

For Council: 10 March 2025 APPENDIX 2

Lichfield City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the Grants Advisory Committee
held in the Moulton Room, Guildhall at 6.30pm on Monday 24 February 2025

PRESENT: Councillors C Ball (Chair), H Ashton, D Baker, J Christie, A Hughes, P Knight, J Marshall and R Yardley.

APOLOGIES: Councillor K Farrelly.

Copies of applications for general revenue grant funding as detailed in these minutes are available to all members on request to the Town Clerk

39. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Cllr H Ashton declared an interest in the following applications under Appendix B of the LCC Code of Conduct:

- Games/Coffee Morning – friend of the applicant
- Churches Together in Lichfield – member of the enabling group and responsible for suggesting the application
- Lichfield Twinning Association – LCC representative
- Lichfield City of Sanctuary – LCC representative
- Lichfield & District over 60's Club – Responded to an appeal from the organiser and suggested the grant application

Cllr J Christie declared an interest under Appendix B regarding the application from 'The Well' as a family member utilises this service.

Cllr R Yardley declared an interest under Appendix A in relation to the application from Lichfield Shrievally Association (being Chair of the Association); Cllr Yardley left the room during discussion and voting thereon.

Cllr C Ball declared an interest under Appendix B in relation to:

- Curborough Community Association – LCC representative
- Proms in the Park – Member of Lichfield District Council
- Coffee Morning/Dereck Jones – acquainted with the applicant
- Lichfield City of Sanctuary – LCC representative and member
- Lichfield Litter Legends & The Well – acquainted with applicants

Cllr A Hughes declared an interest in the following:

- The Well – acquainted with organisers
- Lichfield City of Sanctuary and Waterways Trust – member of both organisations
- Lichfield Festival – Volunteer
- Trishaw/Big Red Bike - friend of the applicant

Cllr P Knight declared an interest under Appendix A in relation to the application from Curborough Community Centre (being Chair of Curborough Community Association who operate the Centre) and left the room during discussion and voting thereon. Cllr Knight also declared an interest under Appendix B in the following:

- Dovehouse Community Gardens – LCC appointed representative
- Lichfield Litter Legends – member
- City of Sanctuary – member
- Phoenix Counselling Service – family member is a Trustee

Cllr D Baker declared an interest under Appendix B in the following applications:

- S.E. Staffs CAB – LCC representative
- Lichfield City of Sanctuary – LCC representative
- Lichfield Garrick – former Trustee
- Shrievalty Association – friend of the applicant

40. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes Grants Committee meeting held on 11 November 2024 be confirmed as a correct record [Minutes adopted by Council on 16 December 2024]

41. GENERAL REVENUE GRANT – 2025/26 GRANTS

Members considered the 2025/26 grant applications and reports which had been previously circulated. Members noted the total sum of grants requested as £72,492. The total sum of grant budget and earmarked grant reserve is £54,033, generating a shortfall of £18,459. The Committee's recommend grant awards are detailed in the table below.

No.	Applicant	Amount Awarded (£)
1	South East Staffordshire Citizens Advice Bureau	3,500
2	Lichfield Community Sports Club CIC	3,000
3	Lichfield District Arts Association	2,120
4	Lichfield Greenhill Bower	3,225
5	Lichfield District Council, Proms In The Park	2,000
6	Liberty Jamboree	500
7	Dereck Jones (Games/Coffee Morning)	1,872
8	The Well	1,000
9	Erasmus Darwin Foundation	600
10	Voluntary Transport For The Disabled	1,000
11	Lichfield Waterworks Trust	0 (recommend CIL)
12	Lichfield Festival	1,250
13	Lichfield Hockey Club	200
14	Curborough Community Association	750
15	The City Of Lichfield Concert Band	1,000
16	Churches Together	300
17	Lichfield Talking News	500
18	The Lichfield Trishaw Project (Big Red Bike)	500
19	Gamers' Wellbeing	600
20	Lichfield Twinning Association	0
21	Dovehouse Community Gardens	300
22	Late Night Listeners (Two Applications)	345
23	Lichfield Ladies' and Men's Probus Club	0
24	The City of Lichfield Shrievalty Association	634
25	Soroptimist international Lichfield And District	120
26	Lichfield Litter Legends	2,500
27	Lichfield District City of Sanctuary	1,100
28	Lichfield Pride	1,000
29	Transition Lichfield (Repair and Share Café)	320
30	Lichfield Garrick Theatre	1,000
31	Lichfield Bowling Club	0
32	Lichfield Festival of Music	0
33	Lichfield Trent Valley Community First Responders	2,000

34	Dementia Caring	0
35	Lichfield Table Tennis Club	150
36	Christchurch School Association	474
37	The Staffordshire Pathway Project	1,000
38	Lichfield Friendship Centre	0
39	Lichfield & District Over 60's Club	0
40	Pheonix Counselling Service	313
41	Read Easy, Birmingham North, Tamworth & Lichfield	0
Total		£35,173

The Committee agreed that the Town Clerk and Chair should prepare a Press Release, to go out immediately after the March Council meeting, publicising the grants awarded and also that applications would be welcomed for the further grant funding available, particularly for events for school holiday activities. The Committee also agreed to review the Grant Application Form and the City Council priorities for grant funding at their next meeting in June

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

1. *That grants for the 2025/26 financial year be awarded as set out in the table above.*
2. *The unallocated portion of the grants fund (£18,860) be retained for possible allocation across 2025/26 or carried forward to 2026/27 as appropriate.*

42. CIL MONIES RECEIVED, COMMITTED AND FORECAST

Members considered the agenda report which provided detail of completed and ongoing CIL funded projects. The current amount of CIL available for allocation being £1,787 (including the Darwin Hall allocation formalised below).

RESOLVED: *That the report be noted.*

43. CIL REQUEST – DARWIN HALL

Members considered the Town Clerk's agenda report regarding the provision of new rear doors to Darwin Hall; the current provision being near the end of its service life and causing significant issues for the Hall's Management Committee, notably regarding false alarm activations in high winds caused by the movement of the doors against alarm sensors. The matter had been discussed informally by email prior to Christmas with Committee members giving their informal approval.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: *That a CIL allocation of £6,633 be made to provide new doors to the rear of Darwin hall, and to an improved standard.*

44. CIL UPDATE – DIGITAL SIGNAGE

Cllr H Ashton provided a verbal report, stating that he would asking a question on this matter at LDC full council on 25 February.

RESOLVED: *That the report be noted*

45. CIL ALLOCATION UPDATES

Members considered the agenda report detailing progress with several CIL allocations including the new lighting at Festival Gardens, troughs and associated pipework at The Moggs allotment site, bell restoration at St Mary's and the installation of Community Speed Watch signage. Members also noted the typographical error that had led to the allocation for CCTV improvements at the Guildhall being incorrectly quoted as £5,585.26 in previous agenda papers, the correct sum being £5,586.26. This had been identified by the Internal

Auditor and a request made to the Committee to amend the allocation by £1 to ensure all sums correlate for audit/reporting purposes.

RESOLVED: *That the report be noted.*

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: *The allocation for CCTV improvements to the Guildhall be increased by £1 to £5,586.26 to resolve the typographical error in the previous requested allocation.*

46. ACTION PLAN UPDATES

Members considered the action plan. Members agreed that the action plan was no longer needed as the items were covered in other parts of the agenda.

RESOLVED: *That the update be noted, and the action plan be removed from future agenda.*

47. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 2 June 2025 at 6.00pm; the meeting to be held via 'Zoom'.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.02PM**