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WILLIAM HILL TRUST SUB-COMMITTEE TUESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2024

A MEETING of the WILLIAM HILL TRUST SUB-COMMITTEE will be held VIA MICROSOFT

TEAMS on TUESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2024 at 1.30 pm

All attendees, including members of the public, should note that the public business in this meeting will be livestreamed and video recorded and that recording will be available thereafter for public view for 180 days.

N. MCKINLAY,
Director Corporate Services,

15 February 2024

| BUSINESS | | |
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| 1. | Apologies for Absence | |
| 2. | Order of Business | |
| 3. | Declarations of Interest | |
| 4. | Minute (Pages 3 - 4) Consider Minute of the Meeting held on 12 December 2023 for signature and approval by the Chair. (Copy attached.) | |
| 5. | Application for Financial Assistance (Pages 5 - 10) Consider application for financial assistance from Melrose Imagination Library. (Copy attached.) | 15 mins |
| 6. | Any Other Items Previously Circulated | |
| 7. | Any Other Items which the Chairman Decides are Urgent | |

NOTES

1. Timings given above are only indicative and not intended to inhibit Members' discussions.
2. Members are reminded that, if they have a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any item of business coming before the meeting, that interest should be declared prior to commencement of discussion on that item. Such declaration will be recorded in the Minute of the meeting.

Membership of Committee:- Councillors D. Parker (Chair), J. Linehan, J. PatonDay and Mr S. Harris (Melrose and District)

Please direct any enquiries to William Mohieddeen
Tel: 01835 826504; Email: william.mohieddeen@scotborders.gov.uk

**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
WILLIAM HILL TRUST SUB-COMMITTEE**

MINUTES of Meeting of the WILLIAM HILL TRUST SUB-COMMITTEE held via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, 12 December 2023 at 1.30 pm

Present:- Councillors D. Parker (Chair), J. Linehan and J. PatonDay

Apologies:- Mr S. Harris (Melrose and District CC)

In Attendance:- Statutory Reporting and Treasury Business Partner (K. Robertson), Principal Solicitor (G. Sellar) and Democratic Services Officer (W. Mohieddeen).

1. MINUTE

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 28 August 2023.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Minute for signature by the Chair.

2. MONITORING REPORT FOR 6 MONTHS TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

There had been circulated copies of a report by Director Finance and Procurement that provided the details of the income and expenditure for the William Hill Trust Fund for the six months to 30 September 2023, a full year projected out-turn for 2023-24, and projected balance sheet values as at 31 March 2024. Appendix 1 of the report provided the projected income and expenditure position for 2023-24 which showed a projected surplus of £11,557 for the year. Appendix 2 of the report provided a projected balance sheet value as at 31 March 2024 which showed a projected increase in reserves of £11,557. Appendix 3 showed the value of the Aegon Asset Management Investment Fund to 30 September 2023. It was advised that the presentation of the Aegon Asset Management fund was being assessed so that there would be a focus on key information rather than repeating information each quarter.

DECISION

NOTED:

- (a) the projected income and expenditure for 2023-24 in Appendix 1 of the report;**
- (b) the projected balance sheet value as at 31 March 2024 in Appendix 2 of the report; and,**
- (c) the current position of the Aegon Asset Management Investment Fund in Appendix 3 of the report.**

3. CHARITABLE DE-REGISTRATION OF SBC COMMON GOOD FUNDS

There had been circulated copies of a report by Acting Chief Financial Officer that was tabled at the 30 March 2023 meeting of Scottish Borders Council that provided Members of the intention by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) to remove the SBC Common Good Funds, charity number SC031538, from the Scottish Charity Register (the Register). The 12 Common Good Funds (Coldstream, Duns, Eyemouth, Galashiels, Hawick, Innerleithen, Jedburgh, Kelso, Lauder, Melrose, Peebles and Selkirk) were registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) as 1 registered charity, registration number SC031538. A letter received from OSCR in December 2022 was attached at Appendix 1. This provided advance notification of the intention to remove

