

LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2025

Present

Chairman: Cllr P. Evans

Councillors: Cllr G. Caddy, Cllr M. Ellis, Cllr S. Cockerell, Cllr D. Holland, Cllr S. Larcombe, Cllr C. Reynolds, Cllr G. Stammers, Cllr G. Turner, Cllr A. Wood

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

24/139/C Public Forum

There were no members of the public who wished to speak. Representatives from organisations who had submitted grant applications were invited to speak later in the agenda.

24/140/C Apologies for Absence

Cllr C. Aldridge – holiday
Cllr P. May – holiday

24/141/C Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Cllr G. Stammers declared a pecuniary interest in the application from The Community Waffle House CIC as she worked for the Post Office in Uplyme.

Cllr C. Reynolds declared a non-pecuniary interest in the application from Lyme Regis Foodbank Community Interest Company as she delivered for the foodbank.

24/142/C Dispensations

There were none.

Cllr M. Ellis arrived at 7.02pm.

Cllr M. Ellis declared a pecuniary interest in the application from the Woodmead Halls as she received payment from the management committee.

24/143/C Allocation of Term Grants 2025-2030

Organisations who had submitted term grant applications were invited to give a presentation in support of their application and spoke in the following order:

TRIP CTA (Community Transport Association) – Noel Wright

Cllr G. Caddy arrived at 7.20pm.

Woodmead Halls (Lyme Regis Leisure Centre) – Tim Bell
B Sharp – Ruth Cohen and Harvey Causley
Bridport and District Citizens Advice Bureau – Rovarn Wickremasinghe
Lyme Regis Boat Building Academy – Will Reed
Lyme Regis Christmas Lights – Rob James
Lyme Regis Foodbank Community Interest Company – Mark Duerden
Lyme Regis (Philpot) Museum – Bridget Houseago
Lyme Regis Regatta and Carnival Committee – Rob James
Lyme Regis Town Mill Trust – Rob McLaughlin
Lyme Regis Town Band – Ellis Holt

Cllr G. Stammers left the meeting at 8.38pm in line with her pecuniary interests.

The Community Waffle House – Matt Smith

Cllr G. Stammers returned to the meeting at 8.47pm.

The Lyme Regis ‘Visitor Hub’ – Alan Vian
Turn Lyme Green – Graham Roberts
Woodroffe Parents, Friends and Teachers Association (PTFA) – Sonia Rai

The meeting adjourned for a break at 9.19pm.

The meeting resumed at 9.29pm.

Members discussed how the applications should be considered. It was agreed they would review the list of applications in the order they appear on the agenda and decide on the ones that should receive no funding. Then review the list again and consider organisations where the full amount should be awarded. Those not awarded the full amount would then be considered for a lesser amount.

Members agreed the following applications should be removed: TRIP CTA (Community Transport Association) as the application was submitted late and Woodroffe Parents, Friends and Teachers Association (PTFA) as the application lacked detail.

Members agreed the following organisations should be awarded the full amount requested: B Sharp (£7,000pa); The Lyme Regis ‘Visitor Hub’ (£2,000pa); Lyme Regis Christmas Lights Committee (£4,000pa); and The Community Waffle House CIC (£15,000 in year 1, £13,000 in year 2, £11,000 in year 3, £9,000 in year 4, and £7,000 in year 5).

Members then considered the remainder of the applications.

Members discussed the application from LymeArts Community Trust Ltd (Marine Theatre) as it was noted the application was for £25,000 per annum, but term grants could only be a maximum of £20,000 per annum. Some members therefore felt the application did not meet the council’s grants’ criteria.

There was some concern from members about the amount of financial support the council had given the theatre over many years and that it should be self-sufficient.

The town clerk said the trust had improved its financial position and held a reserve, but the application was specifically for funding to support the theatre's community activities.

Several members were concerned these activities were being offered for free and if the theatre charged for them, it wouldn't require funding from the council.

Members agreed to remove the application from LymeArts Community Trust.

Members agreed indicative amounts for the remainder of the organisations.

Cllr M. Ellis left the meeting at 10.15pm when the application for the Woodmead Halls was discussed, in line with her pecuniary interests.

Cllr Ellis returned to the meeting at 10.19pm.

Once indicative amounts had been agreed, £91,500 had been allocated, so members discussed whether to go through the applications again and amend the amounts so the full £100,000 was allocated.

It was proposed by Cllr C. Reynolds and seconded by Cllr S. Larcombe to award a total of £91,500 in term grants.

This motion was not carried.

Proposed by Cllr M. Denney and seconded by Cllr S. Cockerell, members **RESOLVED** to award the full £100,000 in term grants.

Several members felt as there was £8,500 remaining, this could be awarded to LymeArts Community Trust Ltd (Marine Theatre) but others felt the decision had already been made to remove the application.

Members therefore went through the list again to consider increasing the amounts to the remainder of the organisations.

Members agreed the following allocations: Bridport and District Citizens Advice Bureau (£5,500pa); Lyme Regis Development Trust (£6,000pa); Lyme Regis Boat Building Academy (£10,000pa); Lyme Regis Foodbank Community Interest Company (£12,000pa); Lyme Regis (Philpot) Museum (£6,000pa, to be spent only on the Fossil Festival); Lyme Regis Regatta and Carnival Committee (£6,500pa); Lyme Regis Town Mill Trust (£5,000pa); Lyme Regis Town Band (£2,000pa); Turn Lyme Green (£2,950 in year 1 and £7,000pa in years 2 to 5); Woodmead Halls (Lyme Regis Leisure Centre) (£16,000pa).

Cllr M. Ellis left the meeting at 10.36pm when the amount for the Woodmead Halls was discussed, in line with her pecuniary interests.

Cllr M. Ellis returned to the room at 10.37pm.

Having agreed in principle all the allocations, members then voted for the total allocation.

Cllr M. Ellis and Cllr G. Stammers left the meeting at 10.40pm in line with their pecuniary interests.

Proposed by Cllr A. Wood and seconded by Cllr G. Turner, members **RESOLVED** to award term grants for 2025-30 as follows:

- B Sharp - £7,000pa
- Bridport and District Citizens Advice Bureau - £5,500pa
- Lyme Regis Development Trust - £6,000pa
- Lyme Regis Boat Building Academy - £10,000pa
- LymeArts Community Trust – No grant
- Lyme Regis Christmas Lights Committee - £4,000pa
- Lyme Regis Foodbank Community Interest Company - £12,000
- Lyme Regis (Philpot) Museum - £6,000pa (for the Fossil Festival only)
- Lyme Regis Regatta and Carnival Committee - £6,500pa
- Lyme Regis Town Mill Trust - £5,000pa
- Lyme Regis Town Band - £2,000pa
- The Community Waffle House CIC - £15,000 in year 1, £13,000 in year 2, £11,000 in year 3, £9,000 in year 4, £7,000 in year 5
- The Lyme Regis 'Visitor Hub' - £2,000pa
- TRIP CTA (Community Transport Association) – No grant
- Turn Lyme Green - £2,950 in year 1, £7,000pa in years 2 to 5
- Woodmead Halls (Lyme Regis Leisure Centre) - £16,000pa
- Woodroffe Parents, Friends and Teachers Association – No grant

The meeting closed at 10.40pm.