

## PADSTOW TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on Tuesday 15 February 2022 at 7.00 pm in the Church Rooms, Church Street, Padstow

**Present:** Councillors R Higman (Chairman), J O'Keefe (Vice Chairman), Mrs J Dawe, K Freeman, M Rickard, D N Vivian (part), Mrs T Walter and C Watson-Smyth

**In Attendance:** Mrs N Barnes (Responsible Financial Officer), Mrs S Daly (Support Officer and Minute taker), Councillor A N Rees and 8 members of the public.

**FGP2021/25      Apologies:** There were no apologies for absence.

**FGP2021/26      Announcements:** There were no announcements.

**FGP2021/27      Declarations of Interest:** The following declarations of interest were declared under agenda item 7) Grants 2022/23:

- Councillor J O'Keefe: Blue Ribbon 'Obby Oss Party and The Old Oss Party;
- Councillor Mrs J Dawe: Blue Ribbon 'Obby Oss Party, The Old Oss Party, Padstow Parochial Church Council and Padstow Christmas Lights Committee;
- Councillor K Freeman: Royal British Legion;
- Councillor M Rickard: Padstow & District Sea Angling Association.

**FGP2021/28      Public Participation:** Members of the public spoke in support of grant applications made on behalf of Trevone War Memorial Village Hall, the Royal British Legion, Blue Ribbon 'Obby Oss Party, The Old Oss Party and Cornwall Air Ambulance. Comments included:

Trevone War Memorial Village Hall: The hall is an old Nissan hut in very bad condition. The group have been fundraising for a number of years. Match funding has been promised from other organisations when  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the costs have been raised based on an estimate of £180,000. They are close to original target but cost of project has increased, now nearer £200,000.

Royal British Legion – Padstow Branch: Looking for a grant to help with the refurbishment of the remembrance garden at St Petroc's Church. They have an elderly membership, many of whom struggle with the general upkeep, therefore looking to make the garden maintenance free and to refurbish existing plaques.

Blue Ribbon 'Obby Oss and The Old Oss Party: Both organisations commented that operational costs and Health and Safety requirements associated with May Day were

growing, any contribution towards these would be gratefully received.

Cornwall Air Ambulance: Looking to fund additional training for paramedics (masters training) and were asking all Town and Parish Councils in Cornwall for support. The air ambulance had been out numerous times to Padstow. They are looking to fund extra resources.

**FGP2021/29** **Minutes Tuesday 23 November 2021: RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 23 November 2021 were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the chair.

**FGP2021/30** **Budget Summary and Budget to Actual Variance Report 2021/22:** The budget summary and budget to actual variance report 2021/22 was noted.

**FGP2021/31** **Grants 2022/23:** One member addressed Committee noting that the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) had checked that all requests for grants were allowable. They commented that despite COVID the revenue for 2021/22 had exceeded expenditure. They felt that a number of the larger requests were likely to be much lower in the future, once organisations' revenue streams were "back on track". They considered that on this occasion therefore, in recognition of the difficult times for organisations, all of the grant applications be paid in full and the shortfall vired from Council Reserves.

There was some discussion that a decision to increase the grants should be made during budget setting and not raised during the grants meeting itself. Concern was also expressed that this could set a precedent.

In response to a member query, the RFO advised that she did not recommend changing the budget at this stage but that it was possible to vire money from the Contingency Budget heading in Capital and Projects. Committee would need to allocate the £25,000 budget and then recommend to Full Council that the remaining £16,690 be vired.

**(a) RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** that on this occasion, in recognition of the difficult times for all local organisations, Padstow Town Council agree to pay all of the grant applications in full and to vire funds from the Contingency Budget in Capital and Projects, to cover the extra costs.

**Councillor D N Vivian left the meeting and did not return.**

*[The following resolution (b) was made and would only apply should Full Council not support the recommendation made by Committee above (a)]*

**(b) RESOLVED** that the grants budget for 2022/23 be awarded and released as per Council's Policy as follows:

**LGA Miscellaneous Provisions Act s19**

**Councillors J O'Keefe and Mrs J Dawe left the meeting for the following items.**

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|-----|-----------------------------|--------|
| i)  | Blue Ribbon 'Obby Oss Party | £2,750 |
| ii) | The Old Oss Party           | £2,750 |

**Councillor J O'Keefe returned to the meeting**

**LGA 1972 s 144 Tourism**

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| i) | Padstow Christmas Lights Committee | £3,070 |
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**LGA Miscellaneous Provisions Act s19**

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| iii) | Padstow Parochial Church Council | £nil |
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- It was considered the request could be funded from revenue streams such as Church Room hire.

**Councillor Mrs J Dawe returned to the meeting**

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| iv)   | Padstow School PTFA (Friends of Padstow School) | £950   |
| v)    | Padstow & District Flower Club                  | £100   |
| vi)   | Padstow Sea Cadet Unit                          | £2,150 |
| vii)  | Padstow & Baby Toddler Group                    | £350   |
| viii) | The Carers Club, Trevone                        | £200   |
| ix)   | Trevone War Memorial Village Hall               | £6,000 |
| x)    | Padstow Museum                                  | £Nil   |
| xi)   | Padstow United Youth & Girls FC                 | £1,500 |

**Councillor M Rickard left the meeting for this item**

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| xii) | Padstow & District Sea Angling Association | £200 |
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**Councillor M Rickard returned to the meeting**

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| xiii)  | Nadelik Lowen Padstow               | £1,000 |
| xiv)   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Padstow Girl Guides | £180   |
| xv)    | Padstow Sailing Club CIO            | £Nil   |
| xvi)   | Padstow & District Lions Club CIO   | £1,000 |
| xvii)  | Wednesday Watering Hole             | £500   |
| xviii) | Padstow Rowing Club                 | £600   |

**Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s26-29**

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| i) | Padstow & District Community Transport Committee felt unable to award a grant until the future of the organisation is established. | £Nil |
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**LGA 1972 s137**

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| i) | Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust | £200 |
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**Councillor K Freeman left the meeting for this item**

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| ii) | Royal British Legion, Padstow Branch | £1,500 |
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**Councillor K Freeman returned to the meeting**

**FGP2021/32**

**Date of Next Meeting:** To be confirmed.

Meeting closed at 7.45 pm.