BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Funding Sub Committee held on Tuesday 8 September 2026 in the Council Chamber, Arms Evertyne House, Quay Road, Blyth, NE24 2AS which commenced at 6:30pm.

Present:

Councillors: M Peart (Chair), N Rolls (Vice Chair), D Campbell, BW Elliott, D Johnson, C Jones, K Nisbet MBE, and D Swinhoe

Officers: M Wilkinson (Town Clerk), H Jenner (Principal Officer), H Gregory (Community Engagement Assistant), and E Mullen (Democratic Services Officer)

Councillor TE Elliott was also present.

Members of the Public – 2 **Invited Guest(s) – 0**

1	**Apologies for absence** Cllrs D Nicholson & M Nicholson
2	**Disclosure of Interests and Grant of Dispensations** Cllr Swinhoe declared a personal interest in Blyth Rugby Football Club (4.1)
3	**Minutes of the previous Community Funding Sub Committee** The minutes of the previous Community Funding Sub Committee meeting held on 9 June 2026 were agreed as a true record at the Annual Meeting of the Council held 16 July 2026.
4	**To consider deferred application for the Community Funding:** Members discussed the individual applications. The following grant payments were agreed: *Cllr Jones arrived at the meeting 18:34*

	1. Blyth RFC Members considered an application requesting £5,000, which was deferred from the previous meeting and is now a more time-sensitive request. It was unanimously pursuant to Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19 to support the application for costs towards the funding of new pathways to the playing pitches with a grant of £5,000. **2. Cramlington Archers** Members considered an application requesting £4178.04, which was deferred from the previous meeting. It was noted that the amount requested has decreased since the group's previous request for funds as they have now had a storage container which was donated but they wish to redecorate it. Officers resolved the Members' query about membership of the community group being from Blyth. It was RESOLVED unanimously pursuant to Local Government Act 1972 s.137 to support the application for costs towards the funding of specialist equipment and towards redecorating the storage container with a grant of £4178.04. **3. ESCAPE Family Support** Members considered an application requesting £5,000, which was deferred from the June 2026 meeting. It was noted that this group have been successful with some other funders but have still not met their total required for the project. It was RESOLVED pursuant to Local Government Act 1972 s. 137 to support the application for costs towards the funding of service provision supporting those effected by drug or alcohol abuse with a grant of £5,000, subject to the funds not being released until the Council receives assurance from the group that the project will go ahead. Officers will liaise with the Chair and Vice-Chair about the future of this project. **4. Holding Hearts** Members considered an application requesting £4,864, which was deferred from the June 2026 meeting. Members noted the updated financial information from the groups accounts. It was unanimously RESOLVED pursuant to Local Government Act 1972 s. 137 to support the application for costs towards the funding of service provision and supporting

	expansion into new structured programmes with a grant of £4,864.
5	**To consider new applications for the Community Funding:** Members discussed the individual applications. The following grant payments were agreed: **1. Blyth CVA** It was RESOLVED pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, s.137 to support the application for costs towards service provisions with a grant of £5,000. **2. Concordia Netball Club** It was unanimously RESOLVED pursuant to Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. S.19 to support the application for costs towards league fees, officiating costs, equipment and kit with a grant of £4,850. **3. Cowpen Quay Community Association** It was RESOLVED to move this item to Part II of the meeting. **4. Headway Arts** It was RESOLVED to move this item to Part II of the meeting. **5. Royal British Legion** It was noted that the amount requested had decreased to £400. It was unanimously RESOLVED pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, s.137 to support the application for the band costs for Blyth Cenotaph Memorial Service 2026. Officers advised that there was an underspend of £100 from their previous application September 2025 and requested the Council to approve change of use. It was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the change of use of £100 to contribute towards refreshments following the Service of Remembrance. **6. Silx** It was RESOLVED to move this item to Part II of the meeting.
6	**Delegated Actions**

	There were no delegated actions since the previous meeting.
7	**Date and Time of Next Meeting** The next meeting of the Community Funding Sub Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, Arms Evertyne House on **Tuesday 10 November 2026** at 6.30pm
8	**Part II** Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was RESOLVED that it was in the public interest that the press and public be excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw.
9	**Discussion and Decisions regarding Funding Applications** Members further discussed the individual applications where Members agreed to move to Part II. **1. Cowpen Quay Community Association** It was RESOLVED pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, Section 137 to support the application for youth club sessions, cooking sessions, arts and crafts materials, new games and activity resources for young people with a grant of £5,000. **2. Headway Arts** Following discussions, it was RESOLVED not support the applications for funding to support the Blyth Culture Network and BlythFest. The key activity under Blythfest is taking place notwithstanding the promotion offered by Headway Arts. The committee do not view the output as substantial enough to warrant support in this instance. **3. Silx** It was RESOLVED pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, Section 137 to support the application for the group's Teen Bar provision and resources for this project with a grant of £5,000.
	The meeting closed at 7.38 pm