

GOOD RELATIONS PARTNERSHIP

MONDAY, 13TH JANUARY, 2014

MEETING OF THE GOOD RELATIONS PARTNERSHIP

Members present: Councillor Hendron (Chairman);
Alderman Stoker; and Councillors Attwood,
Mac Giolla Mhín and Reynolds.

External Members: Mr. S. Brennan, Voluntary/Community Sector;
Ms. A. Chada, Minority Ethnic Groups;
Archdeacon B. Dodds, Church of Ireland;
Mr. R. Galway, Confederation of British Industry/
Shorts Bombardier;
Ms. J. Hawthorne, Northern Ireland Housing Executive;
Mr. P. Mackel, Belfast and District Trades Council;
Ms. M. Marken, Catholic Church;
Mr. P. Scott, Catholic Church; and
Mr. U. Tok, Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum.

In attendance: Mrs. H. Francey, Good Relations Manager;
Mr. I. May, PEACE III Programme Manager;
Mr. D. Robinson, Senior Good Relations Officer; and
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Ms. O. Barron, Rev. L. Carroll, Dr. C. Hughes, Mr. B. McGivern and Ms. C. Moore.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 9th December were taken as read and signed as correct.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

PEACE III – Implementation Update

The Partnership was reminded that, at its meeting on 9th December, it had agreed to approve the extension into 2014 of the Belfast Interface, Tension Monitoring and Youth Engagement Projects, which were being progressed under Theme 2 of the Belfast Peace and Reconciliation Plan, subject to approval being granted by the Special European Union Programmes Body. The PEACE III Programme Manager explained that the extensions had been sought in view of the length of time taken to complete the economic appraisal process, together with other external factors, which had delayed the commencement of the projects.

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 13th January, 2014**

He reported that he had submitted subsequently to the Programmes Body a detailed workplan for 2014 activity, including associated financial information, together with a management support proposal outlining the staffing and budgetary requirements necessary for the completion of the three projects. The Programmes Body had since advised the Council that it was assessing the submission and that it hoped to secure the necessary approval in the near future.

The PEACE III Programme Manager reported further that the Community Relations Council/POBAL consortium had, on 31st December, ceased to provide technical support to PEACE III Partnerships. He referred to correspondence which had been received on behalf of the consortium which had commended the Partnership on its good relations and peace-building work to date and extending its best wishes for the future.

The Partnership noted the information which had been provided.

St. Patrick's Day 2014 Small Grants Scheme

The Partnership considered the undernoted report:

“Relevant Background Information

The Partnership will recall that, at its meeting on 15th August, 2008, it recommended that the Council support community and voluntary groups wishing to organise small-scale events to mark St. Patrick's Day through the Good Relations Grant-Aid Fund. The total budget was not to exceed £32,000 and the upper limit for each application was to be £1,000. All applications would be assessed against pre-agreed criteria.

That decision was approved by the Policy and Resources Committee and was adopted by the Council at its meeting in October, 2008.

For the 2014 round of funding, applications and guidelines were drawn up and letters/emails were distributed to previous applicants, as well as Councillors, informing groups of the existence of the fund. Notifications were also forwarded to the Community Relations Council e-bulletin and the NI Council for Voluntary Action Grant Tracker website. The information was also made available on the Belfast City Council website.

Key Issues

The St. Patrick's Day fund has again proved to be extremely popular. At the closing date of 12 noon on Friday 22nd November, 2013, 102 applications for grant-aid had been received, with a total amount requested of £83,505, which greatly exceeds the £32,000 available.

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 13th January, 2014**

There was a good geographical spread with applications received from all over the city, as indicated in the following table:

BT1	3	2.5%
BT3	1	0.5%
BT4	10	10%
BT5	7	7%
BT6	2	1.75%
BT7	11	11%
BT11	9	9%
BT12	13	13%
BT13	15	15%
BT14	10	10%
BT15	12	12%
BT17	3	2.5%
BT36	4	4%
Others	2	1.75%

Activities proposed are wide-ranging and for all ages and include educational visits, workshops, educational displays and cultural events.

A scoring matrix was devised to assess applications against the criteria, a copy of which has been circulated to the Partnership. Following assessment, it is proposed that successful applications receive funding proportionate to the score obtained, as follows:

Marks	Max Award £	No. of groups	Total allocation £
0-10	0	2	0
11-20	Up to £100	24	2,400
21-30	Up to £150	11	1,650
31-40	Up to £200	20	4,000
41-50	Up to £300	15	4,500
51-60	Up to £400	10	4,000
61-70	Up to £500	7	3,500
70+	Up to £800	11	8,800
80+	Up to £1,000	2	2,000
Total		102	30,850

Resource Implications

Financial

Provision for this expenditure has been made within the Unit's budget, 75% of which can be recouped from OFM/DFM through the District Council's Good Relations Programme.

Equality and Good Relations Considerations

The St. Patrick's Day grant scheme aims to fund small-scale local community events or activities to enable communities celebrate St. Patrick's Day at a local level. The fund forms part of the Council's aim to promote and support cultural diversity within the City. The geographical spread of applicants demonstrates that this fund was accessed by a wide range of community and voluntary groups from across the City. Equality and Good Relations considerations are therefore central to the provision of funding in this way.

