

Parks and Leisure Committee

Thursday, 15th January, 2015

MEETING OF PARKS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

- Members present: Councillor Newton (Chairman);
the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Hendron);
Aldermen Robinson and Rodgers;
Councillors Attwood, Beattie, Convery,
Corr, Cunningham, Hanna, Haire, Kyle,
Mac Giolla Mhín, McCabe, McNamee,
Mullan, Ó Donnghaile and Thompson.
- In attendance: Mr. A. Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure;
Mrs. R. Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks
and Leisure;
Mr. B. Flynn, Democratic Services Officer; and
Miss. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Councillor Verner.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 11th December were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 5th January, subject to:

- (i) the omission of the minute of the meeting of 11th December under the heading “Amateur Boxing Strategy – Start-Up Club Funding” which, at the request of Alderman Stoker, and with the permission of the Council, had been taken back to the Committee for further consideration;
- (ii) the amendment of the minute of 11th December under the heading “Development of Land at Slievegallion Drive” to the effect that the decision had been amended to provide that the Council would proceed with the recommendations as set out within the report and, in addition, officers would arrange a further meeting with residents in order to discuss any concerns which they might have in respect of the development; and
- (iii) the omission of the minute of 11th December under the heading “Patrick Carlin – Blue Plaque” which, at the request of Councillor Reynolds, the Council agreed that the matter be taken back to the Committee for further consideration.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Patrick Carlin VC - Blue Plaque

(Councillor Reynolds attended in connection with this item.)

The Committee considered further the minute of the meeting of 11th December, which, at the request of Councillor Reynolds, and with the permission of the Council, had been taken back to the Committee for further consideration:

“The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 16th October, it had granted permission to the Ulster Covenant and Historical Society to place a marker close to the site of the grave of Private Patrick Carlin V.C., which was situated in the Friar’s Bush Cemetery. The Council, at its meeting on 3rd November, agreed that a letter be forwarded to the Ulster History Circle requesting that consideration be given to erecting a Blue Plaque at the site of the former cemetery at Abingdon Street, off the Donegall Road, to mark the original burial place of Private Carlin.

The Democratic Services Officer reported that the Ulster History Circle was currently considering the Council’s request and he indicated that further updates in this regard would be submitted in due course.

Noted”

Councillor Reynolds advised the Committee that he had since discussed the minute with the Director and indicated that, with hindsight, he was satisfied that it had been correct as set out.

The Committee reaffirmed its decision of 11th December.

Department Plan - Update

The Committee noted the contents of a report which provided an overview of the performance of the Parks and Leisure Department during the first nine months of the financial year 2014/15 when measured against its key targets and performance indicators as set out within the Departmental Plan.

Active Communities - Letter of Offer

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1. Relevant Background Information

1.1 Active Communities (AC) is a Sport Northern Ireland (SNI) programme, delivered from April 2010 to March 2015, through 11 council groups/ consortia including BCC.

- 1.2 After a period of consultation Sport NI wrote to Council on 6 October 2014 advising that they were prepared to continue with an Active Communities investment from April 2015 for 12 months.

Their contribution will no longer provide support for management costs, which have been 10% of overall costs (approx £75,000 in 2014/15). They asked that Council signals its intention to proceed on this basis.

- 1.3 Parks and Leisure Committee in August 2014 agreed the response to Sport NI's consultation and for officers to develop an affordable and value for money delivery model.
- 1.4 Committee considered 4 options at its meeting in October 2014 and asked officers to examine budgets with partners to determine a way forward.
- 1.5 Sport NI issued a letter of offer to Council detailing the targets to be achieved and the budget allocations. Council is required to return their Form of Acceptance to secure the offer for the 2015 – 2016.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The AC programme has proved to be a valuable coaching and community resource, which has led to high levels of participation in the city including under-represented groups, whilst providing opportunities for partnership working.

The Council currently contributes up to a maximum of £50,000 per annum. This is currently managed in one of 3 ways:

- Sub-contract to Belfast Community Sports Development Network (BCSDN);
- Sub-contract to Disability Sport NI (DSNI); and
- Directly employing coaches through Leisure Services (now GLL).

Quantifiable benefits include the delivery of 40,419 sessions, 44,500 coaching hours, involving 67,286 participants with 587,148 participations realised.

- 2.2 Discussions are not fully concluded with partners and Sport NI to identify an appropriate delivery model.

