

## **Minutes from the Asset and Project Management Meeting 6.11.20**

### Present:

Chair Cllr. D. Davies, Cllrs. J. Stuart, C. Evans, R. Thomas, J. Narborough, and C. Walton

Guy Jones from the Community Fund (Big Lottery) Clerk Julie Davies

### Apologies:

Cllr. A. Davies

Introduction: Chair introduced the members of the Asset Committee to Guy Jones and Cllr. R. Thomas explained the purpose of the group. Invitation was extended to Guy to explain who he was and what he and the Community Fund from the Big Lottery can do for Rhayader Town Council. He provided a brief presentation.

**Summary of presentation:** Every 28p in the pound raised through the lottery goes to good causes, which in turn means there is approx. 30 million pounds available for Wales. Groups from the Arts, Sports, Communities, and Town Councils can apply for grants from the Community Fund.

### **There are 3 levels of grants available:**

Level 1 - Awards for all which are grants up to £10,000 and can be awarded within a period of up to 7 weeks.

Level 2 – People and Places small grant between £10,000 - £100,000 which take up to 7 months to be awarded and require more in-depth information from applicants.

Level 3 People and Places large grant £100,000 plus which take up to a year to award and have a 40% success rate.

Guy explained that the application procedure for grants is quite simple and he is available as a link to help us obtain money for RTC projects.

Contact details are 01686-611713 [guyjones@tnlcommunityfund.org.uk](mailto:guyjones@tnlcommunityfund.org.uk)

Cllr. R. Thomas discussed the core eligibility for grant application. Community consultation is required as evidence to provide information such as how many people will be able to access the project and what difference will a project mean to the community. How would it affect people's well-being etc.

To apply for any Capital Funding towards refurbishment, heating, access, modernisation to a building, RTC must own that building to apply for a grant. There are grants available.

Cllr. C. Evans asked Guy about match funding. Guy stressed there is no match funding required which is good news for RTC.

To obtain a grant Guy suggested stressing the fact that we are a rural community and because of this we are at a disadvantage.

Cllr. C. Evans asked would an application be considered for a multi locational project. Guy suggested mixture of funding becomes too complicated better applying for individual funding. Apply separately for each project.

Chair D. Davies commented that RTC are trying to link all assets together. Guy stated to do this you have to justify what benefit it would be to the community and emphasised again the need to apply for each project separately.

Cllr. J. Stuart discussed solar panels for heating RTC buildings and the surplus going back into the community. Guy said RTC would need evidence of sustainability.

Cllr. C. Evans suggested that power can be obtained from the Wye to sustain the Library and indirectly can also provide power indirectly to the football club. Noted as future discussion by the group.

Guy pointed out that there was no community centre in Rhayader. This speaks volumes when applying for grants as most areas have a community centre.

Cllr. C. Evans stated that we need guidance when RTC come to renew, repair and replace.

Guy suggested that whatever is required in the community RTC must get their own quotes and if referring to an asset received from PCC, obtain their quote and assessment of work that is required.

Guy Jones left the meeting at 7.45pm

Cllr. J. Stuart suggested that we establish a focus to the group. Refurbishment element and a Development Office element.

Cllr. D. Davies stated that as soon as we are in ownership of the Rhayader Library we should apply for a grant to refurbish the building and the site. All in agreement. Cllr. R. Thomas stated Guy would work with us on this to obtain the grant required.

Cllr. C. Walton briefly discussed a hydro scheme. It would be complicated to obtain a grant stated Cllr. D. Davies after hearing what Guy had to say on the application process.

It was agreed by the group to focus on the refurbishment of the Library first.

**Action** - Anwain Awards – Cllr. R. Thomas to contact Cllr. K. Curry to ask for assistance in an application for this award.

### **Kick Start Scheme:**

Cllr. C. Evans went over some of the details to the Kick Start Scheme which the Government have launched. You must be between the ages of 16-24 and on Universal Credit. The Government will pay the wages up to 25 hrs a week and they will also pay National Insurance and Pension contributions. There can be 6-month contracts but longer if we wish and we are not required to keep any one on after the allotted time. If RTC are interested, Cambrian Training will help us. Depending on what jobs RTC are looking to offer, applicants will need to hit the ground running and have some experience preferably. Do the group or Council have anyone in mind? There is a possibility of a £1,500 starting grant for each trainee to purchase equipment etc to do the job required.

Cllr. J. Stuart discussed the possibility of using the Kick Start Scheme to take on a ground person/odd job person for jobs around the town.

Cllr. C. Walton stated as a point of interest to the group the Tony Davies (Cllr. A. Davies's husband) is trained in renewable power. He also mentioned branding of products such as water to promote Rhayader. Cllr. R. Thomas agreed we need branded products but there is no money in bottled water.

Cllr. R. Thomas updated members on the Covid Grant. £10,000 for the town to help us through Covid. The 2 grant ideas are Tourist Information Totem in the centre of town, and street signage such as banners to promote things that are happening around the town. Cllr. K. Curry spoke to PCC who may be able to give more money to the projects up to £15,000. Spencer David who provided the Marketing Strategy for Rhayader suggested that we put the Rhayader.co.uk website on the totem and they would help with this task. The cost of the totem would be £11,500; however, we could have 2 wall mounted totems one in the centre and one by the Leisure Centre for the price of one standing totem in the town. Cllr. C. Walton asked where would the power source come from. Cllr. R. Thomas said the totems could run off street lighting.

Who would update the totem? Discussion for future meetings.

The "I am local link" and events which site should they be on R2000 or RTC? Discussion for future meetings.

It was agreed to have another meeting after the next Council meeting to brainstorm ideas.  
Date to be arranged.

Julie Davies

6.11.20