

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

21 SEPTEMBER 2015

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – GRANT APPLICATION

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

1. St Just Sports Centre

- 1.1 The Town Council has received a request for grant funding from St Just Sports Centre to enable the centre to continue to build on its current community use in order to further its aim of becoming a more sustainable organisation.
- 1.2 The Town Council will recall that at its meeting on 4 April 2014 it received a presentation from the staff and trustees of the centre (min no. TC.382/14 refers) on the development of the centre and its financial situation in the light of Cornwall Council's decision to cut grant funding to the centre, and Cape Cornwall School's decision to reduce the number of hours used at the centre for sporting activities. There was also the additional difficulty in a reduction in discretionary rate relief.
- 1.3 However, following further discussions with Cornwall Council an agreement had been reached that it would provide an additional grant of £20,000 over a further three years to mitigate against the loss of grant funding in the short term. £10,000 of that funding has already been received with a £6,000 in the current financial year and £4,000 in 2016 /17.
- 1.4 In the light of this information, and the fact there was still a deficit of £1,500 in the 2014 / 15 budget the Town Council agreed to increase its annual grant funding from £2,500 to £4,000 in 2014 / 15 to address the deficit in the budget.
- 1.5 Since last year, the centre has made considerable efforts to increase the range of sports on offer and to attract new customers. The centre is a non-profit making charitable organisation limited by guarantee and is run for the benefit of the local community.
- 1.6 The centre has requested a further grant of £4,000 to enable it to continue with its development and maintenance programme, which will benefit the community by enabling it to continue to provide current sporting opportunities, and hopefully, to increase these opportunities.
- 1.7 The Centre has provided a copy of its Equal Opportunities Policy and statement of accounts for year ending 31 January 2015 which shows total funds of £101,982 (£34,298 unrestricted and £67,684 of restricted funds). Bank account statement shows a balance of £14,665.30 as of 30 July 2015.

2. Remaining Budget Provision in 2015 / 2106

2.1 There is currently £14,660.00 remaining in the 2015 / 2016 budget for grant applications.

3. The Town Council's instructions are sought.

Elaine Baker

Town Clerk

Background papers: Application submitted on 4 September 2015.