Four Referral coaches will continue to be managed by Leisure Services at no additional cost.

Three Disability coaches will continue to work within DSNI supported by a management fee of £7,000. Discussions are ongoing with BCSDN for employment of the remaining 18 coaches and are subject to an affordable management model.

- 2.3 Further to the options presented to Committee in October, these have been narrowed to:

Option 1: Continue 'as is' with a reduced management contribution including £7,000 to Disability Sport NI for management of three coaches; an affordable contribution to BCSDN to a maximum of £50,000; and Referral coaches managed at no cost by Leisure Services.

Option 2: Continue to employ three coaches through DSNI with a contribution of £7,000 for management fee. All other coaches managed through Parks and Leisure.

- 2.4 It is proposed that Council returns Sports NI's Form of Acceptance, indicating its intention to continue the programme in 2015-16. However, further work is required to examine budgets with partners to determine which of options 1 or 2 the council will implement.

- 2.5 An affordable and value for money delivery model will be presented to Committee for its consideration in February.

3. Resource Implications

Financial: Option 1 has additional costs of £7,000 for management of the programme which is not allowed for in existing estimates.

Human Resources: Option 2 will involve the management up to 22 coaching staff on fixed term contracts

Asset and Other Implications: None

4. Equality Implications

There are no equality and good relations implications at this stage. Screening of any emerging proposal will be undertaken in the future.

5. Recommendations

Committee is asked to agree:

- that Council advises Sport NI of its intention to accept its letter of offer for the delivery of the Active Communities programme
- that Council advises Disability Sport NI of its intention to support their management of three specialist coaches
- that officers conclude discussions with BCSDN and SNI, to present a final recommendation on the delivery of the programme to a subsequent committee.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

Zoo Donations Report

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1. Relevant Background Information

- 1.1 A significant proportion of Belfast Zoo’s animal collection represents species that are endangered in the wild and managed as part of international inter-zoo collaborative breeding programmes. Such programmes are managed under the auspices of the European (EAZA) and World (WAZA) zoo associations, of which we are members. One of the roles of these programmes is to create conservation links between captive populations of endangered species being managed *ex situ* (i.e. the process of protection an endangered species outside of its natural habitat), and captive and wild populations being managed *in situ* (i.e. in the species natural habitat). Such links provide educational/awareness, scientific and financial support to those working in species’ range states.
- 1.2 Under the terms of our zoo licence issued by NIEA, we are required to demonstrate that we undertake conservation activities. Such activities are epitomised by the endangered species we manage in the zoo, but we are also required to evidence support for *in situ* endangered species conservation.
- 1.3 The zoo receives significant requests for *in situ* funding annually, and it is prudent that we develop an agreed process and identify approved projects for support, which will also enable us to provide justification for refusal of funding for projects that are not included in an annual plan.

- 1.4 Fundraising for such projects is achieved by a variety of methods. Since Easter 2014, we have been receiving donations via a voluntary donation as part of entry price as per the agreed scale of charges. Additional fund raising activities, such as collection boxes, animal birthday parties, sponsored activities and animal themed weekends with a fundraising element have proved very popular with visitors and staff, and inadvertently provides for significant and positive joined work across the various zoo departments (i.e. business support and marketing, front of house and zoo keeper teams). Further, via the estimates process, a small annual budget is established for donations.
- 1.5 We have recently completed a rigorous review, which involved assessing every species, mostly those currently held in the zoo, for which there are current *in situ* conservation activities for which we receive funding requests. A range of personnel from across the zoo have been part of the review process.
- 1.6 We critically challenged each species against a set of criteria, including:

IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) wild status, i.e. vulnerable, rare, endangered etc. We reasoned that our assistance should be driven towards those species most endangered in the wild;

Were they held in the zoo?: we reasoned that fund raising activities would be somewhat easier if the species was part of the animal collection;

Was the species part of a EAZA or WAZA breeding programme?: we considered that species that were managed at European or Global level represented those with the best long term options for zoo lead *in situ* conservation activities;

Project endorsement: we chose those projects that had endorsement from a recognised conservation body (i.e. UWT, NIEA, BIAZA, EAZA, WAZA, IUCN);

Time project established: we preferred conservation projects that had been extant for a significant period;

Endowment to hold in zoo: some of the (rarest) species we look after can only be held in the zoo via payment of a one off or annual management fee to the conservation programme;

Clear evidence of where funds would be spent: we reviewed each conservation project, its aims and objectives, and looked for clear evidence of how and where money would be spent, and ideally for regular feedback from the project on such conservation activities, which we could use for signage and use on social media for information purposes;

Had we already donated to the project?: we reasoned that for some projects we had already built a relationship, and had already considered that the project was strong and worthy of funding support;

Number of other supporters: we considered that to maximise Belfast Zoo's impacts as potential funders, for those projects that were already heavily supported Belfast's impacts would be reduced, while for projects where there were limited numbers of participants, the impact of our support could be considerable.

