

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

28 FEBRUARY 2011

S.137 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

1. The Town Council has received number of request for financial assistance since the last meeting and these are detailed as follows.

Pendeen Women's Institute

2. Pendeen WI has been working hard over the past year to raise funds to update the Women's Institute Hall kitchen facilities which have now been completed. The Institute now wishes to refurbish its toilet facilities to provide disabled access and is seeking a financial contribution from the Town Council towards the costs of these proposed works. The WI has obtained an estimate for the works at a cost of £1,325.00. Following completion of the alterations the WI is hoping to offer a soup lunch and recreational club on a weekly basis.
3. The following financial awards have been made to Pendeen WI:-
 - £300 Apr 2007
 - £150 Jul 2002
4. A copy of their most recent audited accounts has also been submitted and will be reported at the meeting.

1st St Just Guides

5. A new Guide unit has now been set up in St Just, and five Guides made their promise on 18 February 2011. The unit expects more girls to move up from Brownies after Easter.
6. As a new unit there are a number of items that need to be purchased and / or for which financial assistance is needed, ranging from rent for the venue, badges, first aid kits, leader uniforms etc., and the Guide Leader, Amanda Olds has supplied a full list of items which can be reported at the meeting.
7. The Town Mayor and Town Clerk previously met with the Guide Leader in August last year, when we were advised of her wish to set up a Guide Unit in the town. Prior to the establishment of the unit in St Just the nearest unit was Newlyn.
8. Obviously as this is a new venture there are no available audited accounts. However, St Just Guides is looking for a financial contribution towards the cost of purchasing necessary items to enable it to move forward and become an established organisation within the local community.

West Cornwall Women's Aid

9. The Town Council has also received a request for financial assistance from WCWAid, the former Penzance Women's Aid which was established in 1987. The organisation provides accommodation, information and support to women and their children who are fleeing from domestic violence and abuse. The refuge can house up to 11 women and 16 children.
10. The organisation is looking for a contribution from the Town Council to help support its work. Cornwall is among the highest for incidence of domestic violence and abuse of any rural area in the United Kingdom.
11. No previous awards of financial assistance have been made to this organisation.
12. The Council's instructions on each of the requests are sought.

Elaine Baker
Town Clerk

Background papers: Letters from Pendeen WI dated 7 February 2011, 1st St Just Guides dated 16 February 2011 and WCWAid dated 11 February 2011.