

CC285 Oaklands Community Centre

At the Policy and Finance Committee held on 23 September 2025 minute nr. 217/25/26 to consider a community chest application:

- a. CC285 Oaklands Community Centre;

Members received and considered the application circulated in the reports pack.

Concerns were raised regarding the application's compliance with the Town Council's Grants Policy. While Members expressed general support for the initiative, it was noted that the application was not deemed urgent and required more information, specifically financial reports and statements explaining missing information such as bank statements.

Members referred to previous applications that had been declined due to non-compliance, highlighting that those applications had not been permitted to reapply.

In the interest of fairness and consistency with the Council's policy, Members agreed that the application should be returned to the applicant with a request for additional information to ensure full compliance prior to further consideration.

Members noted that confirmation had been received indicating that three volunteers had undertaken safeguarding training. However, Members also emphasised the importance of robust safeguarding measures and agreed that formal confirmation of compliance with appropriate safeguarding practices must be provided.

It was proposed by Councillor Brady, seconded by Councillor Miller and **RESOLVED** to defer to a future meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee allowing the applicant time to provide additional information to ensure compliance with the Grants Policy. Members raised concerns regarding the applications compliance with the Town Council's Grant Policy.

Members specifically requested further documented support and clarification regarding financial reports, statements, and safeguarding measures.

This additional information has now been received from Oaklands and is contained within the reports pack.

It can be found on pages 41-47 of the reports pack.

Budget Code: 6210 Community Chest

Budget availability: £8,300