

LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30 MARCH 2022

Present

Chairman: The Mayor, Cllr B. Larcombe, MBE

Councillors: Cllr C. Aldridge, Cllr J. Broom, Cllr C. Reynolds, Cllr D. Ruffle, Cllr D. Sarson, Cllr R. Smith, Cllr G. Stammers, Cllr G. Turner

Officers: A. Mullins (support services manager), J. Wright (town clerk)

21/141/C Public Forum

L. Noel

L. Noel spoke in support of the application from Turn Lyme Green (TLG)/Plastic Free Lyme Regis (PFLR). She thanked the council for its support for organisations in previous years and hoped it would continue in the year to come. She said TLG had a lot planned and already had some activities in progress for the coming year. She said they produced a newsletter that went to 500 people and had around 50 active members. L. Noel said this year they were hoping to do a whole range of things, including their plastic-free activities, continuing Boomerang Bags, seed exchange events, planting sunflowers outside the library, commercial composting, recycling clothes and something on biodiversity. She said there would be food and farming talks on all different aspects and what it meant for the environment, health, etc. She said TLG was monitoring the River Lim and was hoping to raise some funding to do a survey of the river. L. Noel said the application stated the project costs would be £2,000 but it was actually up to £2,600 and they were applying for £1,000 from the council. She said they had a lot of good work to get on with and they would be delighted to have the continuing support of the council.

C. Joyner

C. Joyner spoke in support of the application from Lyme Regis Sea School. He said the organisation had been going for over 25 years and took over some of the equipment left when the adventure centre closed on Monmouth Beach. He said the organisation had grown considerably since then and the main activity was providing equipment to go sailing and teaching. He said they had supplied most of the boats used by the youth section of the sailing club and they ran a number of courses, six so far this year. C. Joyner said members of the public could go along and they trained them from complete beginners, then they are invited to help, then assist as an instructor and when they became 16, they are eligible to be dinghy instructors. He said the sea school was a registered charity and also a Royal Yachting Association training centre. He said when the youngsters turned 16 they were placed in positions of considerable responsibility and the school believed particularly in training them in

the life skills that sailing could pass on, such as good communication, management of resources, being able to talk to people, getting on in a team, and that was very much why they did it. C. Joyner said the current principal of the sea school started when he was 10 years old, and the previous principal started at a similar age and was now in charge of a 2,000-tonne vessel. He said they were asking for help to replace and improve their fleet of boats, some of which were over 20 years old. He said they had received a grant from a member of the sailing club, who was also the grandchild of one of the original members who started the club in 1921, and they had sold a number of boats, so far raising £10,000 towards their £16,000 target. He said they were looking to buy three Fusions and one Bahia and any help the council could give would be gratefully received.

T. Hodgkins (supported by J. Dean)

T. Hodgkins spoke in support of the application from Powder Monkeys Explorer Sea Scout Unit. She said this was the first time someone from the unit had come to speak to the council so she was pleased to be able to do so. She said since the unit was formed in January 2020, it had grown from a couple of members to 20 and they were a large enthusiastic team. She said it had surprised them all how well it had done given how young the unit was, but it didn't really come as a surprise given the adventures they had had over the past 12 months. T. Hodgkins said they had been out rafting, tried watercraft, teamed up with the gig club to go rowing, met scouts from all around the world virtually, had a Zoom call with some Italian scouts, learnt first aid and rescue skills, recycled Christmas trees and through this they developed leadership skills and much more. She said they were looking forward to going further afield, including to Paris later this year, and she and another member had been selected to go to the world scout jamboree in South Korea in 2023, so they were really going places. T. Hodgkins said they were asking the council to help expand their reach further. The feather flags would help identify their unit when they were out and about and the tents would help develop their Duke of Edinburgh offering and reduce their reliance on the Lym Valley Scout group, which had been very supportive in getting them going. She said it would all help the unit be the best it could be.

E. Holt

E. Holt spoke in support of the application from Lyme Regis Town Band. He said the brass band rehearsed at Woodmead Halls and performed throughout Lyme Regis, including on the seafront throughout the summer on Tuesday evenings for free. He said as a brass band they were growing and trying to recruit new players, with the training band doubling in size in the last couple of months. He said they supplied tuition, music, uniform and anything needed completely free for any person who wished to learn an instrument regardless of age, gender, etc. E. Holt said they recently had a 10-year-old girl and a 70-year-old man who joined at the same time and they were learning alongside each other. He said they were requesting funding from the council to run a workshop. They would like to get a top level brass band in from the south west to run a day's workshop and invite band members, beginners, trainees and more experienced players to go along and learn in the hope they could recruit more members, get the band's name out there and show they were one of the top brass bands in the area.

M. Ward

M. Ward spoke in support of the application from the Coastal Community Cupboard, which was under the health and wellbeing side of Lyme Regis Development Trust. She said 43 weeks ago they set up a social seaside store based on the social supermarket model. She said they bought food from environmental food charity Fairshare by the tonne but it would not deliver to Lyme Regis so they had a volunteer who went to collect it every Monday. The food was then sold to their members for £3.50. She said this food would ultimately end up in landfill so they were serving people who were struggling to make ends meet. M. Ward said there was a lot of poverty in Lyme Regis, there were people with part-time jobs working in hospitality or older people struggling, and with the impact of inflation and everything that would happen from April, it was only going to get worse. She said when they first opened they had five members and they wondered if it was going to work but they now had 173 members, which served well over 400 people, and they regularly had 40-50 people each Tuesday morning. M. Ward said people picked up a shopping basket, chose what they wanted and went away with £15-20 worth of food, and they gave away fresh fruit and vegetables, bread and eggs. She said they also got a lot of help from the local Co-op and Tesco, who provided them with food. She said one challenge was that the freezer food was right up to mark so it had to be frozen immediately but they were running out of freezer space, so they would like to buy another freezer as well as a label gun. She said they currently wrote on the goods the date they were frozen but it would be much quicker to do this with a label gun. M. Ward said the organisation was not-for-profit so every penny went back to the customers and they also went out and bought food so people had a choice.

Cllr C. Reynolds said she understood food bought from Fairshare could not be sold and she asked for clarification on this.

M. Ward said Fairshare was aware of and endorsed what they were doing and they had a contractual agreement. She said as they were a not-for-profit enterprise, this might be why it qualified.

21/142/C Apologies for Absence

Cllr B. Bawden – unwell
Cllr R. Doney – family commitments
Cllr M. Ellis – unwell

21/143/C Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

To promote good governance and transparency, the town clerk advised members to declare any associations with organisations which had applied for grants. He said they would not be required to leave the room and could still vote but the statement should still be made for the benefit of the public.

Cllr D. Sarson declared a non-pecuniary interest in Lyme Regis Bowling Club as he was a member.

Cllr C. Reynolds declared a non-pecuniary interest in Lyme Regis Community Support as she was the lead co-ordinator, in Lyme Regis Community Garden Volunteers as she was the lead organiser, and in the Coastal Community Cupboard as she was the council's representative on Lyme Regis Development Trust.

Cllr R. Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in Turn Lyme Green/Plastic Free Lyme Regis as he was a member, and in Powder Monkeys Explorer Sea Scout Unit as his daughter was a member.

Cllr G. Stammers declared a non-pecuniary interest in Turn Lyme Green/Plastic Free Lyme Regis as she was the council's representative.

Cllr C. Aldridge declared a non-pecuniary interest in Turn Lyme Green/Plastic Free Lyme Regis as she was a member.

21/144/C Dispensations

There were none.

21/145/C Allocation of Community Grants 2022-23

The support services manager confirmed all grant applicants who had applied for a grant this year and in 2021-22 had claimed their grant for 2021-22. She also confirmed all applicants had provided the required accompanying documentation and this could be referred to if members had questions when the applications were being considered.

Cllr C. Reynolds asked how members would know if the applicants were in receipt of other funding from the council.

