

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.