

Ray Windfarm Fund CIC Meeting

Date 28th March 2024

By Zoom

Time 7.00pm

1. In attendance

Action

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

Non-Attendance

2. Declarations of interest

MDG Application 390 B4RN

3. Minutes of the last meeting 22nd February 2024 and matters arising

Accepted as a true record.

4. Minutes of the F & GP 12th March 2024

Accepted as a true record.

5. Notes of the ARC 21st March 2024

Accepted as a true record.

6. Applications

JW advised Directors there was approximately £79,000 to spend before the grant year end.

- **344 North Tyne Youth £25,000 per year for three years**

Request for a grant for a salary for a youth worker operating at clubs within the area of benefit. Match funding has been secured from two other sources, the multi-year grant allows NTY to future-proof and ensure consistent youth provision for the area.

Scoring – Impact 38 Organisation 18 Engagement and Inclusion 20 Planning and Delivery 18 = Total 94

Unanimous decision to award the full amount for three years.

- **370 Otterburn Memorial Hall £5,000**

This application is requesting a grant towards the repairs to the Memorial Hall roof which will allow solar panels to be fitted in the future.

Scoring – Impact 35 Organisation 18 Engagement and Inclusion 18 Planning and Delivery 15 = Total 86

Unanimous decision to award the full amount.

- **378 Bellingham Golf Club £2,000**

This application is requesting a grant to enable the club to run more sessions for children, young people and ladies to attract more of that demographic to the club.

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

Unanimous decision to award the full amount.

- **387 Kirkwhelpington Parish Council £1,100**

This application is requesting a grant towards the replacement of the cradle swing in the playpark.

Unanimous decision to award the full amount.

- **392 Otterburn Primary School £1,000**

Request for funding towards the residential trip for school years 5 and 6.

Unanimous decision to award the full amount.

- **393 Otterburn Resident £1,500 EAT Bursary**

The applicant wishes to attend Bishop Burton College in Yorkshire and has a conditional offer of a place depending on grades.

Unanimous decision to award the full amount, conditional on place being secured.

- **390 B4RN £350,000**

Request for the top-up funding for the Kirkwhelpington and Woodburn builds for the gigabit broadband which is planned to commence in summer 2024. The application has been placed in a timely manner. MDG told Directors that the wayleaves are in place and that all alternative funding opportunities have been exhausted such as Green Rigg, Tarmac, Lottery Funding. The local community investment has been forthcoming for this project with more to raise.

Directors discussed the amount of the request and the possibility to split over several years. This is a huge project of significant importance for our area and should be supported. JW to speak to Vattenfall to seek their views on a proposal to award the amount but split over three years.

Defer to next meeting once Vattenfall consulted.

7. Transport Funding

JW

JW has spoken to Liz Prudhoe of Adapt about the bus route funded by RWF from Byrness to Morpeth, Liz to confirm the amount for next year. Liz had suggested an Adapt and RWF partnership to fund a second bus to offer alternative routes on different days for residents of the area as demand was high. Invite Liz to April CIC to discuss further.

8. AOB

- Chollerton Preschool SDF request for £500 to fund the parents and children summer trip to Northumberland Zoo. **Approved by Directors.**
- Bird in Bush enquiry about offering cycling equipment for bike repairs at its new café venture. The old bike café in Elsdon has closed and BiB would like to offer means for cyclists to repair their bikes e.g. compressor, puncture repair kits and bike stands alongside its new café venture. Directors suggested to apply to Small Donations fund with full costings and guarantee that PC permission not required.

Closed 8.00pm