

CHARITABLE TRUSTEE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Thursday, 4th September 2014

PRESENT: Councillors Joinson, Neilson, Nickson, O'Neill and Sheerin

OFFICERS: J Murphy (Finance Directorate) E Cunningham Doyle, M Hardman, G Finch and C Denyer (Customers and Corporate Directorate)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: P Keppie (Falinge Park High School)

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR 2014/15

1 **DECIDED – That Councillor O'Neill be appointed Chair of the Charitable Trustee Committee for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.**

(Councillor O'Neill in the Chair)

APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR 2014/15

2 **DECIDED – That Councillor Neilson be appointed Vice-Chair of the Charitable Trustee Committee for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.**

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3 There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES

4 **DECIDED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Charitable Trustee Committee held on 29th May 2012 be approved as a correct record.**

CHARITABLE TRUSTEE COMMITTEE - TERMS OF REFERENCE

5 The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive which presented the terms of reference and role of the Charitable Trustee Committee. The terms of reference had been amended by the Council at the Annual Meeting held on 4th June 2014 to include reference to all those bodies where the Council is sole trustee.

DECIDED – That the report be noted.

LENNY BARN PLAYING FIELDS - REQUEST FOR USE OF LAND

6 The Committee considered the report of the Monitoring Officer which presented a request from Falinge Park High School for the use of a fenced hard play area on Lenny Barn Playing Fields for the purposes of car parking relating to Parents Evenings and an Open Evening. The Monitoring Officer sought the removal of the words 'and at the weekends' from paragraph 5.1 of the submitted report and clarified the area concerned as being the 'tennis court' area nearest to the school buildings as shown on the plan attached to the submitted report.

Further to the submitted report the Monitoring Officer reported on the written comments received that day from a local resident, Mr C Faulkner, who, although indicating agreement in principle with the request from the school, raised concerns with regard to whether the permission would be extended to other organisations and at other times than those stipulated in the submitted report. Mr Faulkner also raised the issue of the public access to the multi-use games area in the evening and at weekends.

The Committee considered the views of Mr Keppie, a representative of Falinge Park High School, who addressed the Committee in relation to the request who confirmed the nature of the application and the undertakings indicated in the submitted report.

The Committee gave due consideration to the request and undertakings of the School and the public submission against the purposes of Lenny Barn Playing Fields.

The Monitoring Officer reported further on correspondence received that day concerning the use of land at Ings Lane, Rochdale, that land falling within the Lenny Barn Trust. Officers undertook to investigate and report their findings to a future meeting of this Committee.

DECIDED – That the approval be granted to the request by Falinge Park High School to use the fenced multi-use play area nearest to the school, shown as ‘tennis court’ on the plan contained within the submitted report, at Lenny Barn Playing Fields for the purposes of car parking on not more than five occasions per annum subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) The permission is granted solely for the purposes of car parking for the parents’ evenings four times a year between the hours of 15:00 and 18:00hrs, and the open evening once per year between the hours of 15:00 and 19:00hrs;**
- (ii) Notices are to be posted on the multi-use games area (MUGA) to inform users of the temporary measures prior to an event;**
- (iii) The school security team are to manage the event to ensure the correct parking of vehicles and the opening and closing of gates between 15.00 and 18.00hrs (19.00hrs for the open evening);**
- (iv) The school continues to maintain the MUGA by marking, maintaining the perimeter fence, sweeping as required and de-icing in winter;**
- (v) The pedestrian gate to the games area being opened for the evening and at the weekend to allow public use of the multi-use games area.**

F AND A S MASKEW BEQUEST - DELEGATED OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

7 The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive which sought agreement for delegated powers to the Deputy Chief Executive for the expenditure of funds from the F and A S Maskew Bequest.

The proposal sought approval from the Committee to maintain the current day to day operational arrangements pending any further considerations which this Committee may have in relation to the Bequest.

DECIDED – That (1) the Deputy Chief Executive be delegated authority to approve expenditure up to the total sum of £10,000 per annum from the Maskew Bequest for the purposes of the purchase of books and the promotion of and engagement with the F and A S Maskew Bequest Collection;

(2) proposed expenditure in excess of £10,000 per annum to be the subject of report to this Committee for approval, with any urgent matters requiring a decision prior to the convening of a meeting of this Committee to be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive after consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of this Committee;

(3) any proposed expenditure or other matter impacting upon the F and A S Maskew Bequest specifically which has been the subject of a report to the Cabinet or to an individual Portfolio Holder be submitted to this Committee for approval as the Bequest Trustee prior to the implementation of any decision.

NORCROSS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

8 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Finance which provided an update on the financial position of the Norcross Scholarship Fund to confirm the amount available for payments to be made to people applying to the Fund for assistance.

DECIDED – That (1) the financial position of the Norcross Scholarship Fund as outlined in paragraphs 3 to 6 of the submitted report be noted;

(2) the amount of £7,152 shown as being available for the Charitable Trustee Committee to distribute to applicants during 2014-2015 be noted.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

9 **DECIDED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business as it is likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information as outlined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), namely information relating to any individual; information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual; and information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).**

NORCROSS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

10 Further to minute 8 above, the Committee considered the detailed supporting information with regard to the projected financial position of the Norcross Scholarship Fund 2014 - 15 contained within appendix 1 to the submitted report.

In discussion the Committee raised concerns with the regard to the management expenses indicated and queried whether a better return on the Fund's capital would be possible through the Council's Treasury Management arrangements.

DECIDED – That the detailed information relating to the financial position of the Norcross Scholarship Fund 2014 -15 be noted.

NORCROSS SCHOLARSHIP FUND - APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE

11 The Trustees considered applications for assistance from the Norcross Scholarship Fund and gave a due consideration against the eligibility criteria as contained within the Trust Deed.

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that a report concerning the application process for 2015 would be brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

DECIDED – That (1) applications referenced 01, 04, 08, 09, 13 and 16 as enclosed within the submitted report be regretfully declined;

(2) applications referenced 02, 03, 05, 06, 07, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18 and 19 as enclosed within the submitted report be accepted and awards of £550 be made in each instance;

(3) a report to be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee regarding the application process for the Norcross Scholarship Fund for 2015.