

## Liverpool Airport Community Fund Meeting

Management Committee

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 1pm – 3pm

Minutes of the meeting

### Attendees:

Cllr Eddie Dourley – Acting LACF Chair and Halton Borough Councillor for Ditton, Hale Village and Halebank

Stuart Fitzgerald – Chair of the Management Committee of Speke Training and Education Centre

Robin Tudor – Liverpool Airport

Carol Dutton – Liverpool Airport

Andrew Dutton – Liverpool Airport

Michael Atkinson – Liverpool Airport

### 1. **Welcome:**

Brief welcome and explanation of purpose of fund followed by introductions.

### 2. **Update of monies committed:**

An updated total was provided to the committee members.

### 3. **Applications for funding:**

#### Autism Adventures

This project requested £2,900 towards purchasing equipment to create a sensory garden. Funding will be used for flower beds, plants, tools and sensory equipment.

Autism Adventures is a local organisation based in Speke and the committee felt they met all the criteria stated in the community fund guidelines and provide a great service to its users.

**Resolved: A grant of £2,900 is approved by the committee**

#### Build Your Confidence

This organisation requested £1,400 so that individuals in Halewood and Speke can attend woodworking workshops to empower and take away barriers of learning. Funding will be used for space hire, materials and new equipment.

The committee agreed all criteria had meet met and this small project will make a considerate difference to the local community.

**Resolved: A grant of £1,400 is approved by the committee**

#### Five Children and Families Trust

This charity celebrates their 20-year anniversary and would like to give back to the community by throwing a Mad Hatter Tea Party. They have requested £3,000 to be used to purchase an outdoor movie theatre which is more sustainable than renting this on a regular basis.

The committee felt Five Children and Families Trust is a well set up and embedded organisation that families keep coming back to for generations.

**Resolved: A grant of £3,000 is approved by the committee**

#### Knowsley Foodbank

This organisation is a Trussel Trust network member and has requested £2,895.66 to expand their foodbanks by opening a new one in Halewood which is an area currently underserved in respect to food pantries. The fund will allow them to purchase equipment (e.g. fridge and freezer).

The committee agreed that another foodbank in close proximity to the airport and where housing has recently gone in would be beneficial to the community. Our support will have them up and running for the foreseeable future which means sustainable results.

**Resolved: A grant of £2,895.66 is approved by the committee**

#### Groundwork – Grow Speke

This project requested £3,000 towards purchasing and installing a wheelchair accessible composting toilet to increase access across their site.

Groundworks thriving community garden is a sustainable and environmentally friendly facility which produces and distributes 900kg of food each year to those in need and the committee felt that making this site accessible for wheelchair users is the right thing to do for equality for all.

**Resolved: A grant of £3,000 is approved by the committee**

#### Manwell

This charity helps men with their mental health and has requested £2,817.60 towards purchasing football shirts for their new teams in Speke/Garston.

The committee felt this charity will offer great mental health support through their activities (football, jogging, swimming, cycling and hiking) for local men, and hence their families, who would benefit from a support system in place.

**Resolved: A grant of £2,817.60 is approved by the committee**

#### St. Mark's Catholic Primary School

This project requested £2,208.78 towards purchasing a shelter in their outdoor area and to purchase planters and seeds in order for parents to interact in different activities with their children outside of the classroom.

St. Marks Catholic Primary School is a local school with strong ties to the community and the committee felt it would be great to give them something tangible that will be enjoyed for years by children and their families.

**Resolved: A grant of £2,208.78 is approved by the committee**

#### Veterans Launchpad

This charity requested £1,400 towards finishing their allotment area which is located by Speke House.

The committee agreed that this charity do great work by housing homeless veterans which hits a different demographic to what the Company usually have the chance to help with. In addition, most volunteering staff and a significant number of our Airport colleagues are veterans.

**Resolved: A grant of £1,400 is approved by the committee**

#### Croxteth and Gillmoss Community Federation

This project requested £2,808.69 towards renovations of their space including building of furniture and creating a relaxing atmosphere for their service users.

The committee felt the grant will be a great and sustainable contribution towards supporting an organisation who helps a lot of families in their area. Met all criteria apart from being local, but we felt that at least one grant should be awarded outside the area.

**Resolved: A grant of £2,808.69 is approved by the committee**

#### A Place For Us

This project is requesting £2,850 towards bursaries for young students in Halton who due to challenging financial circumstances would otherwise not be able to access the transformative benefits of the Performing Arts.

The committee felt this project would have great impact for individuals within the community and that a significant number of young people will get something tangible and long lasting out of it.

**Resolved: A grant of £2,850 is approved by the committee**

**4. Applications:**

We received 24 applications with the total cost totalling £58,486.

We will award a total of £25,280.73 in grants divided out between the 10 organisations/charities listed above. All organisations will be contacted, whether successful or not, by the end of the month.

**5. Any other business:**

At the next meeting, Cllr Mary Rasmussen, Liverpool City Councillor for Speke will join the committee at Chair, following completion of her year in office as The Lord Mayor of Liverpool. At this meeting we will look at the impact of providing funds to the successful projects above and hopefully be able to share some success stories.

As this was our first committee meeting and we are constantly learning, it was agreed that Stuart Fitzgerald will put us in touch with someone who runs a similar scheme to advice and provide a set of Terms & Conditions and a recommendation/method of evaluating and monitoring impact of the grant, which we will send out with the successful letters.

**6. Date of the next meeting**

It was agreed by the committee members that the next community meeting will be held in October 2024 (exact date to be confirmed at a later stage).