

Contact name and direct tel no. Sandra Hill 01235 468340

24 August 2011

To All Members of the Grants Sub-Committee

Cllr Jeanette Halliday
Cllr Monica Lovatt
Cllr Hermann Matheson
Cllr Penny McDougall
Cllr Aidan Melville
Cllr Katie Nobes
Cllr Andrew Todd
Mayor of Abingdon-ex officio
Chair of Finance & General Purposes Committee-ex officio

To all other Members for information only

Dear Councillor,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the Grants Sub Committee to be held on **Monday 5 September 2011 at 6 pm** in the Committee Room at the Old Abbey House, Abingdon.

Yours sincerely

NE Warner
Town Clerk

A G E N D A

- 1 **Election of Chairman**
 To elect a chairman of the Grants Sub-Committee for the council year 2011/12.
2. **Election of Vice Chair**
 To elect a vice-chairman of the Grants Sub-Committee for the council year 2011/12.
- 3 **Apologies**
 To receive any apologies for absence.

4 **Declarations of Interest**

Members are reminded that they must declare their interests orally at the meeting and specify (a) the nature of the interest and (b) which items on the agenda are relevant items. This applies also to items where members have interest virtue of their membership of county and district councils. For further clarification refer to the notes at the bottom of the agenda.

5 **Correspondence**

Members are asked to note the attached thank you letters from the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind, Oxfordshire Age UK and the Nasio Trust – further information on the work of the Nasio Trust is available from the deputy town clerk.

6 **Town Council Support for Vale of White Horse District Council's Community Grants**

As part of the community grants scheme criteria the district council require applicants to provide a letter of support from their town or parish council.

Members asked to consider whether the council supports Abingdon Rowing Club's grant application to the Vale of White Horse District Council for a new boat for their junior squad (see attached).

**Abingdon Rowing Club has also submitted a grant application to the Town Council (attached).

7 **Grants Criteria**

Members are asked to familiarise themselves with the attached grants criteria in relation to the applications within agenda items 8, 9 & 10.

8 **Grant Aid Applications – General Fund**

The following attached applications for grant aid have been received for the general fund. The budget for the remainder of 2011-2012 is **£9,620**.

Name of Applicant	Reason for the grant application	Previous grants received in last five years	Grant requested
Abbey Brass	Purchase new instruments	2006 - £500 2007 - £400 2008 - £300 2010 - £500	£500
Abingdon Jazz Club	To book a special guest for the Abingdon Arts Festival in 2012.	2010-2011 - £100	£150
**Abingdon Rowing Club	Purchase a junior rowing boat	Town Council use to sponsor £500 towards the club's annual	£234

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		regatta – which no longer takes place.	
Deborah King (Individual Grant) – note: 7 September 2010 F&GP resolved that the grants scheme for individuals be retained but in recognition of the need that the level of grants should be commensurate with benefit (section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972) and the much wider benefit to the town which resulted from grants to clubs and societies, that the Council's previous policy that all individual grants be limited to £50 per person be confirmed . It was further resolved that no more than five such grants should be awarded during each financial year and in order to demonstrate the benefit of the grant to the town, a question should be added to the form: "How would the award of a grant towards your project benefit Abingdon.	World Challenge to Ladakh in India in 2012. Includes a 12 day trek and working within the community. Need to raise £3,500 to finance expedition.	None	£150
South Abingdon Community Led Plan	Consult with South Abingdon residents and develop a Community Led Plan for the area.	None	£3,358
St Edmunds Boys' & Girls' FC	Purchase new goal posts for their full size football pitch at Boxhill Recreation Ground.	2009 - £300 2010 - £350 2011 - £100 (above for Presentation Day Costs). Also receive finance of up to £1,500 per year to maintain Boxhill Recreation Ground	£300
Sunningwell School of Art	Installation of heat shields above pottery kilns to remove heat damage to kiln room structure, and to improve safety.	None	£800-£1,000
Trinity Church	Fund the cost of one term for the <i>Trinity Learning News</i> which takes a group of six primary school children out for one afternoon a week to compile a community newsletter which they research, write, edit & print. Around 500 newsletters are distributed into the community each term.	2010 - £500	£700

	Example attached – a further example is available from the deputy town clerk.		
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9 Vulnerable, Elderly & Young People Grants

The following application for grant aid has been received for the Vulnerable, Elderly & Young People Grants. The budget for the remainder of the 2011-2012 is **£3,825**

Abingdon Good Neighbour Scheme (GNS)	To set-up another 5 or 6 GNS within Abingdon. This scheme is nationally recognised and benefits the community by offering help and support for residents including the elderly, vulnerable and the disabled.	None	£1,000
South & Vale Carers Centre	Help fund core activities such as face-to-face advice; help with form filling, support, representation at appeals & tribunals and trips & activities to give carers a break.	2007-2008 - £400	Maximum that sub-committee is prepared to give – bearing in mind that carers represent 10% of the population, all of whom are eligible to benefit from the Service.

10 Twinning Grants

The following application for grant aid has been received for the Twinning fund. The budget for the remainder of 2011-2012 is **£1,500**

Abingdon Marathon	Welcoming, accommodating and entertaining fellow runners from Abingdon's twin town of Argentan, plus the costs of individual trophies for the runners in the winning team and engraving on the Twin Towns Trophy.	2005 - £300 2006 - £350 2008 - £350 2009 - £400 2010 - £400	£350-£500
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11 Environmental Projects Grant

No applications have been received for the environmental projects fund. Funding available is **£23,917**

The environmental projects grant was previously known as the joint environmental trust (JET) which was a joint venture between the Vale of White Horse District Council and Abingdon Town Council. The responsibility for this grant is now under the jurisdiction of Abingdon

Town Council's Grants Sub-Committee and Finance & General Purposes Committee. Members may therefore wish to familiarise themselves with the service level agreement between the town council and the district council (attached).

Members are also asked to consider whether the Environmental Project Grant Scheme wishes to promote similar schemes. For further information regarding the schemes see application forms (to follow).

12 Date of Next Meetings

To agree dates for 2011-2012 council year. The sub-committee needs to meet before the Finance & General Purposes Committee. In the past this has normally been the week before. Members are therefore asked to consider:

(a) meeting start time and

(b) the following dates:

Mon 7 November	<i>F&GP meets Tues 15 November</i>
Mon 9 January	“ “ “ <i>17 January</i>
Mon 27 February	“ “ “ <i>6 March</i>

Notes on Declarations of Interest

1. Any Member arriving after the start of the meeting is asked to declare personal interests, as necessary, as soon as practicable after their arrival even if the item in question has been considered.
2. With the exception of the circumstances listed in paragraph 9 (2) of the Local Code of Conduct for Members, a Member with a personal interest also has a prejudicial interest if it is one which a Member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest. In such circumstances, the Member must withdraw from the meeting room and should inform the Chair immediately.
3. It is not practical for the Town Clerk to offer detailed advice during the meeting on whether or not a personal interest should be declared, or whether a personal interest should also be regarded as prejudicial.