



WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE GRANTS AND GOVERNANCE SUB COMMITTEE
HELD AT 32 WATERLOO STREET
WEDNESDAY 24th JULY 2025**

Meeting Commenced: 10.04 am

Meeting Concluded: 10.56 am

PRESENT: Councillors Hugh Malyan (C), Mike Bell, Peter Crew and Alan Peak.

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE: Sarah Pearse (Chief Executive Officer/Town Clerk), Fay Powell (Director of Community Services), Samantha Bishop (Democratic Services Manager), Fiona Gardner (Finance Administration Manager), Molly Matthews (Senior Development Officer) and Alison Garner (Democratic Services Officer), Sam Olliffe (CAB) and 2x members of the public (part attendance).

The Chair invited members of the public to address the sub committee, prior to the proper meeting commencing.

Mr Hartley, a member of the Pétanque Club who had applied to the town council for a grant spoke on behalf of the application.

The Chair thanked Mr Hartley for his address and he left at 10.06 am.

The Chair formally started the meeting proper at 10.06 am

107	Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes Apologies were received from Councillors James Clayton, John Standfield and Joe Bambridge with no substitutions.
108	Declarations of Interest There were none received.
109	To agree the accuracy of the previous SPECIAL Grants and Governance Sub Committee Minutes held on 27th June 2025 The minutes from the previous meeting had been previously circulated. PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew SECONDED BY: Councillor Mike Bell

A vote was taken and accordingly it was **carried**.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the SPECIAL Grants and Governance Sub Committee Minutes held on 27th June 2025 be approved and signed by the Chair.

At this point In the meeting, the Chair brought forward item 5.1 B to allow an in person report.

GOVERNANCE

110

110.1 Service Level Agreements

To receive quarterly KPI reports and monitor the Council's Service Level Agreements (SLA'S).

Community Service Level Agreements;

Members noted the councils current SLA's with the following organisations, with budget provision values as follows;

B. Citizens Advice North Somerset (CANS) (£25,000)

Sam Oliffe, the Advice Services Manager was invited to present her 2025/2026 Q1 Report elaborating on specific key statistics.

It was noted that Sam had recently taken over from Richard Penska who had retired, but would still be involved in the organisation.

Migration over to Universal credit was near completion, working closely with Alliance Homes and North Somerset Council. Also that the center had moved to a different unit in the Sovereign and that demands for the service were ever increasing.

Positive feedback from a member of public was reported by councilors'.

Sam confirmed that the Big Worle Hub was closing and would continue to support until September. After which people would need to access the service in town or online.

The Chair thanked Sam for the quality of the report, requesting that the font size be larger for future reports.

RESOLVED: Received and noted.

Sam Olliffe left the meeting at 10.16 am

A. Weston Town Centre Partnership (£19,999)

RESOLVED: Received and noted.

C. Somewhere to Go (Homeless Support Fund Total = £50,000)

It was noted that the quality and style of the report was much improved.

RESOLVED: Received and noted.

D. YMCA (£76,926)

RESOLVED: Received and noted.

.2 Direct Service Level Agreements;

E. South West Heritage (SWH) (Curatorial Services = £85,537)

RESOLVED: Received and noted.

F. North Somerset Council Community Response (£51,550)

RESOLVED: Received and noted.

G. North Somerset Council CCTV Provision (£95,700) (previously circulated on a monthly basis)

RESOLVED: Received and noted.

10.17 am at this point in the meeting it was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Hugh Malyan

SECONDED BY: Councillor Perter Crew

111 **RESOLVED:** To resolve under the Public Bodies (Admissions of Meeting) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press for the following item by reasons of the confidential nature of the business.

Chair declared confidential session started 10.18am.

GRANTS

112. 112.1 Small and Voluntary Grant Applications

The report of the Finance Administration Manager had been previously circulated.

The annual budget for Community Event Grants was £12,500 with £1000 committed, leaving a £11,500 balance remaining.

Copies of bank statements, the evaluation criteria and full applications for the following organisations had been previously circulated.

112.1.1. E&J Wellbeing

Grant Applied for £1140

Under the General Power of Competence (LA 2011 s1(1))

They were seeking financial assistance of £1000, however, it was noted that £600 was relating to staffing costs, which did not meet the grant criteria. Therefore the grant amount requested was £540.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Hugh Malyan

SECONDED BY: Councillor Peter Crew

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: To award £540 from the Small and Voluntary Grants budget.

112.1.2 Hans Price Academy

Grant Applied for £1000

Under the General Power of Competence (LA 2011 s1(1))

Hans Price Academy were planning a cultural exchange trip to Japan for 20 of their students 16 of whom are in receipt of Pupil Premium, meaning they face significant socio-economic disadvantage. For many, this will be their first time travelling beyond the UK and quite possibly the only opportunity they will ever have to experience a culture so rich, inspiring, and different from their own. They are seeking financial assistance of £1000 towards the essential costs of this trip.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Alan Peak

SECONDED BY: Councillor Peter Crew

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: That the grant be refused on the basis that the purpose of the Small and Voluntary Grants Scheme was not to subsidise the education system.

