

Regulatory Committee

5 April 2022

Appointments to External Bodies - Update

Recommendation

That the Regulatory Committee approves:

1. The appointment of Councillor Marian Humphreys to the Warwickshire Corporate Parents Association (AKA Tiffin Club).
2. The nomination of Mrs Ruth Challis to the Long Itchington Education Foundation.

1. Purpose of the report and context

- 1.1 On 5 October 2021, Regulatory Committee considered a report concerning Warwickshire County Council appointments to external bodies. The committee agreed all of the proposed appointments presented to it. Subsequent to the 5 October meeting of the committee two further requests for appointments/nominations have been received. In order to formalise these, it is necessary to obtain the approval of the Regulatory Committee.

2. The Warwickshire Corporate Parents Association (AKA Tiffin Club)

- 2.1 The Warwickshire Corporate Parents Association (AKA Tiffin Club) was set up as a charity by officers and retired officers of Warwickshire County Council to support Children Looked After and Care Leavers, supporting things that fall outside the local authority statutory duties. Below are the charity's objectives as set out in its constitution adopted in Sept 2012, which were confirmed when the Tiffin Club was registered with the Charity Commission on 26th March 2013. (CRN 1151383).
- 2.2 "The Association promotes the education and development of Children Looked After (pupils of the Warwickshire Virtual School) enhancing their life skills including both personal and social development, so that they reach a positive destination on leaving the care system. This includes assisting the transition to independent working life for those who have recently left care. We achieve this by pursuing the following objects:

- Supporting Schools who offer 1:1 tuition for Children in Care and Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers.
- Mentors that support Children and Young People in Care, Foster Carers and the Social Workers, focusing on Personal Education Plans – supporting progress through school and into a positive destination.
- Work experience for Young People in Care in the public sector, recognising that this is their ‘family firm’.
- Pursuit of apprenticeships in the Public Sector for Young People in Care.
- Initiatives which assist in the transition from care to independent working life.
- Incentives which reward personal excellence, helping Children in Care to their next level of attainment.”

2.3 Board of Trustees

Currently the trustees comprise the following former senior officers of WCC:-

- John Scouller (Honorary Chair)
- Dave Clarke (Honorary Treasurer)
- Greta Needham (appointed at the AGM in July 2017)
- Sue Evans (appointed April 2019)

2.4 The Tiffin Club is not a large charity but has raised just over £160k over the last decade to support Children Looked After and Care Leavers.

2.5 Until his death in 2020 Councillor Chris Williams had been a trustee nominated by the Council and representing Warwickshire Corporate Parents. There was a need to replace Councillor Chris Williams on the Board.

2.6 Councillor Marian Humphreys has volunteered her services to sit on the Board of Trustees as the elected member representative.

3. Long Itchington Education Foundation

3.1 Long Itchington Education Foundation (LIEF) is a registered charity (Charity No. 528694) that aims to support young, local people in their education and training. It can trace its history and the source of its funds back to the Will of John Bosworth in 1674 that established the Bosworth Educational Foundation. LIEF now also incorporates the Elizabeth and Edmund Tompkins Foundations of 1825 and, more recently, the ‘School Foundation’.

- 3.2 Each year LIEF awards grants to Long Itchington young people and village organisations to help support education, training and personal development. This is generally achieved by:
- grants to students in higher education or vocational training;
 - financial support through local schools for particular children to help with the cost of activities, for example, educational trips or additional tuition.
 - equipment for Long Itchington CofE Academy;
 - donations via other charities to help educational and vocational needs of local young people; and
 - grants to meet any other needs that fall within the objectives of the LIEF Charity Scheme.
- 3.3 In 2020, LIEF made 19 grants to students from the Parish, helped with the costs of a primary school residential trip and paid for two computer tablets to support home learning. A total of approximately £4400 was distributed.
- 3.4 LIEF is administered by five Trustees, four of which are appointed by the Parish Council and one by Warwickshire County Council. The Trustees meet periodically to consider applications for grants. The main deadline for applications from individuals is approximately the end of September each year as students are about to begin their studies in the new academic year.
- 3.5 Until his death in 2020 Councillor Bob Stevens was the Council's nominated representative on the LIEF. The foundation's scheme states that the Council's representative has only to be a nominee of the Council. They do not have to be an elected member. The LIEF made enquiries of the Council and within the community of Long Itchington to find a replacement for Councillor Stevens. A local resident, Ruth Challis was identified and agreed to take up the role. (Mrs Challis has lived in Long Itchington for a number of years and has two school age children). This met with the approval of the trustees of the LIEF and also has the agreement of the Leader of the Council.
- 3.6 The Regulatory Committee is asked to agree to the nomination of Mrs Challis to the Board of Trustees of the LIEF.

4. Environmental Implications

- 4.1 The only potential environmental implications resulting from this report and the decisions that Regulatory Committee is being asked to make relate to travel. If, post-COVID, meetings are to be held in person then there will be a need to

travel. However, the continuing use of remote meeting technology suggests that this may be less of an issue than it would have been previously.

5. Financial Implication

If Councillor Humphreys is required to travel to meetings of the Tiffin Club this will carry a cost in terms of mileage expenses. However, this presents the same scenario as her predecessor on the Tiffin Club. It is not a new cost and will be covered by existing budgets. No expenses would be due to Mrs Challis for fulfilling her role with the LIEF.

6. Background Papers

None

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This report was not circulated to elected members prior to publication.