the SBC Common Good Funds, registration number SC031538, from the Register, and outlined: the reason for the decision, the process by which the Charity would be removed from the Register and the effect of removal. OSCR concluded that: Scottish Borders Common Good was not a 'body' with a constitution distinct and separate from the Council that was capable of being entered in the Register, that the Charity does not meet the charity test because it did not have purposes that consist only of one or more of the charitable purposes in section 7(2) of the 2005 Act 3, and because it had been concluded that the Charity did not have wholly charitable purposes an assessment of public benefit had not been carried out. The Council's Chief Legal Officer and Acting Chief Financial Officer agreed with OSCR's conclusions that this was the correct approach. Following deregistration, annual accounts would not be prepared, audited and submitted to OSCR. The Common Good funds would instead be consolidated within the Council's statutory accounts. Outturn reports would continue to be presented to Common Good fund Committees setting out the annual income and expenditure associated with each fund and assets they held on their balances sheet at 31 March each year. Separate records would still be maintained for each Common Good funds and current monitoring arrangements would continue. The Democratic Services Officer advised that while this report had been tabled at a meeting of Scottish Borders Council and its recommendations agreed by Members, it was considered good practice for the report to be submitted for noting at each Common Good Fund Committee.

DECISION

NOTED the report.

The meeting concluded at 1.37 pm.



**WILLIAM HILL TRUST FUND
APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

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| <u>Applicant Details</u> Name and Address of Applicant/Organisation: Telephone No: | Gabrielle Deehan, on behalf of "Melrose Imagination Library" <div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 40px; margin: 10px 0;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin: 10px 0;"></div> |
| Address to which payment should be made: | As above |
| <u>Activities</u> Please supply a brief description of the activities of your organisation and the benefits it brings to the local community: | <p>In 1995 Dolly Parton established a programme promoting children's literacy in Tennessee, in memory of her father. She gifts a book to every child in the state every month from birth until their fifth birthday - so that every child has a small library of their own.</p> <p>The programme has since expanded throughout the USA, and in 2007 Dolly Parton's Imagination Library launched in the UK. In the UK, it relies on community partners providing 'top-up' funding to cover the cost of books and postage in a given geographical area. This cost is currently around £26 per year per child.</p> <p>We are a group of parents who live in Melrose and we propose starting an Imagination Library open to all children aged 0-5 in Melrose (defined for simplicity as postcode area 'TD6 9') and running this - initially - as a pilot scheme for a period of five years. This means that each Melrose child who is signed up up to the Imagination Library will receive their very own age appropriate book in the post each month, until their fifth birthday.</p> <p>We have discussed our plans with Borders Community Action and have registered with them as an associate member, so that we can benefit from their ongoing advice. We are in the process of registering as a charity (an "unincorporated association") with Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) for financial accountability.</p> |

| | |
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| <p><u>Assistance Requested</u></p> <p>Please indicate the sum requested and the purpose for which it will be used:</p> | <p>Funds raised will be used to purchase books for the children of Melrose via the Dollywood Foundation's partnership with Penguin Random House. The Dollywood Foundation have indicated that that for an area with approximately 200 children (estimated population from Public Health Scotland) aged 0-5, such as Melrose, the costs of funding the Imagination Library would be as follows:</p> <p>Year 1: £2 204 Year 2: £3 084 Year 3 and subsequent years: £3 966</p> <p>The total anticipated cost of our five year pilot is therefore £17 186.</p> |
| <p>When will the donation be required:</p> | <p>We hope to open the Melrose Imagination Library to all children aged 0-5 in Melrose in early 2024. We need to secure the first year's funding (ie £2 204) before we can do this.</p> |
| <p>If this is a one-off project then please give the following details –</p> <p>Date (s):</p> <p>Estimated total cost:</p> <p>Funds already raised by applicant's own efforts:</p> <p>Funds raised or expected to be raised from other sources (please state sources):</p> | <p>While we hope to be able to continue the Melrose Imagination Library in perpetuity, we are trialling this project for five years in the first instance, at a projected cost of £17 186.</p> <p>We are seeking initial funding from the William Hill Trust and are also actively seeking funding from other grant making organisations, local businesses and are planning an annual fundraising event, to be held in the Summer.</p> <p>Any amount raised beyond our projected costs will be reserved for subsequent years.</p> |
| <p><u>Other information</u></p> <p>If you have other information which you feel is relevant to this application please provide details including details of any previous assistance given:</p> | <p>Please see below information from the Dollywood Foundation about the co-ordination of the Imagination Library.</p> <p>The benefits of books in the home are vast and clear. The Scottish Book Trust report that the most important indicator of a child's success in later life is reading for pleasure. However, research by the National Literacy Trust suggests that fewer than half 0-2 year olds are read to "nearly every day", but 42% of the same cohort spent more than an hour per day on a screen in 2019. Instilling a love for reading and a strong foundation of literacy in our children is the greatest gift a community can give.</p> <p>Unfortunately the pre-school children of Melrose have recently lost the regular "Bookbug" session (a free weekly session run by a librarian which includes stories and songs) at Melrose Library, due to the retirement of our librarian. Live Borders have indicated that they have no budget to recruit a new member of staff to run the Bookbug sessions and that they are unable to provide cover from their existing members of staff.</p> |

