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Elmbridge Borough Council

Local Spending Board - Walton-On-Thames

Report of a meeting held on Thursday, 19 September 2019

Members of the Committee:

* A. Kelly (Chairman)

*	Mrs. C.J. Cross	*	Mrs. C. Richardson
*	Mrs. C. Elmer	*	C.R. Sadler
*	M.F. Howard		G.L. Woolgar
*	A.H. Kopitko		
*	Rachael I. Lake		

* Denotes attendance

1/19 To Appoint a Chairman for the 2019/20 Municipal Year

The Walton-on-Thames Local Spending Board appointed A. Kelly as Chairman for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

2/19 Declarations of Interest

In respect of all the bids, whilst not a disclosable pecuniary or any other interest under the Code of Conduct, all Members wished that it be noted that they were acquainted with the applicants.

In respect of the bid submitted by the Elmbridge Community Fishing Academy (ECFA), Rachael I. Lake declared a pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct by virtue of being the founder and ECFA Management Board Member. She left the room during deliberation of the application.

In respect of the bid submitted by the Sunbury and Walton Sea Cadets, whilst not a disclosable pecuniary or any other interest under the Code of Conduct, Rachael I. Lake wished that it be noted that in her capacity as a Surrey County Councillor, she had previously contributed funds to this project.

In respect of the bid submitted by Walton Oak school, whilst not a disclosable pecuniary or any other interest under the Code of Conduct, A. Kopitko wished that it be noted that he was employed by the school.

3/19 Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 March 2019

The Minutes of the meeting of the Walton-on-Thames Local Spending Board on 18 March 2019 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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4/19 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman informed the Walton-on-Thames Local Spending Board that apologies had been received from Mrs. C.J. Cross and G.L. Woolgar.

Matters of Report

5/19 Walton on Thames Local Spending Report

The Walton-on-Thames Local Spending Board considered a report that summarised the five applications received by the Council which sought Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds:

- Sunbury and Walton Sea Cadets, which was seeking £52,803 needed to secure the final phases of the new facility to complete the project.
- Walton-on-Thames Trading Alliance, which was seeking £80,000 to install play and fitness stations within Ashley Park, Walton-on-Thames.
- Elmbridge Community Fishing Academy, which was seeking £15,000 to fund the creation of kitchen facilities and angling equipment storage.
- Walton Oak School, which was seeking £14,000 to procure a double decker bus for conversion into an outdoor play and learning space.
- Elmbridge Borough Council, which was seeking £80,000 for works to reconfigure and upgrade the space within the Walton Community Hub.

The Chairman clarified that there was £118,989.89 available for the settlement area of Walton-on-Thames and the total amount requested from the Community Infrastructure Levy budget for these projects was £241,803. Therefore, Members were reminded that there was insufficient funds for all the applications under consideration and only the amount of available funding could be awarded.

The Chairman asked the applicants to present their respective applications in a timely manner.

(a) Sunbury & Walton Sea Cadets - Building for the Future Application

The Walton -on-Thames Local Spending Board invited Ms. G. Tellet and M. Middleton, representatives of Sunbury and Walton Sea cadets to the meeting.

M. Middleton explained that the Sunbury and Walton Sea Cadets had been established in 1953 and after severe flooding in 2014 the training centre had dilapidated and rebuilding the training centre would enable the Sea Cadets to continue to support its current and future memberships.

Members were supportive of the application and on consideration of the application the Local Spending Board

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Resolved that £50,000 be awarded to the Sunbury and Walton Sea Cadets towards the 'Building For the Future Project'.

(b) Walton-on-Thames Trading Alliance - Fitness Stations in Ashley Park Application

The Walton-on-Thames Local Spending Board invited Ms. J. Gordon and G. Mann, representatives of Walton-on-Thames Trading Alliance to the meeting.

Ms. Gordon explained that installing a new play and fitness station at Ashley Park would benefit the wider community and attract more people to visit Walton-on-Thames. The Board noted the following proposed three phases of the programme:

Proposed Play Area Development 1 - £47,000 (includes the activity trail, swings and climbing frame)

Proposed Play Area Development 2 - £25,000 (young children play area)

Proposed Play Area Development 3 - £11,000 (fitness trail)

Given that the phases could be developed over time, Members agreed to support Development 1 of the project.

Accordingly, on consideration of the application the Local Spending Board

Resolved that £47,000 be awarded to Walton-on-Thames Trading Alliance in respect of Play Area Development 1 portion of the programme.

(c) Elmbridge Community Fishing Academy - Kitchen & Secure Storage Fit-Out Application

The Walton-on-Thames Local Spending Board invited Rachael. I. Lake and A. Petipher, representatives of the Elmbridge Community Fishing Academy (ECFA) to the meeting.

Rachael. I. Lake explained that the requested funding amount was for the provision of secure storage and the creation of kitchen facilities.

Members noted that the ECFA had been unsuccessful in obtaining funds from the Strategic Spending Board on 4 September 2019 in respect of erecting a new building. Some Members raised concerns with allocating funds towards this application as there was no building to support the project. The Board agreed to part-fund the application to give the ECFA the opportunity to launch its project and hoped this would encourage other alternative sources of funding.

Accordingly, on consideration of the application the Local Spending Board

Resolved that £7,500 be awarded to The Elmbridge Community Fishing Academy towards the secure storage for the angling equipment only.

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(d) Walton Oak School - OPAL Play Bus Application

The Walton-on-Thames Local Spending Board invited Ms. M Watts and Ms. L. Brough, representatives of Walton Oak School to the meeting.

Ms. Watts explained that funds were not available to expand the school to create new classrooms and as an alternative the school was seeking funds to support the procurement of a double-decker bus for converting into an outdoor play and learning space which could be used throughout the year.

Members fully supported the application and the Local Spending Board

Resolved that £14,000 be awarded to Walton Oak School for the Opal Play Bus project.

(e) Elmbridge Borough Council - Walton Community Hub Reconfiguration Application

The Chairman explained that the respective officer was not able to attend due to personal reasons, however a briefing note had been provided by the officer outlining representations for the proposed funding amount.

Members wanted it noted that they supported the proposal, however were of the view that the Walton Community Hub served the Borough as a whole and the Council should seek alternative funding, suggesting that this application would be more appropriate for the Strategic Spending Board or to be funded through the Capital Programme.

On consideration of the application, the Local Spending Board

Resolved that no funding be awarded on this occasion to Elmbridge Borough Council in respect of the Walton Community Hub.

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm and concluded at 8.41 pm

A. Kelly
Chairman

Democratic Services Officer

Miss. S. Ullah

Committee and Member Services Officer

Other Officers in attendance

Ms. S. Parkes

Planning Policy & Strategic Manager

Mrs. J. Pourier-Benham

Infrastructure Delivery Co-ordinator