

EXECUTIVE DECISION NOTICE**DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF SUB-COMMITTEE**

A record of the decisions made at the meeting of the Discretionary Rate Relief Sub-Committee held on Wednesday, 10 December 2014, at 1.00 pm.

Present

Councillors

Chris Hogg	Culture, Arts and Events Portfolio Holder
Peter Thornton	Leader of the Council and Promoting South Lakeland and Finance Portfolio Holder
Graham Vincent	Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder

Officers

Ross McLaughlin	Revenues Officer (BIDS and Reliefs)
Matthew Neal	Solicitor to the Council
Alan Raven	Revenues and Benefits Manager
Paul Rogers	Assistant Democratic Services Officer

Note – It was noted that the Agenda for the meeting contained an error and that it should have referred to Councillor Chris Hogg as a substitute Member. An apology for absence having been received from Councillor Jonathon Brook, Councillor Hogg substituted accordingly.

DRR/22 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – That Councillor Graham Vincent be elected Chairman for the meeting.

DRR/23 APOLOGIES

It was noted that the Agenda for the meeting contained an error and that it should have referred to Councillor Chris Hogg as Substitute Member. An apology for absence having been received from Councillor Jonathan Brook, Councillor Hogg substituted accordingly.

DRR/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED – That it be noted that there were no declarations of interest.

DRR/25 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - EXCLUDED ITEMS

RESOLVED – That it be noted that there were no excluded items on the Agenda.

DRR/26 APPEAL AGAINST DECISION TO REFUSE AN APPLICATION FOR DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF MADE BY KENDAL TOWN FC - 53050371**Summary**

Consideration was given to an appeal made by Kendal Town Football Club against an Executive Decision made under delegated powers to refuse an application for discretionary rate relief (DEX/5 2014/15 refers). The application had previously been refused as, based on the information provided in the application form, the Club did not meet the various membership criteria in the guidelines and it had also been noted that the Club's accounts did not reflect the recent acquisition of a bar.

Kendal Town Football Club had appealed the decision, clarifying the role of the Club's managers, coaches and other playing team individuals and the membership of the Club. The membership fee was £1 and the club stated that playing members exceeded 25% of the total membership. A meeting had been held by officers with the Club Chairman to clarify the issues around Club membership, details of which were provided. The Club was becoming more involved in the community through youth football, making Club facilities available to children and being involved with the Riversiders Football Club, a disabled team. The Club accepted that it needed to reflect on membership arrangements, and would consider introducing more transparent arrangements with formal membership cards issued. Kendal Town Football Club had stated that they had been awarded 'full rate relief' for their former premises. They had been awarded Small Business Rate Relief in respect of that property, whereas the rateable of value of the current premises exceeded the limit for Small Business Rate Relief to be awarded.

Members were of the view that further information was necessary.

Decision

RESOLVED –That a decision be deferred to enable officers to request further information from Kendal Town Football Council about the structure of its membership including details of its register of members.

Reasons for Decision

To enable Members to make an informed decision.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Members are required to determine the appeal and may decide to allow or refuse the appeal.

DRR/27 DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION FOR DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF BY MIND (ULVERSTON) - 51984271**Summary**

Consideration was given to an application for Discretionary Rate Relief at Appendix 2 and 3 of the report, from MIND (Ulverston) for the premises at Queen Street, Ulverston with reference to policy guidelines at Appendix 1 of the report.

Decision

RESOLVED – That 20% Discretionary Rate Relief be awarded to MIND (Ulverston) (ref:51984271) for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.

Reasons for Decision

The purpose of an award of discretionary rate relief to charitable organisations and other non-profit making organisations is to help achieve the priorities and targets set out in the Council Plan. Members considered that the work that the organisation carried out within its community made the application exceptional. The application was therefore in accordance with the policy guidelines.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Members may determine whether or not relief should be awarded, although reference must be made to the Council's policy guidelines. The percentage awarded can be varied depending upon the individual circumstances.

The meeting ended at 2.10 pm