. It was highlighted that core costs are covered by many grants to enable organisations to continue providing a service. Community Foundation also offer

training, JW to request a synopsis of training sessions they could offer, for newer Directors and those that wished for a refresher. JW to investigate how PyC approach training.

7. Supporting core costs – 344 North Tyne Youth PEF

As a result of the information circulated from IVAR regards supporting core costs, it was decided to revisit the Preliminary Enquiry Form from North Tyne Youth, as without the funding towards core costs, it is difficult to maintain the youth club provisions that are currently offered throughout the area of benefit. **Invite a full application.**

8. Directors terms of office, register of skills and declarations of interest.

JW

Following a recent policy review it was decided to ask for updated skills and register of interest information on a yearly basis, JW requested that these be returned. DB is due to stand down as Chair in July 2024 after serving 4 years and SC is the current Vice Chair. JW asked if any Directors would like stand as Chair, with the potential to vote for a candidate, no declarations were received, therefore SC will become Chair in July. Directors to think about the Vice Chair position. It was noted that parishes such as Wallington and Rothley that were 100% within the area did not have a parish representative, JW to enquire whether the PCs had any candidates they wished to put forward for interview for the position of Director. There are a potential two positions that could be filled.

10. AOB

JW

- JW gave details of an EAT enquiry, from the parent of a 13-year-old wishing to attend a specialist ballet school. JW to invite an application.

Closed 8.15pm