TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

11 JANUARY 2016

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – GRANT APPLICATION

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

1. **Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust**

   1.1 The Town Council has received an application for grant funding from the Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust by way of a contribution towards its annual running costs. The Air Ambulance flies 365 days, approximately 700 rescue missions a year. There are now two helicopters operating across Cornwall, which reduces downtime between missions and helps to ensure that the helicopter is there for those in need. Changes in aviation law now mean that flying hours can now be extended into the hours of darkness, and therefore the Air Ambulance is operating 12 hours per day.

   1.2 Cornwall is particularly dependent on the Air Ambulance due to the amount of coastline, often inaccessible roads etc. The Trust receives no Central Government funding towards running costs, and therefore any funding the Trust receives goes towards its flying costs.

   1.3 The grant will go towards the running costs; fuel, maintenance and specialist life-saving equipment. The Air Ambulance serves the whole of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. It costs in excess of £3 million a year to keep the air ambulance flying.

   1.4 The Air Ambulance serves the whole community of Cornwall, often attending patients in St Just and Pendeen.

   1.5 The Air Ambulance Trust has not indicated a specific amount grant but has approached all other local town and parish councils across Cornwall. The Trust is dependent on donations from the community to keep the service operational.

   1.6 The Town Council has made the following previous awards to the Air Ambulance Trust:-

   - £1,000.00   Dec 2014
   - £1,000.00   Dec 2013
   - £600.00   Jan 2013
   - £500.00   Jan 2012
   - £500.00   Sept 2010
   - £100.00   Sept 2009
   - £500.00   Jan 2007

2. The Town Council currently has £8,940.00 remaining in this year's budget and the Town Council's instructions are sought.

Elaine Baker
Town Clerk

Background paper: Application received 16 December 2015