The support services manager said this information was included in the table on the agenda. She clarified that term grant recipients were not allowed to apply for community grants.

Members asked for clarification over the application from Coastal Community Cupboard as it was associated with Lyme Regis Development Trust, which received a term grant.

The support services manager said the term grant was awarded to The Hub and the Coastal Community Cupboard was a separate project. She said the funding to each project would be ringfenced.

Members considered the applications in alphabetical order.

Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr C. Reynolds, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £1,000 to Axminster and Lyme Cancer Support.

Coastal Community Cupboard

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr G. Turner, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £450 to the Coastal Community Cupboard.

Jazz Jurassica

Proposed by Cllr J. Broom and seconded by Cllr R. Smith, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £450 to Jazz Jurassica.

Lym Valley Croquet Club

Cllr C. Reynolds asked for clarification of whether the total project cost was the croquet club's share of the flood defences and the other clubs using the King George Field were contributing the same amount, or if the croquet club was paying whole amount.

Members felt the application was unclear but understood that the croquet lawn was separate from the main field and it was this section that the croquet club was protecting.

Proposed by Cllr J. Broom and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £938 to Lym Valley Croquet Club.

Lyme Morris

Proposed by Cllr D. Ruffle and seconded by Cllr R. Smith, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £500 to Lyme Morris.

Lyme Regis Bowling Club

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr C. Reynolds, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £500 to Lyme Regis Bowling Club.

Lyme Regis Community Garden Volunteers

Cllr R. Smith asked if this was the same as Lyme Regis Garden Growers.

Cllr C. Reynolds confirmed it was the same group but it had been brought into Lyme Regis Community Support so it could be run properly and the finances could be handled better.

Cllr B. Larcombe asked where the grant money would be paid.

Cllr C. Reynolds said it would be paid into the Lyme Regis Community Support account, which was currently being held by the town council.

Proposed by Cllr D. Sarson and seconded by Cllr G. Stammers, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £150 to Lyme Regis Community Garden Volunteers.

Lyme Regis Community Support

Cllr B. Larcombe asked if the organisation was doing any other fundraising.

Cllr C. Reynolds said the organisation would look to do more fundraising when it was set up as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, although it was noted other funds had come from a collection at Uplyme Stores and a grant from the Regatta and Carnival Committee.

Proposed by Cllr G. Stammers and seconded by Cllr G. Turner, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £250 to Lyme Regis Community Support.

Lyme Regis Pantomime Society

Proposed by Cllr J. Broom and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £1,000 to Lyme Regis Pantomime Society.

Lyme Regis Sea School

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr C. Reynolds, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £1,000 to Lyme Regis Sea School.

Lyme Regis Skate Club

Proposed by Cllr D. Sarson and seconded by Cllr R. Smith, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £400 to Lyme Regis Skate Club.

Lyme Regis Town Band

Proposed by Cllr C. Reynolds and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £1,000 to Lyme Regis Town Band.

Over 70s Christmas Dinner Fund Committee

Proposed by Cllr J. Broom and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £400 to the Over 70s Christmas Dinner Fund Committee.

Powder Monkeys Explorer Sea Scout Unit

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr C. Reynolds, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £466 to Powder Monkeys Explorer Sea Scout Unit.

St Michael's Primary School Parents and Friends Association

Cllr R. Smith suggested the council awarded £1,000 instead of the £800 requested given the importance of reading.

However, the town clerk said as they had only requested £800, this was probably all they required.

Proposed by Cllr C. Reynolds and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £800 to St Michael's Primary School Parents and Friends Association.

Turn Lyme Green/Plastic Free Lyme Regis

Proposed by Cllr G. Stammers and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £1,000 to Turn Lyme Green/Plastic Free Lyme Regis.

Uplyme and Lyme Regis Cricket Club

Proposed by Cllr J. Broom and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members **RESOLVED** to award a 2022-23 community grant of £1,000 to Uplyme and Lyme Regis Cricket Club.

The meeting closed at 8.03pm.