

Grants to Voluntary and Community Groups 2005/06. Part B.

Area Committees have been considering grant recommendations from applicants in the February cycle of meetings.

Officer recommendations have been accepted at Cowley and North. North East and East area have not yet met at the time of writing.

Executive Board are advised that South East and Central South West area committees have disagreed with some of the grant recommendations submitted. Minutes from both meetings are attached below.

The current grants process is based around a central operated budget which any eligible Oxford City organisation can apply to, therefore the allocation is made to the applicant organisation and not by geographical or ward area. Allocation is based on applications received rather than the assumption that Area Committees have part of the grants budget to allocate as they wish.

The impact of Area Committees allocating more than has been recommended or reallocating amongst applications being considered could result in overspending or unsound decisions.

This issue has usefully highlighted that there needs to be clarification and clear guidance on future decision making on grants. This will be addressed in the grants review that will inform decisions from 2006/07 onwards.

In the meantime Executive Board is requested to indicate whether it wishes to agree with the comments from the Area Committees as attached or follow officer recommendations.

Draft Minute - South East Area Committee 7th February 2005

GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS 2005/2006

The Neighbourhood Renewal Business Manager submitted a report (previously circulated and now appended).

Committee noted the recommendations in the report, and made the following comments:

- (1) Item 6.2 Blackbird Leys Art Club. Councillor Craft stated that the IWCA opposes giving a grant to the Blackbird Leys Art Club.
- (2) Item 6.9. Oxford Blackbird Football Club. Councillors Craft and Smith expressed concern that funding had not been allocated to this project.
- (3) Item 6.10 Rose Hill and Littlemore Young People's Project – Councillors felt that the Youth Service should be supporting this project and asked that the funding bid be referred to Executive Board for consideration

(4) Item 6.11 Rose Hill Community Centre. Councillors questioned that the £6,000 that was stated as a carry forward figure was still in hand as it was understood that it had been spent on the Easter Playscheme. Paul Isaacs, Community Centre Area Manager confirmed there were no reserves. Councillors recommended that an additional £1450 be made available for the applicants.

Councillors resolved:

- (a) to withdraw funding from 6.2 Blackbird Leys Art Group
- (b) to re-allocate withdrawn funding to 6.9, the Oxford Blackbirds Football Club.
- (c) to refer the funding bid for 6.10, Littlemore and Rose Hill Young People's Project to Executive Board for consideration
- (d) to allocate an additional £1450 to the Rose Hill Community Centre project, 6.11
- (e) to approve the report recommendations for the following projects

6.1	Blackbird Leys Adventure Playground	£25000
(earmarked subject to conditions)		
6.3	Blackbird Leys Bowls Club	£4800
6.4	Dovecote Voluntary Parent Committee	£8000
6.5	Leys Linx Centre	£13000
6.6	Leys Lunch Club	£300
6.7	Leys News Ltd.	£4000
6.8	Littlemore Thursday Club	£200
6.12	The Leys Community Development Initiative	£5000
6.13	The Listening Centre	£0
- (f) to note the continuations of the small grants scheme for 2005/2006 and the forthcoming grants review.

Draft Action Sheet
CENTRAL, SOUTH AND WEST AREA COMMITTEE

Tuesday 8th February 2005

**18. GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS
2005/06**

Agreed applications for grants for 2005/06 from Jericho Community Centre, Redbridge Traveller Women's Group, St. Luke's Youth and Community Project, West Oxford Community Association (summer playscheme) and West Oxford Parent and Toddler Group as recommended.

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The Executive Board and Portfolioholder to be informed that the Committee is concerned that the allocation of funds is inequitable and that it would wish to give the full amounts requested by Lake Street Playgroup and the West Oxford Community Association fun day and would wish to give a grant of £750 to the Osney Sustainable Island Group.

Committee
Secretary

The Chair to raise the latter issue at Council.

Chair

Noted the continuation of the small grants scheme for 2005/06 and the proposed review of the scheme.

Asked that details of grants allocated from the small grants scheme in this financial year be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

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Business
Manager