

Minutes of a meeting of the Regulatory and Appeals Committee (Meeting as Trustees) held on Thursday, 27 October 2022 in Council Chamber - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 11.45 am Concluded 12.30 pm

Present - Councillors

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	GREEN
Salam Alipoor Shabir Hussain	Brown Sullivan	Edwards

Observers: Councillors Dearden & Winnard

Apologies: Councillor Shafiq

Councillor Salam in the Chair

15. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

In the interest of transparency, Councillor R Brown disclosed that he was a Member of an educational trust in his ward.

ACTION: Director of Legal and Governance

16. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

17. THE 1887 ALFRED SHARP BINGLEY EDUCATIONAL TRUST AND THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

The Assistant Director of Neighbourhoods and Customer Services submitted a report (**Document "H"**) which provided information on processes for providing grant funds to institutions and groups in Bingley.

The Head of Stronger Communities gave a detailed rationale of the possible

funding vehicles that could be utilised to allocate the funding. The options were set out in Document "H".

A Member stated that what was required was clear guidance on where the funding could be allocated and what it could be specifically spent on.

A Ward Councillor was present at the meeting and echoed the above comment and suggested that the four primary schools in the area could benefit from the funding; however, the funding boundary area needed to be determined as this was not clear.

Another Ward Councillor was also present at the meeting and asked for clarifications on the following points:

- Important that whatever grant scheme is agreed upon, that applications should be evaluated by those with a good current knowledge of Bingley, and suggested that this should be done by the Bingley Ward Officers with the three Bingley Ward Councillors and a representative of Bingley Town Council; this was agreed at previous meetings discussing this issue. He added that this should not be for the Shipley Area Committee, as most members are too far removed from the town.
- Need to understand what funds will be made available for each grant round. That it would easier to administer and for the public to understand if this is a fixed sum.
- How many grant rounds would you have per year and when (an annual award was discussed in 2019).
- Grants needed to be large enough to make a difference say up to £5K or larger if a strong case is made – could be used for projects or small capital investments.
- That clarity was needed on the Bingley Improvement District Bingley was much smaller in 1892; could this legally be interpreted to cover the Bingley ward area, otherwise might be seen as unfair if only small number of schools could be allowed to participate. A clear map of the Trust Fund area was therefore needed.
- Will the grant be for organisations based in the area, or for service delivery in the area?
- Will support for education (or whatever is in the charitable aim) be wider than just schools?
- What are the plans for the investment of the capital, any attempt to get a reasonable return on this, or will it remain in a low interest account?
- What is the projection for the fund interest accrued, capital reduced etc. (eg. if grant fund is £20k per annum, do we expect an 11 or 12-year programme)?
- Can the Committee confirm that all legal costs (outsourcing to commercial lawyers) will be absorbed by the Council, and nothing has been or will be charged to the Fund? This is Important because ordinarily the charity would have been set up in-house.

After further discussion it was agreed that the meeting should be adjourned to 24 November 2022, to allow officers to respond to the above questions as well as other questions that may arise.

ACTION: Director of Legal & Governance / Assistant Director Neighbourhoods

Chair

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

THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER