
MINUTES

Public

Shetland Charitable Trust
Room 12, Islesburgh Community Centre, Lerwick
Thursday 17 December 2015 at 10.00am

Present:

A Cooper	A Duncan
R Henderson	B Hunter
T Macintyre	P Malcolmson
A Manson	K Massey
I Napier	J Smith
A Westlake	J Wills

Apologies:

M Bell	D Ratter
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In Attendance (Officers):

A Black, Chief Executive - SCT
E Mainland, Administration Manager – SCT
A Cogle, Team Leader – Administration - SIC

Chair:

Mr Hunter, Chair of the Trust, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interest

Mr Duncan declared an interest in Agenda Item 1 “Approval of Disbursements” as a Director of Voluntary Action Shetland, and that he would leave the room during any discussion in relation to that organisation.

Mr Malcolmson declared an interest in Agenda Item 1 “Approval of Disbursements” in relation to COPE, and advised that he would leave the room during any discussion in relation to that organisation.

91/15 **Approval of Disbursements**

The Trust considered a report (CT1512084) which sought approval of the recommended disbursements for the year to 31 March 2017.

The Chair referred to a letter received from the Leader of the SIC with regard to the level of disbursement to support the Rural Care Model. In this regard he said that further discussion was needed with the SIC to take that matter forward, but in the meantime the Trust was being asked to consider the amended report today in order that those groups were

aware by the end of the calendar year, as to the level of funding they were to receive. The Chair added that the proposed disbursements were within the budget agreed for next year. He advised that there were a couple of minor amendments to be made to the report, as follows:

1. The total of the 2015/16 table in paragraph 3.1 should read £6,383,052; and
2. Under section 8 – Financial Implications, the paragraph number should be 8.1 and not 9.1.

Mr J L B Smith moved that the Trust approve the recommendations contained in the report at section 9.1 (a) and (b).

Mr A Duncan said that he was not happy to agree the recommendations today, particularly as no progress had been made in discussions with the Council. Mr Duncan said that some of the funding being proposed was significant amounts and that if there were problems with the rural care homes it concerned him, and he would rather see further reductions for those organisations listed in the report.

Dr Wills said that the funding being proposed for those other organisations had been discussed by the Disbursements Committee. He said these were the recommended sums, and although each was a decrease from previous years they were in line with financial policy. Dr Wills said that if there was a proposal to reduce these amounts further, this should be considered first by the Disbursements Committee.

Mr K Massey said that Trustees in a previous meeting had already sanctioned the budget to 2020 and agreed that if anything significant came up to challenge or change the financial position, then that would be reviewed. Also, he said, at that previous meeting, it was agreed that a review would take place, so there was in effect plenty of scope to look at the way forward beyond this current year. Mr Massey added that, on a general point regarding some of the bodies receiving funding, he was of the view that some of the stated objectives should contain more detailed information, which would also help with monitoring.

Trustees noted that the General Purposes Committee was scheduled to meet in the New Year and would consider the format and structure of applications and reporting.

Dr Wills seconded the motion by Mr Smith.

Dr Wills went on to say that he wanted to draw the attention of Trustees to the fact that whilst the decision to fund the Rural Care Model had been delayed, looking through the budget it was clear to see that there was an enormous amount of funding that goes towards providing services for the elderly through other organisations. Dr Wills said he found the approach taken by the SIC Leader to be unusual and should have been dealt with by the Chief Executives, thereby leaving Trustees free from accusation of lobbying or giving the impression that the Council had any level of control over the Trust. However, he said he

was happy for the Trust to have a discussion with the Council about the allocation to social care services.

Decision:

The Trust approved:

- (a) the grant budget of £6,098,878 as detailed in section 3.1 of the report; and
- (b) the draw down of the approved grant budgets in 4.1 to 6.4, including the preparation of the Grant Offer Letters, which set out simple statements of the services and standards expected to be received for the grants awarded.

The meeting concluded at 10.10 a.m.

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CHAIR