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**Ernest Stevens Trusts Management Committee – 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2017**

**Report of the Chief Officer Finance and Legal Services**

**Stevens Park and Recreation Ground Foundation Trust – Payment of Grant**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To update Committee on payment of a grant from Stevens Park and Recreation Ground Foundation Trust to Stourbridge and District Scout Association.

**Background**

2. At the previous meeting of this Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2016, an application for up to £5,000 funding towards improvements to the Scout Association headquarters was submitted. Members requested that further details of funds already received by the Scout Association towards this work be obtained prior to any approval to award. The report and minutes of the last meeting are available on the Council's website:  
<http://cmis.dudley.gov.uk/cm5/Meetings/tabid/116/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/543/Meeting/5273/Committee/486/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>
3. The Scout Association provided more detail of their fund raising, and this was circulated to Members in order to enable them to make a decision. There were three approvals, and no dissensions, and so a payment of £5,000 was made to the Stourbridge and District Scout Association prior to Christmas 2016. Members of this Committee were informed of this.
4. An email from the Scout Association has been received thanking the Committee for payment of the grant.

**Finance**

5. No other grants have previously been awarded during the current financial year. The grant payment will be financed from the income of the Trust.

**Law**

6. The Council is successor to the former Stourbridge Council by virtue of the Local Government Act 1972.
7. Section 139 of the Local Government Act, 1972 empowers the Council to accept, hold and administer gifts of property, where it enables them to discharge any of their functions, and where the gifts are for the purposes of benefiting the inhabitants of their area.

8. The conditions, under which a gift is to be administered, are contained in the Deed creating the Trust, and any subsequent schemes made by the Charity Commission.
9. The law relating to Trusts, which are charitable, is contained in various acts, the main ones being the Charities Act, 1960, the Charities Act 1992 and 1993, and the Trustee Investment Act, 1961.

**Equality Impact**

10. The Trusts have been set up to benefit the public in certain geographical areas of the Borough as outlined in the Deeds of Gift.

**Recommendation**

11. That the Committee note the payment of grant as detailed in the report.



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**Chief Officer for Finance & Legal Services**

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**List of Background Papers**

Email received from Stourbridge and District Scout Association