Recommendation

The following projects fulfil the St. Patrick's Day Small Grants criteria. Therefore, the Partnership is requested to agree that grant-aid be awarded, under the delegated authority of the Chief Executive, up to these amounts, to the groups listed below:

a. Up to £1,000

1286/3345 Marrowbone Community Association
754/3349 Ashton Community Trust

b. Up to £800

558/3249 West Belfast Senior Citizens Forum
10973250 Greater Shankill Senior Citizens Forum
1217/3271 Short Strand Community Forum Women's Group
496/3291 St. John Vianney Youth Centre
640/3294 Inverary Community Centre Committee
921/3298 Hammer Youth Club
636/3301 Avoniel Over 50's Club
988/3303 City Church
740/3305 Culturlann McAdam O Fiaich
552/3307 Willowfield Parish Community Association
1323/3320 Fitzroy Presbyterian Church

c. Up to £500

1165/3308 East Belfast Mission
1357/3316 Senior Moments Project
279/3317 Feile an Phobail
1360/3334 Colin Glen Trust
350/3341 An Droichead
434/3342 Knocknagoney Community Centre Management
Committee
680/3347 Falls Youth Providers

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 13th January, 2014**

d. Up to £400

1274/3252 The Point
991/3267 Horn Drive Senior Citizens Club
304/3269 Newtownards Road Women's Group Ltd
368/3273 Sandy Row Residents Association
243/3286 Ballymacarrett Arts & Cultural Society
1033/3309 COPE
1000/3328 St. Oliver Plunkett Parish
1126/3329 Markets Community Centre
450/3339 Highfield Fifty Plus Group
1131/3350 Blackie River Community Group

e. Up to £300

715/3253 Conway Senior Citizens
1347/3257 Dee Street Afterschools Project
327/3260 Belles of Belmont Ladies Club
764/3278 Short Strand Partnership
1348/3281 Harmony Court Residents Group
984/3283 Hannahstown Community Centre
397/3287 Inner East Youth Project
407/3295 Whitecity over 50s Group
932/3304 St. James Community Forum
550/3306 LORAG – Lower Ormeau Residents Group
1356/3314 Greater Shankill Men Shed
278/3318 Wheelworks
328/3331 Walkway Community Association
412/3333 Skegoneill Community Group
973/3344 Spectrum Centre

f. Up to £200

731/3251 Men United
1217/3254 Short Strand Community Forum
915/3256 Ligoniel Family Centre
730/3259 Ballysillan Community Forum
626/3261 Sailortown Cultural and Historical Society
433/3272 Crumlin Road Presbyterian Church
1200/3277 Skegoneill and Glandore Common Purpose
990/3279 Silver Threads (North Belfast)
1349/3282 NI Retired Police Officers Association Belfast Branch
382/3288 Great Wars Historical & Cultural Association
742/3293 Windsor Women's Centre
393/3296 Whitecity Community Development Association
417/3302 Midland Senior Citizens Club
1107/3310 Glen Community Centre's Tuesday Group
1100/3324 St. Peter's Senior Citizens Group
1359/3332 The HUBB Community Resource Centre
993/3340 Volunteer Now
1361/3343 Belfast Educational Arts & Dance

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 13th January, 2014**

**1287/3346 Marrowbone Residents Association
1362/3348 St. Malachy's Youth Centre**

g. Up to £150

**537/3258 Mountpottinger Presbyterian Senior Citizens Group
1124/3262 Argyle Seniors Group
645/3265 Indian Senior Citizens Group
563/3276 Lower Shankill Group Welfare Committee
1351/3285 Men at Leisure
1123/3289 Young at Heart Seniors Group
1354/3299 Carr's Glen Primary School
1355/3300 South Link Day Centre Ltd
556/3319 West Belfast District Scout Council
1359/3322 Friends of Careers 'n' Kids
920/3335 Glencairn Residents Group**

h. Up to £100

**1279/3255 Lower Andersonstown Mothers Support Group
980/3263 Shore Crescent Friendship Club
1361/3264 Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
1113/3266 Disabled Drivers Association
408/3268 The Link Community Association
982/3270 Sailortown Mothers & Toddlers
1042/3274 Norman Whiteside Sports Facility
616/3275 Harbour Lights Women's Group
1110/3280 Quality User Group Seniors
1350/3284 Hannahstown Heritage & Cultural Society
1352/3290 The Hopefuls
1353/3292 Glor na Mona
413/3297 Trinity New Lodge Senior Citizens Club Association
1103/3311 Oliver Plunkett Lunch Club
1108/3312 174 Older Peoples Group
644/3313 Brookvale Senior Citizens Association
1106/3315 Silver Threads (Maldon Street)
1358/3321 Sacred Heart Pensioners Club
1114/3323 Beech Hall Members Advisory Committee
431/3325 Clonard/Springfield Senior Citizens Group
612/3326 Woodvale Young at Heart 50+ Group
1117/3327 Sydenham Court
1101/3330 Friends of Chestnut Grove
1294/3338 The Golden Girls**

**The following applications were rejected as they do not meet the
criteria of the St. Patrick's Day Small Grants Scheme:**

**1288/3336 Dockers Amateur Boxing Club
770/3337 SHIP"**

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 13th January, 2014**

After discussion, during which the Senior Good Relations Officer undertook to examine ways in which to increase awareness of the scheme amongst groups in under-represented areas of the City, the Partnership agreed to allocate funding, under the delegated authority of the Chief Executive, to those groups as set out within the report.

Mrs. Hazel Francey

It was reported that this was the last meeting which would be attended by Mrs. H. Francey, as she was due to retire from the Council in the near future.

The Chairman, together with a number of members, paid tribute to Mrs. Francey for the significant contribution which she had made over the years to the success of the Partnership and wished her well in her retirement.

Mrs. Francey thanked the members for their kind remarks and wished the Partnership continued success.

Chairman