

## BROOM SOUTH LIAISON GROUP MEETING

---

### MINUTES OF THE FUNDING MEETING HELD AT COUNCIL OFFICES, PRIORY HOUSE ON THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MAY 2014 AT 7.00PM

#### Attendees:

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Central Bedfordshire Council | Cllr C Maudlin (Chairman)<br>Cllr G Clarke<br>Mr J Delafield |
| Southill Parish Council      | Cllr N Hickman   |
| Langford Parish Council      | Cllr A Spencer (agenda and<br>minutes to be sent by post)    |
| Shefford Parish Council      | Mr Mackin  |
| Old Warden Parish Council    | Cllr M Studdert-Kennedy                                      |
| Northill Parish Council      | Cllr W Momen (substituting for Cllr<br>K Bennett)            |

#### 1. Introduction

The Chair identified that the purpose of the meeting was solely to consider applications made by Local Community Groups for financial assistance.

#### 2. Apologies for Absence

Cllr L Birt – Central Bedfordshire Council  
Cllr R Green – Southill Parish Council  
Cllr S Braybrooke – Langford Parish Council  
Cllr K Bennett – Northill Parish Council  
Mr M Egar – Southill Estate

#### 3. Update on previous applications:-

The Chairman provided an update on the status of applications determined by the committee at the last liaison meeting.

- SALGA – since the last meeting we have received copies of articles placed by SALGA in Shefford Newline and also the Advertiser Newspaper, which have been circulated to the Group. The articles acknowledge the contribution made by the Liaison Group towards the water system. The articles also note that a mystery benefactor has funded the purchase of compost bins for everyone using the site.

- All Saints Church, Southill – we reported at the last meeting that the £4970 contribution towards Church repairs has not been requested. We have since heard from All Saints Church that delays have been experienced in obtaining approval for the works from the Diocesan Advisory Committee. This has now been received but the delay means that a one month time extension is required to complete the works. The deadline has been extended by the Chairman to 1 July 2014.
- Stanford Playing Field Association – we have been informed by Southill Parish Council that the adventure trail works have been completed and the Council has recently been invoiced for the £3924 contribution. Cllr Hickman thanked the group and advised that the adventure trail has proved very popular with children in Stanford.

A balance sheet was circulated to members at the group meeting which summarises spending to date and identifies the remaining funds available for community projects.

4. Applications to be considered at this meeting:-

Funding applications were considered by the committee in respect of submissions made by:

a) Langford Methodist Church

Mrs Rutt joined the meeting to give a short presentation to the group on behalf of Langford Methodist Church. This application was deferred from the previous meeting so that the applicant had opportunity to provide further information on efforts made to secure match funding. The applicant had originally requested £900 for the replacement of 10 units of double glazed windows which have blown in Sunday School. This represented the full cost of the project, and therefore did not meet the group's contribution limit of up to 50% of the total cost of the project.

Mrs Rutt presented a revised application which requested £450 towards the cost of replacing the 10 units of double glazing. She identified that the other half had been secured by way of a grant from Langford Parish Council.

Following her presentation, Mrs Rutt took questions from the group, and was then asked to leave the meeting prior to the vote.

Following a discussion, the Chairman proposed that the group should contribute the full amount requested by the applicant. This was carried by a vote (5 in favour, 0 against).

b) Langford Lower School

Mr Metcalfe and Ms Murphy joined the meeting to give a short presentation to the group on behalf of Langford Lower School. The application sought £10,000 for the refurbishment of a new building for school and community use. Funding had already been secured for the build cost of the new building (£115,000).

Following their presentation, Mr Metcalfe and Ms Murphy took questions from the group, and were then asked to leave the meeting prior to the vote.

Following a discussion, Cllr Hickman proposed that the group should contribute half the amount requested by the applicant (i.e. £5000). This was carried by a vote (5 in favour, 0 against).

c) Northill Parish Council

Cllr Momen gave a short presentation to the group on behalf of Northill Parish Council and its application for £2700 towards the costs of purchasing and installing 5 replacement oak notice boards across 4 villages in Northill Parish. This represented 50% of the total cost of the project, with the other half to be met with Parish Council funds and a donation from another source.

Following a discussion, Mr Mackin proposed that the group should contribute the full amount requested by the applicant, subject to Northill Parish Council taking out insurance against accidental damage to the new noticeboards. This was carried by a vote (3 in favour, 2 against).

d) Mid Beds Citizens Advice Bureau

Mr Stoppard joined the meeting to give a short presentation to the group on behalf of Mid Beds CAB. The application sought £1,567 towards the costs of CAB employing an "Outreach" worker; a home visiting project to allow elderly, disabled, and vulnerable who cannot get to the bureau offices to access the CAB services.

The project serves 8 towns and 42 parishes in the north of Central Bedfordshire, including all 5 town and parish councils represented on the group. The application amount, representing 9% of the annual cost of employing an "Outreach" worker, has been applied for as this matches the ratio of clients that "Outreach" has seen in the Broom South Quarry catchment area in the 6 month period to 30 Sept 2013. The applicant has an on-going programme of fundraising to keep the project running from one year to the next.

Following his presentation, Mr Stoppard took questions from the group, and was then asked to leave the meeting prior to the vote.

Following a discussion, the Chairman proposed that the group should contribute the full amount requested by the applicant. This was carried by a vote (5 in favour, 0 against).

e) Caldecote Cricket Club

Prior to the applicant joining the meeting, the Chairman declared an interest in this item as the applicant is her brother. This would not affect the vote as only the 5 Town and Parish Council's represented on the group can vote. However, the Chairman sought clarification from the group as to whether they would prefer her not to Chair this item. The Group decided that Cllr Maudlin should continue as Chairman.

Mr Maudlin joined the meeting to give a short presentation to the group on behalf of Caldecote Cricket Club. The application sought £3,500 towards the costs of upgrades to the cricket facilities. The requested contribution will be used for the purchase of a new mower. The remaining amount required for the other equipment (£4107.40) will be secured from further fundraising events.

Following his presentation, Mr Maudlin took questions from the group, and was then asked to leave the meeting prior to the vote.

Following a discussion, Cllr Spencer proposed that the group should contribute the full amount requested by the applicant. This was carried by a vote (3 in favour, 2 against).

f) Shefford Lower School

Requested £10,000 towards the cost of enhancing the play area at Shefford Lower School (including Active play equipment, pyramid climbing equipment and an amphitheatre stage).

The remaining amount required (£29,130) will be sourced from school capital funding, a donation from the School's Parent Staff Association raised from school fundraising events, and through other grants and funding.

The applicant did not chose to attend the meeting to give a presentation, however, Mr Mackin, as governor of the school, was able to answer a number of questions.

Following a discussion, Cllr Momen proposed that the group should contribute half the amount requested by the applicant (i.e. £5000). This was carried by a vote (5 in favour, 0 against).

7. Any other business

JD identified to the group that the submission deadline for applications to be heard at the September meeting is 31 July 2014.

8. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

The next full Group Meeting had previously been arranged for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

A revised date needs to be agreed as a number of Group members can no longer make this date. This will be agreed through an exchange of emails.