



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL GRANTS COMMITTEE
AT THE OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL, MARKET HARBOROUGH
25th September 2024 – 4:30 pm

1 Participants

Jenny Balme	Chair of General Grants and Trustee
Chris Davies	Trustee
Wendy Hempson	Charity Secretary
Dr Sarah Hill	Trustee
Kerry Merryweather	Trustee
Tony Walters	Trustee

Apologies:

Ed Green	Trustee
----------	---------

2 Conflicts of Interest

The trustees declared they had no conflicts of interest or loyalty but would declare it if one came up during the meeting.

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting on 14th August 2024 – Appendix I

The draft minutes of the meeting of the General Grants Committee on 14th August 2024 were agreed as an accurate record.

4 Actions from meeting on 14th August 2024

There were no outstanding actions from previous meetings.

5 Matters arising not on main agenda

6 Budget

A budget estimate of £160,000 had been put to the August 2024 Board, in anticipation of the 2025 budget, which would be presented by the Finance Committee at the November 2024 Board meeting.

7 Charity Secretary's Report – Appendix III

The updates and reports in the Charity Secretary's report were noted.

8. Project Applications

There were none.

9 Grant Applications

9.1 Dogz Dinners (2024-G20) – Appendix III

An application for £1,500 for a laptop from which posters and podcasts could be created to promote Dogz Dinners, an animal foodbank which provides free pet food for owners locally who are struggling financially. Based on the number of beneficiaries in the Charity's Area of Benefit, trustees decided to award £650 towards the purchase of a laptop for this purpose.

Action: Grant £650 to Dogz Dinners and request a report after six months – Charity Secretary

9.2 Sustainable Sewing (2024-G18) – Appendix IV

An application for £3,000 to fund the cost of a new sewing machine and the transformation of a garden shed into a workroom. While the sustainable aspect of the applicant's request was supported, Trustees could not support an individual's business, and no funds were granted.

Action: Inform Sustainable Sewing that the Charity could not support the application – (2024-G18) – Charity Secretary

10 Reports

- Report from Harborough Band Timpani – 2024-G10

The update from Harborough Band was noted, and the fact that the £2,000 granted had been ringfenced for the new timpani, which had yet to be purchased.

11 Any other business

- 11.1 Jenny's report on the Old Grammar School was noted and its possible uses discussed – for meetings, as an annex to the museum, for exhibitions, private bookings, school groups, and more. The possibility of purchasing some of the

adjacent land would be explored, in case it could provide more options for future use.

Action: Look into the possibility of the Charity purchasing some of the land adjacent to the Old Grammar School - Sarah

11.2 An update was provided on the potential purchase of Roman Way and the positive responses to the proposed bid which had been received.

12 Any matters for the Board

13 Dates of meetings in 2024

- Wednesday 6th November 2024
- Wednesday 11th December 2024