

Minutes of a meeting of the Regulatory and Appeals Committee held on Thursday, 6 February 2020 in the Banqueting Hall - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 2.00 pm
Concluded 2.50 pm

Present – Councillors

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT AND INDEPENDENT GROUP
Warburton Wainwright Amran Watson	Ali	Reid

Observer: Councillor Winnard

Councillor Warburton in the Chair

64. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures of interest in matters under consideration were received.

65. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted by the public to review decisions to restrict documents.

66. THE FORMER BINGLEY SCIENCE, ARTS & TECHNICAL SCHOOL TRUST ("THE FORMER SCHOOL") 1889 AND 1896 TRUST SETTLEMENT

In May 2019 the Council as corporate trustees (the trustees) made three awards for educational purposes and agreed the remainder of the proceeds of sale of the former school should be held in a trust interest bearing bank account in the name of the Council as Corporate Trustees.

The City Solicitor submitted a report (**Document "AD"**) which invited the Trustees to review the current position and consider the options and

recommendations relating to the following:-

- (i) Future investment of the trust fund to safeguard its capital value (currently stands at £223,000) and provide an income for future awards for educational purposes.
- (ii) A constitution and name of the trust fund and its registration with the Charity Commissioners.

The City Solicitor gave an overview of the report, setting out the historical context and the significance of the Bingley Educational Trust. He drew attention to the current situation regarding the trust fund and that given the derisory interest rate the fund was accruing at the present time, the proposal was to invest the money in line with similar funds the Council was administering, which should yield a better return, and therefore it was proposed that no awards be sanctioned at the present time.

In addition the Trust should be set up as a charity and the mechanics of achieving this was set out in the report, with a proposal to rename it and also recommend the inclusion of Bingley Grammar School as part of the area from which applications for assistance could be considered.

A Bingley Ward Councillor was present at the meeting and he urged the Trustees to handle all applications with transparency and ensure that the governance arrangements were stringent, and he suggested that Ward Councillors should be fully consulted when applications for assistance were received.

The City Solicitor clarified that the previous award to Bingley Pool had now been returned to the Council.

The Chair of Bingley Town Council was also present at the meeting and she urged that in setting up the new charity, the money left in trust should not be diverted to cover administrative costs and she also urged local representation on the Trust, and that the Trustees work closely with the Town Council.

The Chair stressed that the Trustees would act in the best interest of the Trust and that this Committee sitting as Trustees comprised of a broad church of people.

Members were in agreement that in considering applications for assistance, that Bingley Ward Councillors and a nominated person from Bingley Town Council should be consulted as part of that process, and it was therefore:

Resolved –

- (1) That Options 2, 3 and 6 be approved seeking the appropriate internal and external legal and financial advice where required and in the meantime continue with option 1 as set out in Document “AD”.**
- (2) That assistance be sought from the Charity Commissioners relating to the registration of the trust as a charity, its future constitution and its geographical area.**
- (3) That the City Solicitor write to schools and other educational organisations in the BIAD (including Bingley Grammar School) to explain the existence of the trust funds and the option to seek awards in 2021 when the investments of the fund have been settled.**
- (4) That the City Solicitor publicise the existence of the Trust Fund and seek additional donations from the residents and businesses of the Bingley area.**
- (5) That the concerns and suggestions of the Bingley Town Council be noted but that the current arrangements for the administration of the trust fund and awards with the Council be kept for the present time.**
- (6) That upon registration the Charity be called “1887 Alfred Sharp Bingley Education Trust Fund”.**
- (7) That in considering applications for funding the City Solicitor consults with the Bingley Ward Councillors and a nominated representative from Bingley Town Council prior to submission to the Trustees.**

ACTION: City Solicitor

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Regulatory and Appeals Committee.