

BASSETLAW ENTERPRISE BOARD

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 5th September 2011 at Retford Town Hall

Present:

Councillor S Toms (Chairman)

Councillors B A Bowles, D Challinor, K H Isard, T Rafferty and S Toms

Co-opted Members: N Kirk and S Raison

Officers in attendance: C Crossland and R Wilkinson.

9. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from co-opted member P Elliot.

Members were informed that P Elliot is unwell and the Board's best wishes will be passed on.

10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

(a) Members

There were no declarations of interest by Members.

(b) Officers

There were no declarations of interest by officers.

11. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6TH JUNE 2011

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 6TH June 2011 be approved.

SECTION A – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PUBLIC

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

None.

12. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, and after considering the public interest test as set out by the officer in the body of the report, Members agreed that the following items of business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2, and, therefore, in accordance with Section 100A of the Act, the press and public be excluded from the meeting:

Agenda Item No 4(a) Progress Update on Grants and Loans approved by Bassetlaw Enterprise Board – Paragraphs 1 and 2

Agenda Item No 4(b)(i) – New Application 2067 – Paragraphs 1 and 2

Agenda Item No 4(b)(ii) – New Application 2070 – Paragraphs 1 and 2

Agenda Item No 4(b)(iii) – New Application 2069 – Paragraphs 1 and 2

Agenda Item No 4(b)(iv) – New Application 2074 – Paragraphs 1 and 2

SECTION B – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION IN PRIVATE

Key Decisions

None.

Other Decisions

None.

(At this point Councillor K H Isard entered the meeting)

13. REPORT(S) OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

(a) Progress Update on Grants and Loans Approved by Bassetlaw Enterprise Board

The Board was given an update on grants and loans approved by Bassetlaw Enterprise Board. It was noted that the balance currently available for the award of grants in 2011/12 is £16,551.00 and the balance available for loans is £25,310.64. Details of loans in arrears were appended to the report.

RESOLVED that the progress report be received.

(b) New Applications

(i) Application No 2067

An application for financial assistance was considered by the Board towards the costs of backwashes, 3 storage units, 3 mirrors, wall processor and refurbishment to assist in establishing a Hair Salon business in Worksop which has created self-employment for the applicant and will create a further full time job once established.

Following consultation with the Board, the Chairman

RECOMMENDED that the application be deferred for 6 months to allow the applicant to submit further sales figures for consideration.

(ii) New Application 2070

An application for financial assistance was considered by the Board towards the costs of a computer and fax machine for a business which manufactures rubber stamps in Retford, which has created self-employment for the two applicants.

Following consultation with the Board, the Chairman

RECOMMENDED that:

1. The applicant be awarded a grant of £505 towards the costs of a computer and fax machine providing that evidence of payment is submitted for at least £1,009.
2. The award be conditional upon a progress update being provided by the applicant in six months, twelve months and eighteen months time and the applicant paying the £3.50 fee per applicant consumer search.

(iii) New Application 2069

An application for financial assistance was considered by the Board towards the costs of design software to establish a consulting business in Worksop which will create full time employment for the applicant.

Following consultation with the Board, the Chairman

RECOMMENDED that:

1. The applicant be awarded a grant of £1,500 towards the costs of design software providing that evidence of payment is submitted for at least £3,000.
2. The award be conditional upon a progress update being provided by the applicant in six months, twelve months and eighteen months time and the applicant paying the £3.50 fee per applicant consumer search.

(iv) New Application 2074

An application for financial assistance was considered by the Board towards the cost of a laptop, printer/scanner/photocopier, van signage, stationery and advertising (business cards, flyers and adverts) to establish a mobile catering business in Shireoaks which will create full time employment for the applicant.

Following consultation with the Board, the Chairman

RECOMMENDED that:

1. The applicant be awarded a grant of £700 towards the costs of a laptop, printer/scanner/photocopier, van signage, stationery and advertising (business cards, flyers and adverts providing that evidence of payment is submitted for at least £1,400.
2. The award be conditional upon a progress update being provided by the applicant in six months, twelve months and eighteen months time and the applicant paying the £3.50 fee per applicant consumer search.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

New Enterprise Finance Scheme

The Economic Development Manager informed Members that 57% of successful applicants do not take up their full grant allocation. He proposed for pre start-up businesses up to £1000 could be offered up front in the form of a loan which will turn in to a grant once evidence of purchases are provided. Should that evidence of purchase not be forthcoming, the loan would continue and would have to be repaid with interest.

RESOLVED that the New Enterprise Finance Scheme be progressed and recommended to Cabinet for approval.

As there was no other urgent business to be discussed, the Chairman closed the meeting.