

Ray Windfarm Fund CIC Meeting

Date 25th January 2024
Kirkwhelpington Village Hall
Time 7.00pm

1. In attendance

Action

David Burn, (DB) Chair; Katie Wood (KW); Chris Robson (CR); Alison Thomson (AT); 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 Paul Cowie (PC)

Non-Attendance Phil Lawless (PL)

2. Declarations of interest

DB 360 Birtley VH, MDG B4RN.

3. Minutes of the last meeting 23rd November 2023 and matters arising

Accepted as a true record

4. Minutes of the F & GP 9th January 2024

Accepted as a true record.

5. Notes of the ARC 18th January 2024

Accepted as a true record.

6. Applications

- **320 Corsenside Parish Hall £24,826**

This is the only community building in the villages of East and West Woodburn, and the funds will enable them to complete their extensive refurbishment completing the external cladding of the building and sheep wool insulation to two walls. The community should have the use of such a facility if required. There is minimal financial input from the applicant and fundraising should be encouraged.

Scoring – Impact 35 Organisation 18 Engagement and Inclusion 15 Planning and Delivery 15 = Total 83

Unanimous decision to award £20,000 and encourage the balance be raised through fundraising efforts.

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

Request for funding for a business start-up. CR gave his financial assessment of the very well presented application. There are several points that require addressing, credit terms for customers that have not been factored into the cashflow - can the business cover this? Salary breakdown requested, confirmation of the match funding, need to see the unconditional offers of finance.

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

Defer until responses to the queries raised are answered.

- **327 RTC £10,000**

Request for funding towards a Centre and Development Manager position. The RTC has made a lot of progress since new trustees were elected last summer, increasing the footfall and participation dramatically. To ensure this continues and help to secure the future of the centre this salaried position is required. The RTC is providing funds to match the award.

Scoring – Impact 40 Organisation 18 Engagement and Inclusion 18 Planning and

Delivery 18 = Total 94

Unanimous decision to award the full amount, payment in two tranches with a report half-way through the year.

- **355 Neil Jones Property Development £12,000**

Funding towards the costs of a second-hand dumper to lessen the cost incurred for hire and haulage which is passed to customers, to ensure the sustained employment of subcontractors and potentially create further employment. CR gave his financial assessment of the business. The applicant is providing some funding, ensure this has been secured and the company is registered with the Construction Industry Scheme for tax purposes for the payment of the subcontractors.

Scoring – Impact 30 Organisation 18 Engagement and Inclusion 18 Planning and Delivery 18 = Total 84

Majority decision to award £12,000, on the condition the queries are answered satisfactorily.

- **360 Birtley Village Hall £1,500**

DB left the room.

Request for funding the cost of the repair of dry rot in the supper room a local tradesperson has been approached and formal quote provided. This is a one-off expense for the repair.

Scoring – Impact 38 Organisation 18 Engagement and Inclusion 18 Planning and Delivery 18 = Total 92

Unanimous decision to award the full amount.

7. School and Pre-school report

**JW
KW**

KW delivered the report produced and outlined the need to support the pre-schools and nurseries within the AoB, some of whom are stand alone charities and not run within the Primary or First Schools. With the changing legislation and children now awarded 15 free childcare hours from the age of two this could impact on the facilities in our area.

JW and KW to liaise over letter to pre-schools and nurseries.

Unanimous decision to award the standard £10,000 split between the six primary and first schools for the spring term, also to award all six pre-schools and nurseries a fixed sum and to backdate for the autumn term, £7,500 in total.

8. B4RN Update

MDG reported that there had been two public meetings at Barrasford and Gunnerton, inviting interested parties to talk to B4RN, B4NTR and find out about the public investment. If households invest £1,500 for three years, the £60 connection fee is waived and they will receive £225 at the end of 3 years from their investment. Route 2 will be started as the contractors are on the ground and would like to keep the project rolling. The money from the government through Gigabit vouchers is only paid out once a property is connected, therefore there is a continuous need to monitor cashflow. SL impressed upon Directors that the communities were grateful to the RWF for their grant and what it will deliver for the area.

MDG left the room.

Directors discussed the award made to B4RN and the previous conditions imposed regarding the need to raise the full investment figure prior to the remaining £34,000 being transferred. Directors agreed that this could stall the digging progress being made and reconsidered. Unanimous decision to transfer the allocated £34,000 now on receipt of invoices.

9. Risk Assessment

Reviewed and happy to accept.

10. AOB

JW

- JW gave details on an EAT enquiry received today, Directors agreed that the applicant lived outside the area of benefit and therefore there was insufficient community benefit.
- Wallington PC Ref 364 PEF discussed from ARC meeting. JW had circulated the speed survey conducted by the council. It was felt that there was not sufficient need for the speed signs, JW will decline the application, other measures to slow traffic should be approached with NCC.
- SDF081 NT & RCP request for £221.64 towards preloved clothes collections and community pop up shops. Support from SC, AT, LG, DW. JW to advise.

Closed 8.25pm