



BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Funding Sub Committee held at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 12 November 2024 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Quay Road, Blyth, NE24 2AS.

Present:

Councillors: W Taylor (Chair), A Barrass, D Carr, C Jones, K Nisbet, J R Potts, M Richardson and S Stanger.

Officers: M Wilkinson, Town Clerk, E Brown, Deputy Town Clerk, M F Hotak, Committee and Research Officer.

Also Present: Cllr G Davey and Cllr S Davey (Part).

Members of the Public – 1

Invited Guest(s) 0

1	Apologies for absence Cllr A Cartie and Cllr J Reid.
2	Disclosure of Interests and Grant of Dispensations Cllr J Potts declared an interest in item 5.9, Cllr A Barrass in 5.9 and 5.12.
3	Minutes of the previous Community Funding Sub-Committee The Minutes of the previous Committee Funding Sub Committee meeting held 10 September 2024 were agreed as a true record in the Full Council meeting held 10 October 2024.
4	Actions arising from the Previous Minutes Cllr S Davey commented on extending Blyth Live to a week of music events. This would be suggested to events working group and could be raised as a possible inclusion for the Blythfest event.
5	To consider new Applications listed below.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability2Play (Northumberland County Council) 2. Blyth Battery Volunteers Ltd 3. Blyth Central Methodist Church 4. Blyth Valley Enterprise Limited 5. Empire School of Boxing 6. Equal Arts 7. Girls Friendly Society (GFS) GFS Blyth 8. Headway Arts (on behalf of Blyth Culture Network) 9. Isabella Heap Volunteers Group 10. Marine Medical Group Social Prescribers 11. St Cuthbert's Church Blyth 12. St Mary's Church Blyth <p>The Chairman outlined the above applications, noting the receipt of supporting information. The applications were considered carefully by the members.</p>
6	<p>Delegated Actions</p> <p>There were no delegated actions since the previous meeting.</p>
7	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>This item is only for items of information to be given to Town Councillors and for items which either the Committee Chair or Town Clerk to be genuinely urgent.</p>
8	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Community Funding Sub Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House on Tuesday 11 February 2025 at 6.30 pm</p>
9	<p>Part II</p> <p>Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw.</p>

Discussion and Decisions regarding Funding Applications

Members further discussed the individual applications and the following grant payments were agreed:

1. Ability2Play (Northumberland County Council) was not approved any funding, and the reason was highlighted by members that Ability2Play are part of NCC using a NCC owned building. Members suggested that they alternative funding like NCC Community grant.
2. Blyth Battery Volunteers Ltd was approved funding of £5000 to support their two-day multiperiod event (WW1 – WW2) on the links of Blyth Beach.
3. Blyth Central Methodist Church was approved funding of £3,435.36 to purchase equipment such as new folding chairs and trollies for storage (56 chairs and 4 trollies) to improve the community use of the main hall.
4. Blyth Valley Enterprise Limited was approved funding of £5,000 with the condition to consider its Safeguarding policy during its business conduct. The funding to contribute to core costs to be able to continue to support its charitable aims of relieving poverty and advancing education.
5. Empire School of Boxing was approved funding of £5,000 to support the overall core costs due to the increase of all energy costs, insurances, general costs and the new extended building. This funding also to continue to run the current sessions.
6. Equal Arts was approved funding of 4,680 to support two groups of older people of Belford Court and Bader Court in Blyth with an aim to increase mental health, wellbeing, and community cohesion.
7. GFS Blyth was approved funding of £4,979 to support the raised aspirations of girls in Blyth and to help them achieve their full potential. The funding to specifically contribute to the following areas:
 - PGL Leeds Weekend Residential

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sprint Programme Highlights - Fee Waivers <p>8. Headway Arts (on behalf of Blyth Culture Network) was approved funding of £1,988 to contribute to the marketing costs of the cultural events that are scheduled in June 2025 under the name of Blythfest 2025.</p> <p>9. Isabella Heap Volunteers Group was approved funding of £3,566 with the condition to provide further required information such as governance, updated bank statement and accounts. The funding to contribute to the purchase of equipment like electric wall heaters, fridge, freezer, vax air stretch hover bagless and seeds to create an area where families could be encouraged to visit.</p> <p>10. Marine Medical Group Social Prescribers was approved funding of £300 to contribute to the winter well-being event for the Blyth Community. This event to offer practical support, advice and promote community well-being.</p> <p>11. St Cuthbert's Church Blyth was funding of £1,000 to contribute to the costs of Annual Christmas tree festival event.</p> <p>12. St Mary's Church Blyth was approved funding of £930 to contribute to the costs of the two events: 1) Christmas Light Switch, 2) Fourth annual Town Nativity.</p> <p>A total of £35,878.36 was approved for the above-mentioned 12 organisations and groups.</p> <p>It was agreed due to the limitations on the Community Funding budget to cancel the next meeting and close the scheme for the year.</p> <p>The meetings closed at 7.30 pm</p>
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The above Sub-Committee is delegated with the management and development of the council's grant scheme and has the power to resolve any individual applications **without** recourse to the standing Committee.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY FUNDING SUB COMMITTEE:

W Taylor (Chair)	K Nisbet
A Cartie (Vice Chair)	J R Potts
A Barrass	J Reid
D Carr	M Richardson
C Jones	S Stanger