Cost of support: we have identified a number of projects where larger donations (of ideally greater than £2000 per annum) would be appropriate, and projects where donations per annum of between £1000 and £2000 are appropriate. However, we remain mindful that, particularly currently, donations are difficult to acquire and in some years it may not be possible to both support all our chosen conservation projects, and, the value of support we provide might also be reduced.

Regional mix: given the comprehensive animal collection in the Zoo, of predominantly mammals and birds, with species represented from around the world and all 7 continents, we felt that it would be prudent to select 4 geographical regions where we would focus our efforts of *ex situ* support activities, and which would further bring clarity for visitors and other donors.

1.7 We have thus selected the following 12 projects:

Northern Ireland (barn owls and white-tailed sea eagles);
South East Asia (Asian elephants, Visayan warty pigs, Francois' langurs, Moloch gibbons, tree kangaroos);
Madagascan and African primates (sifaka, lemurs and mountain gorillas);
South American primates (in Brazil and Colombia).

1.8 Additionally, we receive a number of funding requests on an irregular basis, to support projects via small amounts of money (less than £500), for specific pieces of research or

conservation projects. In the last years, such requests have included titi monkeys in Colombia, Malayan tapirs, and red pandas. Such projects fit the criteria we used as part of the review, and we considered that it might be sensible to reserve a small portion of our annual budget, outside of that detailed above, so that small scale support can be given to such projects where they fit.

- 1.9 A zoo representative has been appointed as a project owner of each project. This person, usually at curator level, has been responsible for identifying the project, and will brief relevant staff (i.e. front of house staff, keepers), will provide information to zoo marketing for posters, signage, web site and social media use, will collate and disseminate feedback from the projects, and will liaise with commercial teams to ensure auditable processes are in place, i.e. for income collection, reconciliation and distribution, should specific fundraising activities over and above the donations at entrance and budgeted money be undertaken.
- 1.10 We intend to make one annual payment per project each year.
- 1.11 We intend to review the programme annually to ensure the continued support for appropriate programmes is regularly checked, and to ensure that any new projects for relevant species are identified and compared against those we currently work with. An idea for 2015/16 is that, via signage at the entrance, we inform visitors of the projects we have selected and ask them, via a disk system, to select the project they would prefer that their donated money is given to. Such a scheme works in supermarkets, and might encourage additional 'buy in' from visitors. It is unlikely that such signage will be in place until the start of the next financial year.
2. Key Issues
 - 2.1 Under the terms of our zoo licence issued by NIEA, and via our memberships of EAZA and WAZA, we are required to demonstrate that we undertake or support *in situ* conservation activities.
 - 2.2 A detailed and rigorous process has recently been completed in which we analysed the most relevant projects that we might be support.

- 2.3 In order to provide focus for our fundraising activities, we have selected 4 regions from around the world, and identified 12 projects where funding would be appropriate.
- 2.4 We have further identified that a small reserve budget for project requests for funding of less than £500 would be valuable, and would allow some flexibility for requests of an urgent nature that fit our established criteria.
- 2.5 Arrangements are in place for zoo representatives to act as project owners, and for an annual review of our funding commitments.

3. **Resource Implications**

Financial

A total of approximately £20,000 will be available at the end of this financial year from which we will be able to make grants available to the selected projects. This represents income from donations as part of visitors' entrance fees, funds in the 2014/15 budget, and some deferred donations from the 2013/14 budget.

It is proposed that, for the end of this financial year (i.e. 2014/15) small grants (£1000) are made to the white-tailed sea eagle, tree kangaroo, lemurs and mountain gorilla projects. It is proposed that grants of £1500 are made to barn owl, Asian elephant, Visayan warty pig and Moloch gibbon projects. It is also proposed that grants of £2500 are made to Brazilian primates, François' langurs, sifaka and Colombian primate conservation projects.

