

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of the COST OF LIVING CRISIS COMMITTEE held 17th OCTOBER 2022

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Guilfoyle, Needham & Wood.

Clerk: J. Boom.

INITIAL MEETING – TASK & FINISH MINUTES

1. APOLOGIES & SUBSTITUTES

Cllr Boggis & Stevens with Cllr Wood substituting.

2. TASK & FINISH GROUP STRUCTURE

A Chair will be elected at the next meeting, it was felt that external co-opted members were not needed with networking via the Local Action Group.

3. DELEGATED POWERS & BUDGET

It was confirmed that a budget of £30K had been allocated for this committee with powers delegated from full council as follows:

To decide and incur expenditure within budget on schemes and grant applications that support efforts to reduce the impact of the cost of living crisis on residents of Hebden Royd.

4. HRTC REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

- a) Anti-Poverty Steering Group - the invitation to the event on the 3rd November should be accepted. A member to attend to be decided at the next meeting.
- b) Local Action Groups – Luddendenfoot & Calder Wards, as above, a member to be decided at the next meeting.

See below.....

5. POSSIBLE AREAS OF HRTC SUPPORT

a) Food/Voucher Support

The meeting discussed principles for supporting local organisations with direct donations to residents in need of assistance, the following were supported:

- A registration process for those benefitting directly would be expected.
- It is a prerequisite that groups share information with others, while ensuring GDPR are not contravened this is to ensure support is not duplicated. HRTC may request to inspect data to ensure groups are collaborating.
- Groups should be open regarding duplication of support, HRTC would want to support them to reduce it.

The meeting discussed donations of food or vouchers and both were seen as appropriate.

b) 'Warm spaces'

The group felt a payment for 'additional' sessions was appropriate with an encouragement that activities should also be encouraged.

c) Community Meals

These were supported with a suggestion that those attending should 'pay what they feel' to support the initiative, again a payment towards the costs was appropriate. Some concern was raised regarding advantage being taken by those able to provide for themselves hence the 'pay what you feel'.

d) HRTC Staff

The meeting was concerned about how the public may react to a one off payment for all staff. Including only certain grades of staff was suggested. The meeting suggested a 'fund' for staff to call on if they wish with a clearly defined finishing date and maximum claim value.

The meeting felt clear justification was needed so that it can be communicated.

e) Other suggestions

None were made.

It was felt that all initiatives should be launched together to maximise impact for those benefitting and for the impact of communication.

6. COMMUNICATION

HRTC to circulate information.

7. GROUP PROGRESS & REVIEW

The meeting understood how this committee was to work within the constraints of the budget process and the precept setting windows.

Date of Next Meeting – Agreed as Tuesday 25th October starting at 10am, acknowledging that some have indicated that they may not be able to attend at this time.

**Meeting of the COST OF LIVING CRISIS COMMITTEE
held 25th OCTOBER 2022**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Boggis, Guilfoyle, Needham, Stevens & Wood.

Clerk: J. Boom.

- 1. APOLOGIES & SUBSTITUTES**
Cllr Fraser with Cllr Wood acting as a substitute.

See below.....

Proposed by Cllr Stevens
Seconded by Cllr Wood
RESOLVED that: Cllr Needham be chair of this committee.

Proposed by Cllr Wood
Seconded by Cllr Boggis
RESOLVED that Cllr Stevens be deputy chair of this committee.

Cllr Guilfoyle declared a non-pecuniary interest as a volunteer at Calder Food Support.

Cllr Boggis declared a non-pecuniary interest as chair of Governors at Burnley Road school.

8. **DELEGATED POWERS & BUDGET**

The meeting reviewed and confirmed their understanding of the powers delegated to them along with a budget of £30K that has been allocated for this committee with powers delegated from full council as follows:

To decide and incur expenditure within budget on schemes and grant applications that support efforts to reduce the impact of the cost of living crisis on residents of Hebden Royd.

9. **HRTC REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES**

a) Local Action Groups – Luddendenfoot & Calder Wards

Proposed by Cllr Stevens

Seconded by Cllr Guilfoyle

RESOLVED to nominate Cllr Boggis as the representative on the Luddendenfoot Ward Action Group.

