

FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Grants Committee Meeting on 4 September 2025 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly, John Renshaw, Christine Dickinson, Belinda Walker, Lucy McGirr, Connor McConville, Kieran Leigh, Bridget Chapman, Peter Gane, Adrian Lockwood and Jackie Meade.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Jane Darling, Roger West and Nicola Keen.

ABSENT: Councillors Charlie Bain Smith, Laura Davison, Liz McShane and Tim Prater

OFFICERS PRESENT: Liz Timmins – Communities & Grants Officer

154. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors were asked to receive apologies from Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly, Jane Darling, Roger West and Nicola Keen

RESOLVED: To accept the Apologies from Councillors Jane Darling, Roger West and Nicola Keen.

Proposed: Councillor Lucy McGirr

Seconded: Councillor Jackie Meade

Voting: F: 11, Ag:0 , Ab: 0

155. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

The Committee were asked to appoint a Chair for the Grants Committee for the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Lucy McGirr be appointed Chair of the Grants Committee for the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

Proposed: Councillor Lucy McGirr

Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker

Voting: F:11, Ag:0, Ab:0

156. APPONTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

The Committee were asked to appoint a Vice Chair for the Grants Committee for the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Belinda Walker be appointed Vice Chair of the Grants Committee for the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

Proposed: Councillor John Renshaw

Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

Voting: F: 11, Ag:0 , Ab:0

157. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Belinda Walker declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in the Grimston Area Community Group. Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly declared a personal, but not prejudicial interest in 2nd and 4th Cheriton Guides.

158. GRANTS COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Committee was asked to receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the Grants Committee held on 6 February 2025 and to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Grants Committee held on 6 February 2025 be received and that the Chair of the meeting be authorised to sign them as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor John Renshaw

Seconded: Councillor Jackie Meade

Voting: F: 11, Ag:0 , Ab:0

159. REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

In line with the Town Council's adopted Standing Orders, the Committee was asked to consider the Terms of Reference for the Grants Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Terms of Reference be adopted for 2025/26.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor John Renshaw

Voting: F: 11, Ag:0 , Ab:0

160. TOWN GRANT APPLICATIONS

Applicants requesting Town Grants of over £1,000 gave short presentations and answered any questions from the Committee members.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The remainder of the Agenda classified item 7 as disclosing exempt information under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) thereby excluding the press and public from the meeting whilst this item is debated.

161. TOWN GRANTS

Town Grant applications were assessed on merit against five categories by each Councillor. Scores were then accumulated to calculate the award.

Applicant	Purpose	Amount
Folkestone Rescue	Rescue Boat	*£2,500
Folkey Birth Club	FBC Postnatal Circle	£1,700
South Kent Mind	Healthy Eating on a Budget	£1,000
Touchbase Care	Touchbase Care Christmas Meal	£1,500
Grimston Area Community Group	Accessibility and Engagement	£250
Disabled Friends and Family Assoc	Disabled children sports project	£650
Folkestone Twirlstars	Hall Hire and uniform	£1,000
Folkestone Gospel Singers	Singing For Health and Well-Being	£600
Folkestone Divers	Adults learn to swim project	£600
Gurkha Memorial Fund	10th Anniversary of The Memorial	£2,000
Fourth Wall Folkestone	Design + Art Fair	£1,200
Folkestone Documentary Festival	Folkestone Documentary Festival 2025	£2,000
Folkestone Choral Society	Mozart Requiem	£1,500
2nd and 4th Cheriton Guides	International Trip to The Azores	£250
a:dress	ReWear The Revolution!	£250
Folkestone Festivals	Summer of Bands on Bandstand 2026	£2,500
Total		£19,500

**Folkestone Rescue are to inform the Communities and Grants Officer of further funding received before funds are paid.*

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded: Councillor Bridget Chapman
Voting: F:11, Ag: 0, Ab:0

162. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 5 February 2026.

The Meeting concluded at 9.25pm

Chair

Date