



QUEEN CAMEL PARISH COUNCIL

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Draft Minutes of the Queen Camel Parish Council Community Benefit Panel on 19th April 2022 at 7.30pm, Marples Room, Memorial Hall

Public question time: Two members of the public were present. One representing the Memorial Hall and the other from St Barnabas Church

Present: Jane Crozier, Angus Davidson, Sue Gettings (Chair), Liz Jardine

CB 04/01 Apologies for absence: Beverley Davies, Dan Hewlett, Terri Plummer and Elaine Owen (Clerk)

CB 04/02 Declarations of interest: Angus Davidson, Sue Gettings and Liz Jardine (Memorial Hall Trustees)

CB 04/03 Minutes of the previous meeting on the 16th February 2022 to be confirmed as correct: It was resolved to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2022

CB 04/04 Chairpersons Report: Cllr Gettings reported that the precept had been approved as £20K

CB 04/05 Solar Farms To RECEIVE any update about the two solar farm agreements: Cllr Gettings reported that a Deed of Amendment was being drafted and did not contain any amendments to the funding criteria. It was also stated that Abercomyn Solar Ltd. forwarded their annual payment to the PC in February for £6658. NextPower Solar Farm's planning application is still pending.

CB 04/06 Opening up and Reconnecting Communities Fund To RECEIVE a progress report for the Community Lounge project: Cllr Gettings reported that interest in the Cleaveside Community Lounge Project was beginning to grow and an increase in activities have been planned for April and May. All listed activities are as a result of the Customer Survey. The accounts for April show expenses amounting to £735.01, with a balance of £3688.18 at 19 April c/f. A barbecue has been purchased which will not only service the needs of the Community Lounge but other community organisations.

CB 04/07 Defibrillators To RECEIVE an update about installation: Cllr Gettings reported that both defibrillators, with their cases, are now with their respective placements for installation. However, there does appear to be a concern raised by the PFMC's contracted-in electrician who is now in discussion with the defibrillator supplier, as there is an electrical wire which is on show when installed. This wire could easily be tampered with. The PFMC is awaiting feedback. Meanwhile, it was suggested that Cllr Gettings raised the concern with the Chair of the Memorial Hall who is currently holding the other defibrillator.

CB 04/08 To consider the APPLICATION for a Donation for Jubilee coins from Countess Gytha Primary School: A motion was carried unanimously to recommend to Council a payment in the form of a donation of £224.25 from the Precept. It was felt that the coin would provide each child with an important physical keepsake in marking a memorable occasion as it gives them a tangible point to refer to.

CB 04/09 To consider the APPLICATION for a Grant for solar panels for the Village Hall: A special dispensation in the absence of the Clerk, was agreed by the Chair, that the three Panel members, although Trustees of the Hall, would be able to discuss the Application and vote according to the remaining Panel member's judgement and recommendation proposal. The Panel agreed that:

- the Solar Farm agreement says that energy saving projects should be a priority
- The system is environmentally friendly for future generations – providing green energy to the Grid, helping to address climate change
- It is an investment for the future; reduction in costs for the Hall, thus freeing up money for improving the facility in other ways

- It is an encouragement for others to follow suit.

The Panel voted unanimously to recommend that the Council should approve the funding application for 80% of the cost (£11,370) = £ 9,000 as the Hall is prepared to pay the 20% balance. As the Hall is a charitable organisation then the VAT is charged at 5%. Would the Council consider purchasing the solar panels and donating the money, less the 5% (£568) to the Memorial Hall?

CB 04/10 To consider the APPLICATION for a Grant for Cricket Club youth equipment: The Panel acknowledges a well presented and comprehensive Application. Voted unanimously for the Council to approve the Application for the funding sum of £705.76 as it demonstrated on-going social interaction, fitness, youth activities and involvement and growth. More importantly, it promotes community activity which the Solar Farm portrays in their evidence criteria. However, it is recommended that for future funding applications, the Cricket Club needs to demonstrate how they are supporting their own facilities and independence. There should not be an assumed reliance on the PC funding their equipment or training.

Perhaps, in this case, the PC should buy and donate the equipment so that the VAT can be reclaimed?

CB 04/11 To consider the APPLICATION for a Grant from St Barnabas church: It is to be noted that a representative from the Parochial Church Council was present to answer any questions and to provide further information. The Application form was amended to show a request for funding as follows:

Lighting and clock maintenance £450
 Church upkeep (grounds) £1,900 + VAT (quote shown)
 The Camels Magazine £150
 Total requested: £2,500

After much deliberation the Panel voted 3 For, with 1 Abstaining, to recommend to Council to approve the funding of the Church upkeep from the CBF as it meets with environmental aspects and needs and the lighting, clock maintenance and Camels Magazine from the Precept, with a condition that the VAT could be reclaimed.

The Panel's recommendations came from discussions centred on the following positive project objectives:

- The Church is an on-going asset to the community
- The success of the Project would maintain the dignity of the heritage, the architecture and history
- It would encompass many environmental features e.g. wildflower garden, leaving the first cut of grass until late so that the bees and other insects can benefit from feeding and breeding, bat and bird boxes and insect hotels and planting new trees which would assist climate change

CB 04/12 Communications Dissemination of information to the community: The Panel agreed to recommend to the Council that it would be a good idea at the AVM for a Panel member to highlight the working development of the CBF and the money which has been contributed to assist project work within different community organisations. If the Council approved the recommendations, then the Chair would seek a volunteer.

CB 04/13 AOB: Discussion / exchange of information only, no decisions may be taken under this heading.
 There was a suggestion that organisations should be encouraged to make a contribution and to not assume that the PC would fulfil an obligation to pay 100% of the funding application.

Date of next meeting: To be confirmed as and when future Applications are submitted

Meeting closed at: 21.04hrs

Sue Gettings Chair and Minute taker

Signed: ----- Chair Date: -----