

These Minutes should be referred to in conjunction with the Minutes of the subsequent meeting of the Council, where they are presented; and for completeness to the next relevant meeting when the Minutes are adopted.

ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION MAKING - RESOURCES

Report of decisions taken on 12 July 2017

Present:

C.R. Sadler (Portfolio Holder for Resources)

Also present:

Mrs. J.R. Turner

1/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In respect of agenda item 2 (Minute No. 2/17 refers) – Applications for Sports Grants 2017/18, whilst not a disclosable pecuniary interest or other interest under the Code of Conduct, Mrs. J.R. Turner wished that it be noted that she was one of the Council's representatives on the Elmbridge Sports Council. She also wished that it be noted that in respect of agenda item 2 (Minute No 2/17 refers) – Applications for Sports Grants 2017/18 and agenda item 3 (Minute No. 3/17 refers) – New Lease to Elmbridge Canoe and Kayak Club, she was the Council's Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture.

MATTERS OF REPORT

2/17 APPLICATIONS FOR SPORTS GRANTS 2017/18

(Link to Council Priorities: P3)

The Portfolio Holder for Resources considered a report that detailed the applications for sports grants in 2017/18 that had been received from individuals and clubs. The Council had provided a sum of £10,000 in its 2017/18 revenue budget for grant aid distribution to sports individuals and local sports clubs.

The Portfolio Holder noted that the Elmbridge Sports Council Grants Sub-Committee had considered the applications and had recommended that grants totalling £4,330 and £5,670 be awarded to individuals and clubs respectively.

The Portfolio Holder acknowledged that a small number of applications had not been supported and whilst confirming that all the applications had been rigorously assessed against the grant aid criteria, the Sports Development Officer took the opportunity to provide the reasons why grants had not been awarded in this regard.

On consideration of the report, the Portfolio Holder for Resources

RESOLVED that

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- (a) the grants to be awarded to individual sports persons and sports clubs in 2017/18, as recommended by the Elmbridge Sports Council Grants Sub-Committee (on behalf of the Elmbridge Sports Council General Committee), be agreed; and
- (b) all grants awarded be subject to a condition that they be claimed by the end of the financial year following the year of approval, after which they would no longer be available.

3/17 NEW LEASE TO ELMBRIDGE CANOE AND KAYAK CLUB

(Link to Council Priorities: AMP3 – Rental Revenue)

The Portfolio Holder for Resources considered a report that sought agreement to grant a new 15-year lease to Elmbridge Canoe and Kayak Club, Walton Lane, Weybridge.

Whilst the Council had previously let the property to the Elmbridge Canoe and Kayak Club by way of a 30-year lease, upon expiry, the Club had been offered a new 15-year lease originally intended to be within the provisions of the 1954 Landlord and Tenant Act Part II and offering security of tenure upon expiry. However, the Club's advisers had omitted to secure a new grant within the required timescale. This technical oversight afforded the Council the opportunity of offering a lease outside the protection of the Act, in accordance with established policy, if it chose to do so.

Noting the above, negotiations had resulted in an agreement to grant the Club a 15-year lease, which it was felt would satisfy the needs of the Club as well as retaining a measure of control for the Council.

The Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture queried the length of the proposed lease given that longer leases were required if the leaseholder wished to apply for external funding. The Head of Asset Management and Property Services advised that a 15-year lease was now the standard term. However, should leaseholders wish to apply for external funding, the Council would provide a letter of comfort which, for Sporting Bodies, had been accepted in the past.

The Head of Asset Management and Property Services drew attention to an anomaly within the report. To be consistent with the Council's policy, the Term of the lease in the report should have stated that it would be let outside of Section 24-28 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 Part II. The Portfolio Holder noted that a grant within the Act would provide the lessee with business security on lease expiry

Given that the report had been published and was therefore within the public domain and taking account of other considerations, the Portfolio Holder agreed that the lease should be let on the Heads of Terms as set out in the report. Accordingly, the lease would be offered for a term of 15-years within the provisions of Section 24-28 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 Part II. However, there were other factors to consider. There was an acknowledgment

