



Page 1

## Minutes of the Grants Committee meeting held on Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 13:00 in Manor Office, 6 North Street, Crediton

**Present:** Cllrs Liz Brookes-Hocking, Joyce Harris and Vix Frisby

**Apologies:** Cllr Steve Huxtable (unwell) Cllr John Downes (personal)

**In Attendance:** Jamie Parker from Bang Bang Boxing Club

**Minute Taker:** Emily Armitage

### MINUTES

#### 1 ELECTION OF CHAIR

The meeting commenced with the election of the Chair for the year 2025-2026. Councillor Brookes-Hocking was proposed for the position, and the proposal was seconded and agreed upon by all present members.

**Decision:** Councillor Liz Brookes-Hocking was elected as Chair for the year 2025-2026.  
(Proposed by Cllr Harris)

#### 2 ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR

Following the election of the Chair, the committee proceeded to elect the Deputy Chair for the year 2025-2026. Councillor Downes was proposed for the position, and the proposal was seconded and approved by the committee. Councillor Downes, known for his involvement in community organisations, was accepted as Deputy Chair.

**Decision:** Councillor John Downes was elected as Deputy Chair for the year 2025-2026.  
(Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

#### 3 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Councillor Brookes-Hocking, the newly elected Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Grants Committee of Crediton Town Council. Each member introduced themselves.

#### 4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

During Public Question Time, a member of the public present was invited to ask questions relevant to the work of the council. No questions were raised, and the committee moved on to the next agenda item.

**5 APOLOGIES**

The committee received and accepted apologies from Councillor Downes, due to personal reasons, and Councillor Huxtable, who is unwell. The apologies were formally accepted by the committee. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

**6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

**6.1 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPI'S) IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**

Councillor Brookes-Hocking declared a personal interest in Crediton Arts Centre, of which she is a member. No other declarations of personal interest or disclosable pecuniary interests were made by the members.

**6.2 TO CONSIDER ANY DISPENSATION REQUESTS (REQUESTS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE TOWN CLERK PRIOR TO THE MEETING)**

No requests for dispensations were made.

**7 ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The committee agreed to maintain the order of business as outlined in the agenda. No adjustments were deemed necessary to accommodate visiting members of the public.

**8 CHAIR'S AND CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**9 GRANTS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2025 were reviewed and approved as a correct record by the committee. The proposal to approve the minutes was seconded and agreed upon.

**Decision:** The minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2025 were approved as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

**10 2025-2026 BUDGET**

The committee noted the remaining funds from the 2025-2026 budget, totalling £6,211. This information was acknowledged without further discussion.

**11 SIGNIFICANT SEAMS 2025-26**

The committee considered the application from Significant Seams for £3,000. The application included projects such as the Eco Crafting event, mental health volunteering, and the development of the Creativity Acre. Despite some events already having taken place, the committee agreed to fund the projects, recognising the application was

submitted before the events occurred. The committee decided to check if the October half-term event had taken place before finalising the funding. The proposal to fund the application was agreed upon, without setting a precedent for future applications.

**Decision:** The committee agreed to fund the projects proposed by Significant Seams, recognising the application was submitted before the events occurred.

**Task:** Check if the October half-term event by Significant Seams had taken place before finalising the funding. *@Liz Brookes-Hocking*

## 12 2026-2027 APPLICATIONS

The committee received and noted the list of grant applications for 2026-2027. The applications included various groups and organisations.

### 12.1 SMALL GRANTS (UP TO £700)

The small grant applications, currently totalling £5,000, will be considered alongside the smaller grants protocol as detailed in the Grants Policy. These applications will be added to the agenda to note at the next meeting. (Requested by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

### 12.2 LARGE GRANTS (UP TO £3,000)

The committee reviewed part of the list of large grant applications for 2026-2027 from various groups and organisations. The following applications were considered and approved:

- Crediton Arts Centre: £1,000 for general running costs.
- Crediton Youth Theatre: £1,000 for summer performances and workshops.
- Crediton & District Swimming Club: £1,500 for development of their swimming programme and equipment.
- Crediton Area History and Museum Society: £1,500 for new exhibitions.
- Crediton Town Band: £1,500 for new instruments and encouraging new players.
- Journey Counselling Service: £1,500 for subsidising counselling services.
- CODS: £2,000 for operatic and dramatic productions.
- Crediton Heart Project: £2,000 for cultural activities and events.
- QE School: £2,200 for developing open space areas and rewilding projects.
- Involve Voluntary Action in Mid Devon: £2,550 for coordinating community projects.
- Sustainable Crediton including Crediton Food Larder: £2,915 for various community projects and reducing food wastage.
- Churches Housing Action Team (CHAT): £3,000 for outreach and housing support.
- The Turning Tides Project: £3,000 for their cycling and employment skills projects.
- Bang Bang Boxing Club: £3,000 for organising a boxing event at the leisure centre, promoting the Council's support.

The application from Pippins Pre-School and Nursery for £1,250 for iPads for staff assessments was deemed outside the criteria and not approved.

**Decision:** The committee decided to approve the grant applications for 2026-2027 from various groups and organisations, totalling £29,915, with the exception of Pippins Pre-

School and Nursery's application for £1,250, which was deemed outside the criteria and not approved. Total approved: **£28,665**, to be ratified by Full Council at a future meeting.

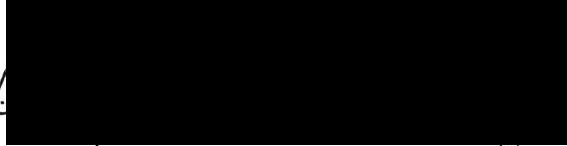
#### 13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The committee agreed to hold the next meeting on Tuesday 6 January 2026 at 13.00 to discuss the remaining applications for 2026-2027. This date was chosen to ensure adequate time for reviewing applications before further budget meetings.

**Decision:** The committee decided to hold the next meeting on 6 January 2026 at 13.00 to discuss the remaining applications for 2026-2027.

The meeting was closed at 13.38.

#### 14 REPORTS PACK

Signed .....  .....

Dated.....06/01/2026.....