All grants are of an appropriate size to assist each project and their aims.

An annual review of conservation projects will take place on this basis.

Human Resources

There are no immediate resource HR implications; zoo staff remain committed to this vital component of the zoo's work and willing to undertake additional duties to support these functions.

Asset and Other Implications

There are no other implications identified at this time.

4. **Equality Implications**

- 4.1 It is considered that there are no equality or good relations implications.

5. **Recommendations**

- 5.1 Committee is asked to approve the approach taken to support conservation activities in Belfast Zoo.
- 5.2 The Committee is asked to approve the programme of donations in 2015/16 as outlined in 1.6 and agree that an annual review process will be put in place to support future donations.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

'Grow Wild Project' - Funding Opportunity

The Committee was advised an opportunity to bid for funding would be available for biodiversity projects under the Grow Wild Project. The Director reported that Grow Wild would be awarding funding of £120,000 to a Northern Ireland flagship site, one of four across the United Kingdom. He added that the project sought to bring people together to create an inspiring and exciting communal space by growing native plants. He suggested that an expression of interest for funding a biodiversity project, which would include the development of a seed bank of native wildflowers, be submitted.

The Committee agreed that an expression of interest be submitted.

Grow - Waterworks Park

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting in February, 2010, it had approved a request from the Grow organisation to create a community garden within the Waterworks Park. The Director informed the Committee that Grow wished to apply for funding from the NGO Challenge Fund 2015 to carry out a programme of basic site development which would include ground works, an access ramp, seating, together with tree surgery and an associated condition survey.

The Committee agreed to approve the request for 'Grow' to, if successful, utilise the funding from the Challenge Fund to carry out the developments as outlined and, in accordance with Standing Order 60, to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that it agree to the granting of a Licence Agreement for that purpose.

Fold Housing Association - Visteon Site Proposal

The Assistant Director advised the Committee that the Department had received a request from the Fold Housing Association to outline to the Committee its proposals for the development and management of play facilities and open spaces at the former Visteon site in West Belfast.

The Committee agreed to extend an invite to the Fold Housing Association to attend its meeting on 24th February and agreed also that all Members of the Council would be invited.

War Graves Commission

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1. Relevant Background Information

Correspondence was received by the Cemeteries Office from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission regarding the marking of graves of those deemed to be casualties of war and have been buried in our facilities.

2. Key Issues

In 2008 Council approved of the replacement of 5 special Memorial Headstones within the City Cemetery. The commission has reviewed this position and wishes to remove the special Memorial Headstones and erect headstones to the actual place of burial. They have provided details of 4 sites where they wish to do this within the Glenalina section. They will ensure that the ground where the memorial is being removed from will be fully restored. One headstone will remain where it is as it is not possible to mark the actual grave.

The Commission has identified two new war graves that require marking, one at Belfast City Cemetery and one at Dundonald Cemetery. As with previous requests the memorial would be a standard war pattern headstone manufactured in Irish Limestone and should be placed at the head of the grave. They have also confirmed that the War Commission will cover all the costs of any works or future upkeep of the memorials.

The cemeteries administration office has confirmed the details of the individuals identified as accurate. Legal Services advice was provided about the impact of any subsequent disputes and is content with the request by the War Commission.

The Commission has also requested that any normal memorial fees would be waived in this instance.

3. **Resource Implications**

Financial

The foundation and erection fee for the grave in City Cemetery-Glenalina Extension would be approx £365 and £125; The foundation and erection fee for the grave in Dundonald Cemetery would be approx £285 and £125. This would result in a loss of income to the Council of £900.

Human Resources

No additional human resources required.

Asset and Other Implications

All future costs of upkeep would be at the expense of the Commission and this will be confirmed in a written agreement.

4. **Equality Implications**

None

5. **Recommendations**

Committee is asked to agree to the placing of the headstones and to waiving the normal memorial fees on the graves identified subject to further information and legal agreements."

The Committee adopted the recommendation.

Proposal to Develop Blanchflower Playing Fields

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 14th August, 2014, it had considered a report regarding an emerging proposal from the Harland and Wolff Welders Football Club to develop the Blanchflower Playing Fields as a modern multi-purpose facility. The Director reported that a request to outline the proposals had been received on behalf of the club.

The Committee agreed to receive a presentation in this regard at its meeting on 24th February, 2015.

