



## BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Funding Sub Committee held on Tuesday 9 June 2026 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Quay Road, Blyth, NE24 2AS which commenced at 6:30pm.**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** M Peart (Chair), N Rolls (Vice Chair), D Campbell, D Carr (substitute), BW Elliott, D Johnson, D Nicholson, M Nicholson, and K Nisbet MBE.

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

**Members of the Public – 0**

**Invited Guest(s) – 0**

<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b>  Cllrs C Jones, and D Swinhoe  Cllr D Carr was present as a substitute for Cllr C Jones.
<b>2</b>	<b>Disclosure of Interests and Grant of Dispensations</b>  Cllr Johnson declared a personal interest in Blyth Samba (5.7). Cllr Nisbet declared a personal interest in Magic Memories (5.16).
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous Community Funding Sub Committee</b>  The minutes of the previous Community Funding Sub Committee meeting held on 10 February 2026 were agreed as a true record at the Annual Meeting of the Council held 14 May 2026.
<b>4</b>	<b>Blyth Food Bank</b>  Following discussion, it was RESOLVED to make a further donation of £5,000 to Blyth Food Bank.  It was proposed that, going forward, Blyth Food Bank are requested to apply on an annual basis, once per year, under the

	same conditions of other applicants. This was RESOLVED.
<b>5</b>	<p><b>To consider new applications for the Community Funding:</b> Members discussed the individual applications. The following grant payments were agreed:</p> <p><b>1. 203 Elswick Battery (R.A) Association</b> It was highlighted that a grant of £5,000 was awarded in September 2023 for costs towards the purchase of a 25-pounder field gun for events and displays. The grant had not to date been spent, and no request had been submitted for it to be returned to the council, although it was ringfenced within their accounts for the intended purpose. A motion was proposed to request the repurpose of £2525 of this grant to go towards the cost of funding their members' trip and they be requested to submit a plan for fundraising towards the cost of the gun. This was RESOLVED pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972, s137.</p> <p><b>2. Bede Academy</b> Members considered an application requesting £1360 towards hosting a celebratory community event. Members noted the high level of unrestricted reserves held by the Trust. Supporting the application went to the vote with three in favour and six against. It was RESOLVED not to support the application.</p> <p><b>3. Blossoming Communities CIC</b> RESOLVED unanimously pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, s.137 to support the application for costs towards the group's wellbeing workshops and art projects with a grant of £5,000.</p> <p><b>4. Blyth Resource and Initiative Centre</b> Members considered an application requesting £5,000 towards core costs of employability workshops. Members noted continuous support for this purpose over several years and the high level of unrestricted reserves. Supporting the application went to the vote with three in favour and six against. It was RESOLVED not to support the application on this occasion.</p>

### **5. Blyth RFC**

Members considered an application requesting £5,000 towards funding new pathways to the playing pitches. Members noted that this application wasn't time sensitive, and that there were many groups to consider in this round of funding. It was RESOLVED to defer this application to a future meeting.

### **6. Blyth Sports and Social**

RESOLVED unanimously pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, s.137 to support the application for costs towards funding a secure seating area around the social club with a grant of £3,630.

### **7. Blyth Samba**

RESOLVED pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, s.137 to support the application for the costs of new drums and a trailer for transporting equipment to events with a grant of £5,000.

Cllr Johnson abstained from voting on this item.

### **8. Blyth Stroke Support**

RESOLVED unanimously pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, s.137 to support the application for costs contributing to service provision with a grant of £2,000.

### **9. Blyth Tall Ship**

Members considered an application requesting £5,000 towards funding pontoon repairs. Members noted continuous support for Blyth Tall Ship, however noted that the group has high unrestricted reserves. It was RESOLVED not to support the application on this occasion.

### **10. Citizens Advice Bureau Northumberland**

Members considered an application requesting £5,000 contributing to core costs of volunteers and a staff member. Members noted that the group have very good financial balances. It was RESOLVED to not support this application.

### **11. Cramlington Archers**

Members considered an application requesting £4,329.40 towards funding specialist sports equipment and a storage container. Members queried if the group have approached Cramlington Town Council for funding this project, and how many members of the group are from Blyth. The Community Engagement Officer clarified that the group are relocating to Blyth Golf Club and have a letter of endorsement from the Golf Club for this grant application. It was RESOLVED to defer this application to a future meeting upon Officers investigating members queries.

### **12. Blyth CVA**

Members considered an application requesting £5,000 contributing to ongoing activity. Members noted that the group have good financial balances. Supporting the application went to the vote with one in favour and eight against. It was RESOLVED to not support this application.

### **13. ESCAPE Family Support**

Members considered an application requesting £5,000 contributing to their service provision supporting those effected by drug or alcohol abuse. Members noted that this group have applied for grant funding from other organisations and the group were awaiting outcomes. It was RESOLVED to defer this application for reconsideration until the Council hear from the group if they are successful in receiving funding from other organisations.

### **14. Friends of LV50**

Members considered an application for £4,000 towards the cost of creating a video tour of the lightship for their website. Members noted that this group have applied for funding from another organisation for this project and were awaiting an outcome. It was RESOLVED to delegate the granting of £4,000 pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, s.144, to the Chair, Vice Chair with Officers to support the application if the group are not successful in receiving funding from the other organisation. .

### **15. Holding Hearts**

Members considered an application for £4,864 towards

	<p>contribution to service provision and supporting expansion into new structured programmes. Members felt that the group’s accounts were unclear for the application to be appropriately considered. It was RESOLVED to defer this application to a future meeting upon receiving clarification of the groups accounts.</p> <p><b>16. Magic Memories</b> RESOLVED pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, s.137 to support the application for the printing costs for a dementia guide for professionals with a grant of £1,000.</p> <p>Cllr Nisbet abstained from voting on this item.</p> <p><b>17. Marine Medical Social Prescribers</b> Members considered an application for £3,829.40 towards community wellbeing events in Blyth. Members felt that the group’s application couldn’t be appropriately considered unless account information is provided. It was RESOLVED delegate to the Chair, Vice Chair and Officers to award of a grant of £3,829.40 pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, s.137, on the basis they provide a record of their accounts, and actions to be delegated to the Chair and Officers.</p> <p><b>18. Mighty Minds</b> RESOLVED unanimously pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, s.137 to support the application for costs contributing to materials to increase visibility of their service with a grant of £4,819.</p> <p><b>19. Newsham and New Delaval Youth Forum</b> RESOLVED unanimously pursuant to Local Government Act 1972, s.137 to support the application for costs to upgrade their resources for young people with a grant of £3,000.</p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Delegated Actions</b></p> <p>There were no delegated actions since the previous meeting.</p>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Date and Time of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Community Funding Sub Committee will</p>

	be held in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House on <b>Tuesday 8 September 2026</b> at 6.30pm
	The meeting closed at 7.48 pm

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