

For Council: 9 March 2026 APPENDIX 1

Lichfield City Council Minutes of the Meeting of the Grants Advisory Committee held in the Moulton Room, Guildhall at 6.30pm on Monday 23 February 2026

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

APOLOGIES: None

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 under Appendix A in relation to the grant request from Lichfield Fairtrade as he is a Steering Group member, and Churches Together as he is Lay Chair of the organisation. Cllr Ashton left the room during discussion and voting thereon.

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

- LWMTS/Proms in the Park – Member of LDC's LWMTS Shareholder Advisory Board
- Games/Coffee Morning – Friend of the applicant
- Lichfield Twinning Association – LCC representative and member
- Lichfield Litter Legends – ward Cllr for event area
- Lichfield City of Sanctuary – LCC representative
- Lichfield & District over 60's Club – Suggested the grant application
- Lichfield Society of Artists – Spouse is a member

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

- CASES – LCC Representative
- Voluntary Transport for the Disabled – Former Mayor's charity
- Lichfield Shrievally Association – Friend of applicant
- Lichfield City of Sanctuary – LCC representative
- Lichfield Sheriff's Ride Committee – Friend of applicant
- Lichfield Garrick – Former Trustee

Cllr C Ball declared an interest under Appendix A in relation to the grant request from Lichfield Fairtrade as he is a Steering Group member, and left the room during discussion and voting thereon, the meeting being Chaired by Cllr A Hughes in his absence.

Cllr Ball also declared an interest under Appendix B in relation to the following as he is acquainted with the applicants:

- Coffee Morning/Dereck Jones
- The Well
- Churches Together
- Big Red Bike
- Late Night Listeners
- Lichfield Shrievally Association
- Soroptimist International
- Lichfield Litter Legends
- Lichfield Sheriff's Ride Committee
- Lichfield Re:Cycle

Also in relation to:

- Lichfield City of Sanctuary – LCC representative and member
- CIL request – Christian Fields – ward member and involvement in site meetings and associated discussions

Cllr J Christie declared an interest under Appendix B regarding the following applications:

- The Well - Family member uses service
- Lichfield Festival - Children attend one of the schools which would benefit if awarded)
- Lichfield Discovered - Spouse is a volunteer

Cllr P Knight declared an interest in the application from Lichfield Litter Legends under Appendix B as a member of the organisation.

Cllr J Marshall declared an interest in the application from Big Red Bike as a Governor of Saxon Hill school that is mentioned in the application

Cllr A Hughes declared an interest under Appendix B in the following applications:

- Lichfield Waterworks Trust – Member
- Big Red Bike – Friend of the applicant
- City of Sanctuary – Member of the organisation
- Lichfield Discovered – Supporter
- Lichfield Festival – Volunteer, friend of applicant

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

40. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes Grants Committee meeting held on 25 November 2025 be confirmed as a correct record [Minutes adopted by Council on 8 December 2025]

41. GENERAL REVENUE GRANTS – 2025/26 BALANCES

The Committee considered the Town Clerk's agenda report, setting out the 2025/26 balances.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

42. GENERAL REVENUE GRANT – 2026/27 GRANTS

Members considered the 2026/27 grant applications and reports which had been previously circulated. Members noted the total sum of grants requested as £74,393. The total sum of grant budget and earmarked grant reserve is £58,633, generating a shortfall of £15,760. The Committee's recommended grant awards are detailed in the table below. Several applications attracted individual comments from the Committee that will be provided to applicants on confirmation of grant award.

No.	Applicant	Amount Awarded (£)
1	South East Staffordshire Citizens Advice Bureau	3000
2	Lichfield Arts	3000
3	Lichfield Greenhill Bower	3225
4	LWMTS (LDC), Proms In The Park	2000
5	Liberty Jamboree	0
6	Dereck Jones (Games/Coffee Morning)	1000
7	The Well	1000
8	Erasmus Darwin Foundation	750
9	Voluntary Transport For The Disabled	1000

10	Lichfield Waterworks Trust	1000
11	Lichfield Festival	1908
12	Lichfield Hockey Club	700
13	City of Lichfield Concert Band	665
14	Churches Together	500
15	The Lichfield Trishaw Project (Big Red Bike)	800
16	Lichfield Twinning Association	120
17	Dovehouse Community Gardens	300
18	Late Night Listeners	300
19	The City of Lichfield Shrievally Association	0
20	Soroptimist International Lichfield & District	120
21	Lichfield Litter Legends	2000
22	Lichfield District City of Sanctuary	1200
23	Transition Lichfield (Repair Café)	400
24	Lichfield Garrick Theatre	923
25	Lichfield Bowling Club	300
26	Lichfield Festival of Music	0
27	Dementia Caring	0
28	The Staffordshire Pathway Project	675
29	Lichfield & District Over 60's Club	300
30	Phoenix Counselling Service	595
31	Read Easy, Birmingham North, Tamworth & Lichfield	0
32	Lichfield Sheriff's Ride Committee	690
33	Lichfield Community First Responders	0
34	Sweatbox	0
35	Lichfield Society of Artists	400
36	Lichfield Fairtrade	330
37	Lichfield Discovered	1320
38	Lichfield Re:Cycle	700
39	Men's Shed Lichfield	457
40	The Hub at St Mary's	700
Total		£32,378

The Committee agreed that the Town Clerk should prepare a Press Release, publicising the grants awarded and also that applications would be welcomed for the further grant funding available, particularly for events for school holiday activities.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

1. *That grants for the 2026/27 financial year be awarded as set out in the table above.*
2. *The unallocated portion of the grants fund (£26,285) be retained for possible allocation across 2026/27 or carried forward to 2027/28 as appropriate.*

43. CONSIDERATION OF LATE SUBMISSIONS

Members considered the application from the Anna Seward Primary School PTA (SOAS) for playground improvements. Following discussion, it was agreed by the Committee that the application would not be supported.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: *That no grant be awarded to SOAS at this time.*

44. 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 £16,076.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

45. CIL ALLOCATION UPDATES

Members considered the agenda report detailing progress with several CIL allocations including the parking prevention at Beaconfields, repairs to the driveway at St Michael's, the refurbishment of the Birthplace Museum kitchen facilities, and solar panel installation at Darwin Hall.

The Committee agreed they would be minded to withdraw funding for the Petit plaque if no significant developments were evident by the time of the next meeting. The Town Clerk confirmed that the applicant would be informed of this decision.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

46. CIL REQUEST – CHRISTIAN FIELDS

Members considered the Town Clerk's agenda report detailing LDC proposals to improve the Christian Fields open space on Eastern Avenue as part of the leisure centre offer. As site ownership is split between LDC and LCC, the District Council had approached the City Council to consider similar improvements to LCC owned land. The Town Clerk's report set out the resulting site meetings and contractor quotations that had been obtained.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That a CIL allocation of £32,300 be made to facilitate the desired improvements to the Christian Fields open space, associated car park and entry road. The amount over £16,076 be allocated subject to receipt of the forecast April CIL monies from LDC.

47. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 18 May 2026 at 6pm. The meeting to be held via Zoom.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.37PM**