Ormeau Park - Request for Use

The Committee was informed that a request had been received from Cancer Research UK for the use of the Ormeau Park for a Race for Life event on the 30th May, 2015.

The Committee granted authority for the staging of the event in Ormeau Park, subject to the development of an Event Management Plan and to satisfactory terms being agreed with the Director and subject to the following terms and conditions, that:

- the event organiser resolve all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction;
- an appropriate agreement being prepared by Legal Services;
- the event organiser meeting with all statutory requirements; and
- a bond payment of £5,000 be made to the Council.

City of Belfast Playing Fields

The Director reported that the Northern Ireland Schools' Football Association had requested permission to host the quarter finals of the Northern Ireland Schools Cup at the City of Belfast Playing Fields on Wednesday, 25th February.

He pointed out that it would be the fifth year in which the Council had hosted this event. He added that the event had enhanced cross-community engagement and the organisers had submitted a request for the free use of the pitches and ancillary facilities. The potential loss of revenue income to the Council for the use of the pitches would be approximately £942, the additional staffing costs had been estimated at £340. The Director reminded the Committee that it had granted free use of the facilities in previous years.

The Committee agreed to grant the free use of the pitches and associated facilities at the City of Belfast Playing Fields to the Northern Ireland Schools' Football Association, subject to the completion of an appropriate event management plan to the satisfaction of the Council.

County Grand Lodge of Belfast

The Director reported that the County Grand Lodge of Belfast had requested the use of the Barnett Demesne for its Belfast demonstration on 13th July, 2015. He advised the Committee that the Council had granted the use of the site for that purpose in previous years and that there had been no significant difficulties or problems reported.

The Committee granted approval, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- the event organiser resolves all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction;

- an appropriate legal agreement being drawn-up, which would include the payment of a bond of £2,000 by the organiser; and
- the event organiser meeting all statutory requirements to the Council's satisfaction.

Abseil at the Belfast Castle

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

"1. Background Information

- 1.1 A charity event is proposed to be held at Belfast Castle to raise funds for the Meningitis Research Foundation. Belfast Castle has been chosen for its unique location and marketing potential, especially for its beautiful gardens and panoramic views over the City.
- 1.2 The Meningitis Research Foundation want to make this event special by promoting it as their first ever abseil at Belfast Castle, and therefore further raising the profile of the occasion. Previous abseils have been held at Belfast Castle by the Northern Ireland Hospice and the Girl Guides which were very successful.
- 1.3 The event is scheduled to take place in September 2015.
- 1.4 Consideration has and will be given to the health and safety implications and environmental issues involved with this event.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The abseil will be organised and carried out by Bryson Lagansports who have been running charity abseil events for over 10 years. They use the highest standard of equipment and highly qualified instructors. They will provide all the necessary risk assessments, documentation and have 10 million pounds public and employee insurance policy applicable to this type of event.
- 2.2 Bryson Lagansports will be required to undertake a risk assessment and to ensure that all health and safety and insurance requirements are met to the satisfaction of Belfast City Council.

3. Resource Implications

3.1 Financial

There are no financial costs to Belfast City Council.

3.2 Human Resources

There are no human resource implications to Belfast City Council.

3.3 Assets

Use of Belfast Castle for the event.

4. Equality Implications

4.1 There are no equality implications.

5. Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that the committee grant authority for the charity abseiling event at Belfast Castle subject to the satisfactory terms being agreed with the Director and on the condition that:

1. The event organisers meet the operational and health and safety issues to the council's satisfaction.
2. Meningitis Research Foundation enters into an appropriate legal agreement as drafted by Legal Services.
3. The event organisers ensure that all health and safety requirements are met and to the Council's satisfaction including risk assessments, safe systems of work, equipment, appropriate insurance and site inspection information."

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

(The Committee stood adjourned for ten minutes to allow Alderman Stoker to attend.)

Amateur Boxing Strategy - Start-up Club Funding

(Alderman Stoker attended in connection with this item.)

The Committee considered further the minute of the meeting of 9th September, under the heading "Amateur Boxing Strategy - Start-up Club Funding", which, at the request of Alderman Stoker, and with the permission of the Council, at its meeting on 5th January, had been referred back to the Committee for further consideration. A copy of the minute in that regard is set out:

"1 Background Information

1.1 In October 2012, the Committee approved the draft budget and workplan for the Amateur Boxing Strategy 2012-2022.

1.2 Members will be aware that within the Strategy, under the theme of Club support and development, an action of providing start-up funding to allow for the development of new clubs across the city was included.