112.1.3 The Notable Club

Grant Applied for £1000

Under the General Power of Competence (LA 2011 s1(1))

The Notable Club are a small local club for physically disabled adults in the Weston-super-Mare area and currently have 30 members. They are seeking financial assistance of £1,000 as “Their main expense is the cost of the accessible transport which is vital to keep the club running.” The club exists to help improve the life of a disadvantaged group of people and to help their social isolation.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew

SECONDED BY: Councillor Alan Peak

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: To award The Notable Club £500 from the Small and Voluntary Grants budget.

112.1.4 Vision North Somerset

Grant Applied for £951.00

Under the General Power of Competence (LA 2011 s1(1))

Vision North Somerset, are an organisation that supports individuals with sight and hearing loss across North Somerset, who are seeking financial assistance of £951. This is to enable their newly appointed Volunteer and Fundraising Coordinator to engage with the community to raise both funds and awareness to the charity. To achieve this, they will need the necessary equipment to attend events throughout North Somerset.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mike Bell

SECONDED BY: Councillor Alan Peak

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: To award Vision North Somerset £951 from the Small and Voluntary Grants budget.

112.1.5 Weston-super-Mare Pétanque Club

Grant Applied for £1000

Under the General Power of Competence (LA 2011 s1(1))

Weston-super-Mare Pétanque Club are seeking financial assistance of £1000 to purchase and install a wooden storage shed to store the clubs playing and training equipment adjacent to the pétanque pistes in Sea Monster Gardens. The equipment was currently being stored in a club members garage. North Somerset Council have agreed to install a base for the storage shed if the funds are raised for them to purchase.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew

SECONDED BY: Councillor Mike Bell

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly, it was:

RESOLVED: To award Weston-super-Mare Pétanque Club £1000 from the Small and Voluntary Grants budget.

112.2.1 Weston in Bloom – Weston Hospicecare Evaluation

The following grant was approved by the Grants and Governance sub committee on the 23rd January 2025.

Members were requested to note the feedback report for the Weston in Bloom grant which had been previously circulated.

RESOLVED: To note the feedback report for the Weston in Bloom grant.

112.2 Community Event Grant Applications

The report of the Senior Development Officer had been previously circulated.

The council's annual budget for Community Event Grants was £60,000, with £20,000 for Weston Wallz preapproved within the budget setting process, and £16,000 approved at the April meeting, leaving a remaining budget of £24,000.

112.2.1 Weston Artspace - £9,000

Weston Artspace plan to “Celebrate the relaunch of the Old Town Quarry with a vibrant weekend of nature, live music, theatre and hands-on art workshops in this unique creative community space”.

The Town Clerk advised that the application indicated a set date for the opening of the Old Town Quarry, which had not been set and addressed with Weston Artspace. The Old Town Quarry Start and Finish Group had not worked out the logistics of the opening yet and there was resource in terms of the Café and COMMS on offer that the council needed to consider and steer.

The Senior Development Officer reported that the application was a realistic amount, however discussion ensued that the application maybe too premature.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Hugh Malyan

SECONDED BY: Councillor Peter Crew

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly

RESOLVED: To defer the application until the council is in a better position to direct the opening arrangements for the Old Town Quarry.

112.2.2 British Bangladeshi Association North Somerset - £2,500

The British Bangladeshi Association North Somerset are seeking funding to deliver a vibrant Diwali celebration in Weston-super-Mare, promoting inclusion, cultural pride for South Asian and wider local communities.

It was noted that:

- The previous application was submitted after they had booked the venue and invited the Mayor. The council had communicated this to the applicant asking them to submit any future applications in advance of the event to avoid putting the council in an awkward position.
- Discussion ensued regarding the supporting of cultural or religious events – to which the Senior Development Officer requested some further guidance on for future reference.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peak

SECONDED BY: Councillor Bell

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly

RESOLVED: To refuse the application on the basis that they had received previous grant funding from the council and should look to self-fund.

112.2.3 Evolve Music - £2,800

Dads Rock was a series of inclusive, music-based events for dads and male caregivers with children aged 0–5. Whilst they had given clear justification and detail about their specific nature of their project and the desired outcome, the identified audience number was 100. This had led to a 'no' under the criteria "Evidence of how the event was serving a significant amount of residents and/or benefiting the town as a whole", but should still be considered by members.

It was noted that:

- The evidence of event servicing people was low at 100, which was quite a small audience and therefore the scale and reach was questionable.
- The application criteria was more on the scale of a Small and Voluntary Grant application and minimally met the Event grant criteria.

However, the initiative was considered worthy and targeted hard to reach groups.

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Malyan

SECONDED BY: Councillor Bell

A vote was taken and **carried**. Accordingly

RESOLVED: To award £1,000 from the Community Events Grants budget.

112.3. Evaluation of previously awarded Community Events Grants

As per the Community Event Grant conditions, a 10% retention was held until after the event takes place, in order to evaluate the success. It was noted that none of the grants awarded to date require the release of retention.

RESOLVED: It was noted that none of the grants awarded to date require the release of retention.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 10.56 am

Signed.....Dated

Chair of the Grants and Governance Sub Committee