Proposed by Cllr Guilfoyle

Seconded by Cllr Stevens

RESOLVED to nominate Cllr Needham as the representative on the Calder Ward Action Group.

b) Anti – Poverty Steering Group

Proposed by Cllr Guilfoyle

Seconded by Boggis

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk and Cllrs Needham & Cllr Hayes as previously nominated by Full Council.

c) Food Poverty Network

The meeting agreed to not provide a representative at the moment but remain vigilant to their actions.

10. **POSSIBLE AREAS OF HRTC SUPPORT**

The meeting considered the application form/guidance notes submitted for consideration and the principles contained within.

Changes were agreed and made along with the formal application form.

Proposed by Cllr Stevens

Seconded by Cllr Guilfoyle

RESOLVED to adopt the papers as amended.

These forms should be circulated and completed with the first meeting to be held on Monday 31st October at 1.30pm.

The forms should be circulated widely and the Local Action Groups to be included in this.

The meeting discussed the support of HRTC Staff with the options that a fund be created for staff to apply for or a standard payment made staff after application. This was rejected.

Proposed by Cllr Guilfoyle

Seconded by Cllr Stevens

RESOLVED to award an amount of £150 per member of staff for the period to the end of March 2023 as an employer supporting staff.

In line with many employers HRTC are providing all staff with a modest grant to help with the cost of living crisis recognising the challenges that are affecting us all. These payments will be made out of existing staffing budgets in December 2022.

A data set from the Anti-Poverty Steering Group specific to Hebden Royd should be sort to allow the creation of a base line from which to measure progress as the work of the committee develops.

Date of Next Meeting – Monday 31st October at 1.30pm for consideration of applications

**Meeting of the COST OF LIVING CRISIS COMMITTEE
held 31st OCTOBER 2022**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Boggis, Fraser, Needham, Stevens & Wood.

Clerk: J. Boom.

- 214. Apologies for Absence and any substitutions**
Cllr Guilfoyle with Cllr Wood substituting.
- 215. Members` Interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.**
None were declared at this time.
- 216. Matters arising from Minutes of Meetings held 17th & 25th October 2022 not itemised on this Agenda**
No points were raised.
- 217. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE COUNCIL**

- a) Calder Food Support
Providing Food Bags to Families in Need. £5,000.00

Proposed by Cllr Needham

Seconded by Cllr Stevens

RESOLVED to award £5,000.00 with the applicant being encouraged to actively engage with the Food Poverty Network and provide appropriate data to the Town Council, when requested, to ensure the duplication of services with other groups is minimised.

- b) Calder Community Cares
Direct Food Support and Direct Energy Saving Tips £5,000.00

Calder Community Cares were unable to attend the meeting.

It was agreed to arrange a meeting on Tuesday 15th November at 10.30am to consider this application along with any others that may be presented and other points that need to be considered.

Meeting finished at 2.45pm.

**Meeting of the COST OF LIVING CRISIS COMMITTEE
held 15th NOVEMBER 2022**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Boden, Boggis, Fraser & Needham.

Clerk: J. Boom.

242. Apologies for Absence and any substitutions
Cllr Guilfoyle and Cllr Stevens with Cllr Boden substituting for Cllr Guilfoyle.

243. Members` Interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.
Cllr Boggis, a non-pecuniary interest as Chair of Governors at Burnley Road School.

244. Matters arising from Minutes of Meetings held 31st October 2022 not itemised on this Agenda
No points were raised.

245. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE COUNCIL

- a) Calder Community Cares
Direct Food Support and Direct Energy Saving Tips £5,000.00

Jan Lymer outlined the request along with the changes Calder Community Care have decided to make to avoid the duplication of support and to ensure the referral of service users.

It was proposed by Cllr Fraser
Seconded by Cllr Boden

RESOLVED to award £5,000.00 with the applicant being encouraged to actively engage with the Food Poverty Network and provide appropriate data to the Town Council, when requested, to ensure the duplication of services with other groups is minimised.

246. COST OF LIVING CRISIS GRANTS
The clerk report on a meeting held last week where community representatives were encouraged to apply for financial support with 'Warming Spaces'. A deadline of the 19th November has been made with a promise that funds will be circulated by the end of November. These applications will be considered on Thursday 24th November at 10.30am, applicants if invited, starting at 11am.

247. HRTC REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES
No reports were made.

Meeting finished at 11.30am.