

**MINUTES OF THE POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON  
16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016.**

**Present :** Councillor J Criddle ( Chair )  
Councillors D Davies, A Farina-Childs & P Cook ( late )

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors W Baber, G Hale

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor A Farina-Childs declared an interest in Item 5 as Chairman of Governors of Blackwood Comprehensive School

**3. To Receive the Minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee Meeting held on 20th. January 2016**

It was *resolved* the minutes be received

**4. Matters Arising**

Councillor A Farina-Childs confirmed he had made enquiries regarding removal of the conifer at Libanus Life Centre

**5. To Consider a request for funding/sponsorship towards proposed WRFU Coaching Scheme at Blackwood Comprehensive School**

Councillor A Farina-Childs who had declared an interest took no part in the discussion or decision.

The Clerk read the letter received from the Headmaster in support of the application ( copies were circulated to members )

Members present were very sympathetic towards the proposal, as it also included girls, and albeit this was seen as a one off request ( whilst the project was a 3 year fixed term programme ), it did seem to compliment Town Council's desire to assist in creating opportunities for young people in our area. ( As in the Children's Literature Festival )

The Chair asked the Clerk what funding might be available to support this project. The Clerk responded by pointing out that £1,000 earmarked for the Newsletter would not be needed before the end of the year, and with approximately £400 available within the Grants budget and likely smaller underspends, £1,500 could be allocated without having any adverse affect on the balances as reported at budget setting.

After some further discussion it was *agreed* to recommend to Town Council that a grant of £1,500 be awarded in support of this project.

## 6. *Applications for Financial Assistance*

The Clerk presented his report on applications received since the last meeting.

Each application was considered in some detail, and after discussion it was *agreed* to recommend to Town Council that the following grants be awarded –

	£
Blackwood Town Cricket Club	250
Blackwood Neighbourhood Policing Team	250

Whilst members were sympathetic towards the applications from Teenage Cancer Trust Wales and Tenovus Cancer Care, they agreed with the standpoint taken over several years that we support local Cancer charities wherever possible rather than National Charities.