Declaration

I hereby make application for assistance as set out above and certify that the information I have provided is accurate

Signed:

Position Held: Chairperson of Melrose Imagination Library

Date: 8/12/23

Note: All applications from organisations MUST be accompanied by a copy of the latest audited accounts

This completed form, accounts and any supporting details should be submitted to Democratic Services, Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, TD6 0SA.
ComPap@scotborders.gov.uk Telephone 01835 826585



Affiliates & Community Partners

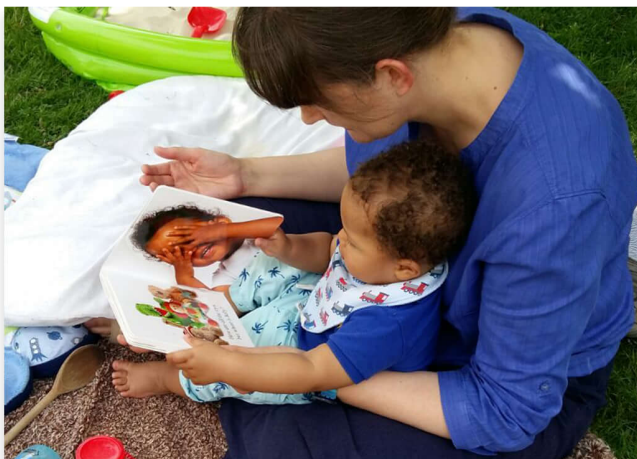
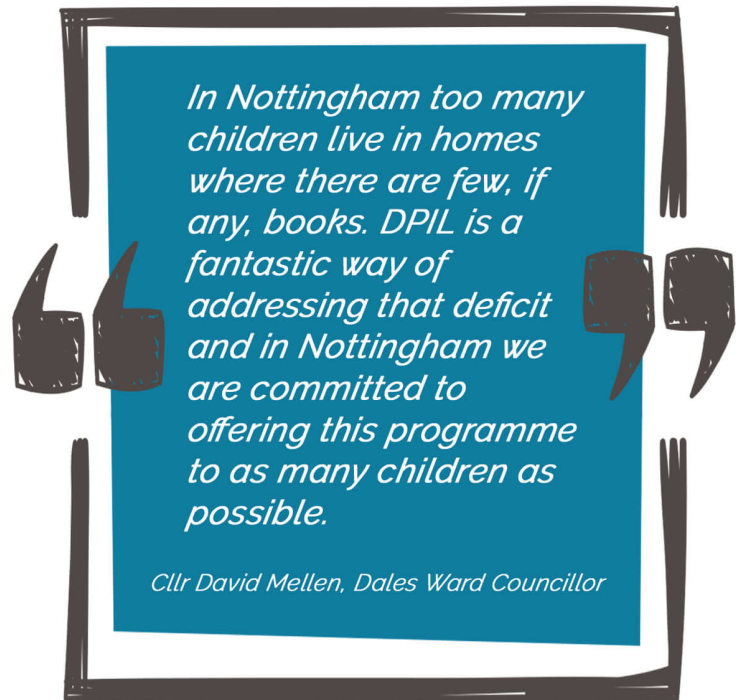
Inspire a Love of Reading



Supporting Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a powerful way to make a lasting impact on the lives of the children and families in your community.

Dolly Parton believes that if you can read, you can do anything, dream anything, and be anything. Through her Imagination Library programme, she wants to ensure all children have books at home, regardless of the environment in which they live.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (DPIL) puts books into the hands and hearts of children across the world. We partner with local communities to provide a specially-selected, age-appropriate, high-quality book each month to registered children from birth to age five. These books are personalised with the child's name and posted directly to the child's home to create a gifting experience that makes books exciting and shows the child someone is thinking of them.



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a dependable partner for local communities and provides a low-cost, turnkey programme to help young children develop a love for books and reading.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library makes it accessible for local communities to reach large numbers of children and families with books at a low cost per child per month through a flexible, highly scalable model.

