

# BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

<b>TRUSTS AND CHARITIES COMMITTEE 22 SEPTEMBER 2021</b>
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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
TRUSTS AND CHARITIES COMMITTEE  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2021  
AT 1030 HOURS IN MAIN HALL,  
BMI, BIRMINGHAM**

**PRESENT:** - Councillor Akhlaq Ahmed in the Chair;

Gurdial Singh Atwal, Councillors Zhor Malik and Julien Pritchard

**ALSO, PRESENT:** -

Nigel Oliver – Birmingham Property Services  
Rajesh Parmar – Legal Services  
Paul Ruffle – Senior Travel Demand Officer

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**NOTICE OF RECORDING**

- 1073 The Chairman advised that the meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site ([www.youtube.com/channel/UCT2kT7ZRPFCXq6\\_5dnVnYlw](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCT2kT7ZRPFCXq6_5dnVnYlw)) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

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**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 1074 The Chairman reminded Members that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests arising from any business to be discussed at this meeting. If a disclosable pecuniary interest was declared a Member must not speak or take part in that agenda item. Any declarations would be recorded in the Minutes of the meeting.

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**APOLOGIES**

- 1075 Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillors Yvonne Mosquito and David Pears for their inability to attend the meeting.
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**MINUTES**

Councillor Zhor Malik indicated that the minutes did not reflect that he had asked if an update could be provided by officers on the outcomes agreed at Council as Trustee. Officers responded to the Councillor indicating that following the decision at Council as Trustee due process was being followed. They undertook to email Councillor Malik with the details.

1076 **RESOLVED: -**

That, subject to the above, the Minutes of the last meeting of the Trusts and Charities Committee held on 16 June 2021 having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed and signed.

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**YOUNG ACTIVE TRAVEL TRUST GRANTS**

The following report of the Report of Assistant Director – Transport and Connectivity was submitted: -

(See Document 1)

Paul Ruffle, Senior Travel Demand Officer, presented the report and advised Members that Schools must have registered for Modeshift stars. As part of the Travel Plan a school must complete a school travel survey before they received funding. The survey asked the staff and children how they currently travel to school and how they would like to travel to school. The school can make a travel plan based on the survey responses. North and West was in Paul's remit anything else is managed by Mandy Slater. The applications are examined by The Young Active travel panel, Mandy and Paul were on the panel including 2 members of the school crossing team. If the criteria was met, the applications were taken forward to plan funding. There have been instances when schools have asked to come back again at the start of the next school term. Schools have been able to apply from the 8 September and the closing date is 3 December. The applications were presented to the internal group and was represented by managers of different teams. From 13 August the applications went to the transport highways board. Paul brought forward 10 schools in 10 wards, most of those schools had already started their travel plans and others had already completed them.

Councillor Zhor Malik asked if the grant is open to all schools, Paul confirmed it was if they meet the criteria. The Chair explained they must sign up to Modeshift stars and apply for the pot of money. Councillor Pritchard raised the question of how many schools were rejected – Paul explained of the 12 applications only 2 had being rejected. Councillor Pritchard asked how the travel grant was promoted and Paul further explained that was in the school's hands. Paul stated at the start of the school term a newsletter is sent out to the schools, they all got a copy of this and it is up to them to read it and apply. As part of the newsletter webinars were offered, which schools preferred. The information also goes on the school's noticeboards. When the schools were making the applications, they were advised to make a 5-year plan and the equipment must be able to last 5 years. Maintenance costs were not provided.

## **Trusts and Charities Committee – 22 September 2021**

Councillor Malik asked if some of the schools in his Ward had applied to the scheme and Paul confirmed that they had not although the schools fell under Mandy's remit. Councillor Malik asked if it is just local authority schools and Paul stated it is for schools purely in the Birmingham Authority Area which also includes academies.

The Chair asked what benefits were expected from the applications. Paul stated the scheme was looking at promoting safety and reducing car traffic, congestion and improving the air quality.

Rajesh Parmar, Legal Services, asked if the schools suffered from traffic and congestion and Paul stated that within the school travel plan schools might say parking is an issue., If they had completed a school travel plan they can be taken forward to a school safety plan with the engineers. During the Covid school lockdown, there was less traffic, now that they are open there is still an issue with the air quality and congestion outside schools.

Councillor Malik asked if the equipment is stored in the school or taken home, Paul stated that it is stored in school and used in P.E lessons. They are not to be taken home.

Councillor Pritchard raised the question of seeing the applications that were rejected at the next meeting. Paul stated that once they meet the criteria they would go through another round of approval.

The Chair indicated that the Committee had 10 applications for approval and went through each individually, during which Members asked further questions, as follows:

- Heathfield Primary School – Agreed
- Lea Primary School – Agreed
- Marlborough Primary School – Agreed
- Moorhall Primary School – Agreed
- Moseley CE Primary School – Agreed
- Nansen Primary School – Agreed
- Queensbury School – Agreed
- Robin Hood Academy – (The Chair indicated that the school was in his ward) Agreed
- Wyndcliffe Primary School – Agreed
- Yewtree Primary School - Agreed

The Chair requested Paul to forward information regarding green, bronze, gold, platinum and silver award scheme for schools to members.

Referring to visit to schools the Chair asked the Committee Manager to send email out again to all member with dates and names of the schools. Paul stated that he would accompany members on the visits as it is an open invitation to see what the funding is being used for. He recommended members take photos so other schools can replicate how the funding is being used.

Councillor Atwal confirmed for his attendance to Ark Victoria Academy for 30 September 2021.

1077 **RESOLVED:** -

That the Committee:

- 1 Approves the applications for funding from the schools listed at point 4.6 in the report, totalling £9,906.20.
2. Notes the remaining balances available to the Young Active Travel in Birmingham Charitable Trust for future disbursement.

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**OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

No matters raised

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**AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

1078 **RESOLVED:**

'That in an urgent situation between meetings, the Chairman jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

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The meeting ended at 1137 hours.

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CHAIRMAN