

Youth Fund Application: Radyr Golf Club Junior Section

Background

The council has received a grant application from Radyr Golf Club's junior section for £1,000 to help fund a trip by nine team members to Portugal, to represent Wales in the Junior Team Golf Home Nations Inter-Club Championship - an event which will, we are told by the grant applicant, be televised on Sky Sports.

The trip will take place between 6 and 12 March this year. The young people involved will be between 14 and 18 years old.

Funding sought

The money would contribute to the £7,673 cost of the trip (£3,445 accommodation and subsistence and £4,228 clothing). The clothing would consist of matching shirts, trousers and caps for the team with different shirts for each day. The team will also attend a gala dinner after the last day of play and will need to wear matching blazers, shirts, trousers and ties. Radyr Golf Club would also like them to have matching golf bags with the club's crest on the bags and also towels / ball and club cleaners.

Residence Criterion

Of the nine team members, one lives in Morganstown. The other eight live outside R&M, in Pontypridd, Dinas Powys, Llantridddy, Llandaf, Danescourt, Rhydlafar, Gwaelod y Garth and Capel Llanilltern.

The Section's financial status

In the year ending 31 March 2017, Radyr Golf Club's junior section had an income of £1,273 (of which £1,000 was given to them by the golf club; expenditure of £514 - and a year-end balance of £759.

Discussion

In deciding whether or not we wish to award this grant we should bear in mind the following:

a) in favour awarding the grant

- this would raise the profile of our local golf club and may encourage more of our young people to join and play
- we would be supporting a positive experience for the young people involved.

b) against awarding the grant

- making this payment would not be in line with our current Youth Fund criteria (which requires at least 75 % of the young people involved to be based in Radyr or Morganstown)
- that paying money to benefit people who do not live in Radyr or Morganstown could be ultra vires
- that such a payment could also give rise to complaints from precept payers in Radyr or Morganstown, who could reasonable expect the precept that they pay to be used for the benefit of those who live in Radyr or Morganstown
- we would be buying clothes for individuals, rather than buying equipment for use by the club - and for the benefit of all its members

Recommendation

Awarding this grant would be contrary to the criteria set out in our Youth Fund policy. In addition, awarding this grant payment could well be ultra vires - and could give rise to complaints from precept payers in Radyr

or Morganstown, who could reasonable expect the money that they pay the council to be used for the benefit of those who live in Radyr or Morganstown.

As such, it is recommended that the grant application should be refused.

However, members may feel that the club's junior section is something that the Council should support, in the hope that it continues to develop and attract more members, especially from Radyr and Morganstown.

With this in mind, the Finance Committee agreed that a recommendation should be made to the full Council, proposing that the junior section be sponsored by the Council, with an award of £1,000.

If such a sponsorship arrangement is agreed by the Council, we can discuss with the club what use would be made of the money - and how the club would acknowledge our sponsorship.

H O Jones

5 February 2018