1.3 At its meeting in June 2014 Committee agreed to revisions to the budget area with £10,000 per annum allocated to support and develop new clubs. It was agreed that a further report would be brought to Committee to agree the mechanism and guidelines in providing this support.

2 Key Issues and Update

2.1 The support and development of new clubs complementing existing clubs especially in under-represented areas such as East and South Belfast will be an essential element in the successful legacy of the Amateur Boxing Strategy and key to providing a citywide service to all who may wish to enter the sport.

2.2 The programmes being delivered by our Boxing coaches and clubs citywide are increasing the demand for coaching provision and in-turn this will raise the demand for new clubs especially in areas of underrepresentation such as East and South Belfast. It is anticipated that a number of new club start-up requests for support will be received annually. The programme is actively promoting the sport through after schools activities across the city in liaison with existing clubs in each area.

- 2.3 *Recently we have received enquiries for new club start-up support from potential clubs in Oldpark and on the Upper Ormeau Rd. A further enquiry has been received from a Castlereagh Boxing club interested in relocating to the Braniel area. More enquiries are anticipated to be received as amateur boxing develops as a mainstream sport citywide and as such an adopted start-up club fund and criteria for funding is required. A fund of £2500 per applicant has been allocated with £10,000 for new start-up grants in the current financial year.*
- 2.4 *The application form for funding has been developed by the Steering Group for new club support funding. Funding will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. The Steering Group following the support of the Sports Development Officer will assess the applications received within the specified guidelines for funding. The Director of Parks and Leisure will approve the proposed grants to new clubs under delegated authority as is currently the process for Support for Sport grants.*
- 2.5 *The table below indicates the proposed breakdown of new club funding with some examples of anticipated application requests*

<i>Item detail</i>	<i>Available Funding</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<i>Coach Education</i>	<i>£500</i>	<i>Coaching course associated to delivery of Boxing in club. E.g. Level 1 /2 /1 star courses</i>
<i>Equipment</i>	<i>£1000</i>	<i>Equipment deemed suitability by IABA for the delivery of Boxing in a club environment</i>
<i>Facility Development</i>	<i>£500</i>	<i>Support for other club goods or equipment necessary for delivery</i>
<i>Other misc</i>	<i>£500</i>	<i>Other items or services required for clubs set up.</i>
<i>Total available</i>	<i>£2500 (max)</i>	

- 2.6 *The following criteria have been recommended by the Steering Group in order to ensure best practice adherence:*
- 1. Applicants must submit a letter/email of support from County Board or higher within boxing along with this application.*

- 2. Provide evidence of governance documents (constitution and assorted policies) plus sign-up to Clubmark via IABA and / or BCC prior to acceptance of application.**
- 3. Identify their catchment area for club and prove that other clubs are not necessarily affected by the new clubs establishment.**
- 4. Not be established more than 6 months.**
- 5. Not be a commercial venture of any nature.**
- 6. Be established as a Boxing club (not MMA or other activities) and be affiliated to IABA or a recognised Nation GB).**

3 Programme Plan and Resource Implications

3.1 Financial

The budget for the Amateur Boxing Strategy has been agreed.

4 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

- #### **4.1 *There are no equality and good relations impacts from this grant scheme***

5 Recommendations

- #### **5.1 *That Members note the content of this report with regard to the current implementation of the Amateur Boxing Strategy 2012-2022.***
- #### **5.2 *The Committee is asked to agree the proposed mechanism and guidelines for allocation of grants up to £2500 towards the support of new clubs."***

Alderman Stoker, with the permission of the Chairman, referred to the criteria for the start-up funding, specifically the stipulations regarding club affiliation. He suggested that they were somewhat stringent and would deter clubs located within areas where boxing was not as popular as other sports from applying for support. He suggested that the Committee might consider relaxing that stipulation to enable clubs which were working towards official accreditation to be eligible to apply for funding.

After discussion, the Committee re-affirmed its decision of 9th September, subject to the following amendments being made under 2.6 of the foregoing report, as set out below:

1. Applicants should, **where appropriate**, submit a letter or email of support from County Board or higher within boxing along with this application.
6. Be established as a boxing club (not MMA or other activities) and be **working towards** IABA or Nation GB recognition.

Chairman