Engaging Affiliates & Community Partners

Improving early childhood literacy with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library creates opportunities for children to thrive so that they succeed in school and help their communities grow and prosper. Dolly Parton's Imagination Library makes it accessible for local communities to regularly communicate with large numbers of children and families, providing a high-quality and age-appropriate library of books at a low cost per child per month through a flexible, highly scalable model.



Affordable, high quality and turnkey



Parents love it and read more with their child



Research confirms the impact on early literacy

Become an Imagination Library Partner

A community and its affiliate organisation make the programme accessible to all birth to age five children in their local area.

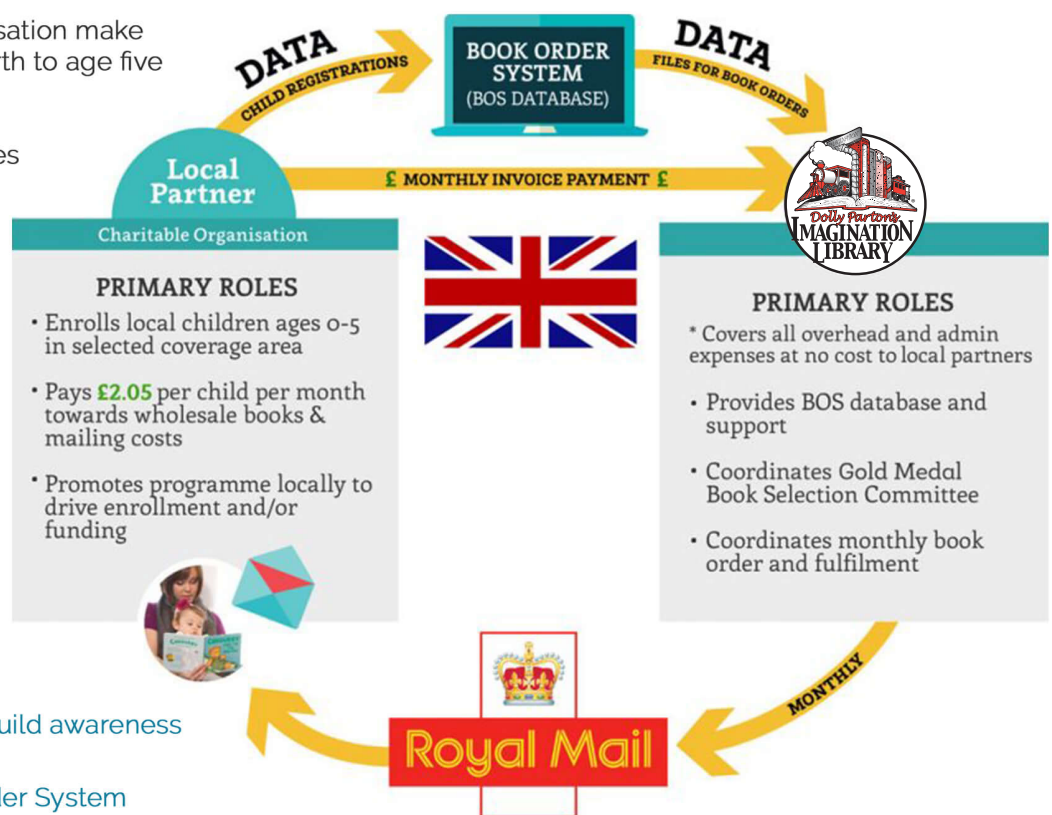
The Dollywood Foundation manages the system to deliver the books to the home. From the rigorous review of books by the selection committee to providing the Book Order System and overseeing the posting of a book to each child every month from birth to age five, the Imagination Library supports the local community and affiliates every step of the process.

Community Partners:

- ✓ Pay the wholesale cost of books and mailing for children in selected coverage
- ✓ Promote the Programme and build awareness
- ✓ Register Children to Participate
- ✓ Enter Information into Book Order System

More than twenty years ago, Dolly Parton created the Imagination Library to inspire a love of reading in children of her home county in East Tennessee. In 2000, the program was expanded to serve any community with local partner support and, today, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library reaches more than 1 million children across the world with a new, age-appropriate book each month.

"You can never get enough books into the hands of enough children."



Start a Local Community Imagination Library Programme Today!

Contact us by visiting the website to reach your regional director, to complete the online Start-A-Programme form and to learn more about how it works.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is active in England, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

Let us help you get started in your community.

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