



MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
**WEST BRIDGFORD SPECIAL EXPENSES AND COMMUNITY
INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY ADVISORY GROUP**
TUESDAY, 12 MARCH 2024

Held at 4.00 pm in the Council Chamber Area A, Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road, West Bridgford

PRESENT:

Councillors D Virdi (Chair), J Chaplain, P Matthews, A Phillips, D Polenta, G Wheeler and J Wheeler

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

J Bate	Team Manager - Planning, Monitoring and Implementation
M Sawyer	Planning Contributions Officer
T Coop	Democratic Services Officer

APOLOGIES:

Councillors S Dellar and R Mallender

13 Declarations of Interest

As Borough and Ward Councillors for some of the Expressions of Interest applications, Councillor J Wheeler and Councillor D G wheeler declared a non-pecuniary interest.

14 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 December 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2023 were approved.

15 Expressions of Interest Consultation Responses for the Group to Consider

The Group had been provided with a comprehensive list of responses from the public consultation which was held for a period of six weeks during January and February 2024. The responses indicated both the publics support for a particular project and concerns which the Group were asked to consider.

The Team Manager – Planning, Monitoring and Implementation advised the Group that two of the projects were no longer proceeding with their CIL applications and the reasons as follows:

Nottingham Falcon – Korfball Equipment Storage

This application was no longer applicable as the Nottingham Falcons had confirmed their assumption that the proposed storage locker could be sited at an RBC facility, no approach had been made to confirm that this would be acceptable. With no agreed place to site the storage it would not be

appropriate to fund its purchase.

West Bridgford South Trent Girlguiding – Paxdien Hall Renovations

This application had received much public support from the consultation. However, the Group were informed that an application for UKSPF funding had also been submitted and this had been successful, therefore the request for CIL funding was no longer required.

Better By Bike

This project had been well supported with very few concerns.

Members of the Group did raise some concern that the organisation was based in Nottingham City and requested that a condition be added to ensure the CIL funding is spent on projects that will benefit the West Bridgford community.

The Group approved the project for CIL funding subject to measures to ensure that the funding benefitted West Bridgford are residents.

Notts Gymnastic Academy (NGA) – Café, office and viewing facilities

This project overall had been very well supported, but there were some concerns around the café element of the project not being of any benefit to the Gymnastics Academy itself.

Members were in support of the whole project and felt the café would only enhance what was already an excellent and well used facility.

The Group approved the project for CIL funding.

Little Bounds Cricket Pavilion – Accessible Toilet Renovations

The Group approved the project for CIL funding.

The Hook - Wildlife Pond Restoration

The Group approved the project for CIL funding.

St Paul's Wellbeing Hub – Community Bus

The Team Manager – Planning, Monitoring and Implementation advised the Group that the original application for CIL funding had been increased to allow for VAT on the purchase price of a minibus and to include driver training. Future running costs such as MOT, servicing and insurance have also been omitted from the application.

The Group approved the project for CIL funding.

NHS Social Prescribing Service – Community Hub

Members had previously questioned how these projects were funded in other areas and had requested further detail on where and how the funding would be spent. The Team Manager – Planning, Monitoring and Implementation explained

that the NHS had not yet responded to officer's requests for further clarification of how the funding would be used and also some detail of where the community hub would be located was yet to be determined.

The Group approved the project for CIL funding subject to confirmation of how projects are funded in other areas and confirmation of a venue for the Community Hub.

Church of Holy Rood – Path Improvements

The Group noted this project had received some support and also a number of negative comments in respect of it benefitting one particular religious organisation. The Group felt the project would provide greater access for the wider community, including a remembrance garden and a community food bank. The Group did not feel that the public open space that the funding was in support of represented a religious use of funds, but rather a use of funds on a public open space open to all of the community.

The Group approved the project for CIL funding.

Lady Bay Scout Hall – Commemorative Mosaics and Tree Planting

This project had received modest support and there were some concerns around value for money. The Group felt the Scouting organisation was very well supported locally with all beavers, cubs and scout group collectively being involved. The Group also noted that 2024 is a centenary anniversary of the scout movement.

The Group approved the project for CIL funding.

The Group considered the four Council proposed schemes for the additional 10% of the strategic element of CIL funding which were also being supported by other match funding streams.

- **Sir Julian Cahn Pavilion West Park**
- **Alford Road Playing Fields**
- **Bridgford Park**
- **Bridge Field**

The Group felt that all four projects would enhance the Council's provision of community indoor and outdoor sports and would make a real difference within West Bridgford and the wider community, particularly with regard to accessibility and inclusivity.

The Group approved all four projects to receive the strategic element of CIL funding.

The Team Manager – Planning, Monitoring and Implementation advised the Group that once the organisations have been notified that their applications have been successful, the communications team will share information on all Council social media platforms and the Council website.

With regards to future CIL bids the Planning Contributions Officer explained that now officers are familiar with the process a further campaign will be promoted shortly to for further Expressions of Interest. It is anticipated that the process will continue on a half yearly basis while CIL funding lasts and officers are looking at tailoring it to targeted groups so as to spread the funding as widely as possible, possibly tiering the funding in values going forward. For example, bids under £5000 etc.

The Group asked when monies would be released and requested this be done as quickly as possible, so the successful organisations were not kept waiting.

The meeting closed at 5.30 pm.

CHAIR