

HOLEHIRD TRUST JOINT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Holehird Trust Joint Committee held on Wednesday, 8 March 2023 at 10.00 am at Committee Room 2, County Offices, Busher Walk, Kendal

PRESENT:

Mr P Dew (Chair)

Mr J Bland

Officers in Attendance:-

Mr M Towers	-	Savills
Ms E Clements	-	Grants Officer
Mr D Rawle	-	Senior Estates Surveyor
Mr D Routledge	-	Finance Officer - Children's Services Finance
Mr A Farrar	-	Democratic Services Officer
Mr D Wiggins	-	Lead Estates Surveyor
Ms J Dixon	-	Savills

PART 1 – ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

41 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

As the Chair was unable to attend the meeting, it was **AGREED** that Mr P Dew would act as Chair for this meeting only.

Apologies were received from Mr A Connell and Mr W Clark.

42 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest made at this meeting.

43 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, The Committee exclude the press and public during consideration of Item 8 on the Agenda (Property Matters).

44 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED that, the minutes of the previous meeting of the Holehird Trust Joint Committee held on 21 November 2022 were agreed as an accurate and complete record.

45 CUMBRIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AGREEMENT

Members considered a report from the Director of Finance (s151 Officer) which sought to determine the amounts to be made available for distribution on grants and fees for the 2022-23 financial year.

The Finance Officer (Children's Services) clarified that there was £15,956 and not £15,500 was available for distribution on grants and fees for the remainder of the 2022-23 financial year. The Finance Officer (Children's Services) noted that compensation of £700,000 had been received and that rent and expenditure were as expected.

The Chair noted the £700,00 compensation and queried how the compensation was accounted.

The Finance Officer (Children's Services) commented that the compensation had been paid directly to Cumbria County Council's bank account and that some had been transferred to Savill's client account.

Mr Towers confirmed that £100,00 had been transferred to the client account.

The Finance Officer (Children's Services) outlined options for the compensation. He noted that money could be transferred to Savill's client account and the remainder to stay within Cumbria County Council and he remarked that COIF shares could be purchased if the Board thought that appropriate.

Mr Towers commented that approximately £300,000 would be needed for cottage refurbishment that was about to start.

The Chair and Councillor Bland discussed the options and then noted that £300,00 would be transferred into the Savill's client account and that £300,00 would remain within Cumbria County Council bank account.

The Chair raised the re-appointment of Cumbria Community Foundation and commented that he felt they had done a great job and that Cumbria Community Foundation should be re-appointed for 3 years. He remarked that there was no reason to increase the amount for distribution beyond £50,000 with the current uncertainty for the future.

Councillor Bland commented that Cumbria Community Foundation had done a great job and that they should be re-appointed and that he saw no need to increase the amount above £50,000.

The Finance Officer (Children's Services) noted that the auditors had commented there had been no revaluation of the Trust's properties since refurbishments.

The Chair queried if this was the appropriate time for a revaluation due to the uncertainty regarding the Mansion.

Savills noted that the last valuation had taken place in 2016 and cost approximately £5,000 and their opinion was to wait until more clarity regarding the Mansion and the cottage refurbishment had taken place.

The Chair noted that due to the uncertainty with the Mansion he did not want to revalue. Councillor Bland agreed with this sentiment and also raised it would be better to revalue after the refurbishment.

The Chair commented that with the current uncertainty he hoped that some continuity would take place with officer support.

The Chair thanked the Finance Officer (Children's Services) for their report.

RESOLVED that,

- 1) Members noted the amount, £15,956, that was available for distribution on grants and fees for the remainder of the 2022-23 financial year.
- 2) members re-appointed Cumbria Community Foundation as agent for the administration of the grant applications for the next three years
- 3) members considered that a revaluation of the Trust's properties was not appropriate at this time
- 4) members agreed that £300,000 be transferred to Savills client account
- 5) members agreed that £50,000 plus fees be available for grants in 2023/24.

46 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Members considered the recommendations of the Senior Grants & Donor Services Officer from Cumbria Community Foundation.

24261 Together We Talk Newton Rigg

Requested £9,899.78

AGREED £2,000.00

Priority – Mental health disability

Charitable objectives - to provide facilities and activities to beneficiaries.

24202 Levens Playing Fields

Levens Playing Fields Community Garden

Requested £5,000.00

AGREED £2,000.00

Priority – All ages

Charitable objectives - to provide facilities and activities to beneficiaries.

24343 Orton Market Hall

Hall Refurbishment Stage 2 - Legal Compliance and Community Infrastructure

Requested £17,866.00

AGREED £2,000.00

Priority – All ages

Charitable objectives - to provide facilities to beneficiaries.

24288 Penrith Football Club

3G Pitch and stadium improvements

Requested £5,000.00

AGREED £2,000.00

Priority – All ages

Charitable objectives - to provide facilities to beneficiaries.

24342 Carlisle Cathedral

Rest Under the Stars - A Cumbrian Journey

Requested £4,677.00

AGREED £1,000.00

Priority – Children & Young People

Charitable objectives - to provide activities to beneficiaries.

24359 Sight Advice

Children and Young People Project

Requested £5,000

AGREED £2,000.00

Priority – Children & Young People

Charitable objectives - to provide activities to beneficiaries.

24363 Blackwell Sailing

Wednesday activity

Requested £5,000.00

AGREED £2,000.00

Priority – People with a disability

Charitable objectives - to provide facilities and activities to beneficiaries.

24312 Cumbria Development Education Centre

Children and Young People Project

Requested £34,125.00

AGREED £1,956.00

Priority – Children & Young People

Charitable objectives - to provide activities to beneficiaries.

An additional application was considered at the meeting for Ambleside Parish Centre to run a singing session for residents with Dementia. It was agreed to grant £1,000.

The Chair thanked Ellen Clements and Cumbria Community Foundation for all their hard work.

47 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

This was the last meeting of the Committee in the life of Cumbria County Council.

PART II – ITEMS CONSIDERED NOT IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

48 PROPERTY MATTERS

The representatives from Savills land agents attended the meeting and presented a report on activity in relation to individual properties owned by the Trust.

- The sale of Holehird Mansion and Stables Cottage
- Re-letting of Holehird Mansion and Stables Cottage
- Leonard Cheshire Dilapidations
- Holehird Mansion and Stables Cottage Security
- Highfold
- Low Borrans Cottage
- Residential properties: foul drainage systems
- Residential Rent Reviews

The Chair thanked Savills and the Senior Estates Surveyor for their report.

The meeting ended at 11.40 am

Signed

Dated