

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
GEARING UP FOR GROWTH GRANTS PANEL
HELD ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2018
AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT –

Councillor J. Cooney – Chairman (In the Chair)

Panel Members

Councillor M. Goulthorp

Councillor C. Wakeford

Julie Whittaker

Kevin Clark

Housing, Health and Economic Development Services Manager (PBC)

Enterprise Lancashire

Officers in attendance

Paul Collins

Hassan Ditta

Judith Stockton

Deborah McCarthy

Lynne Rowland

Business Support Team Leader (PBC)

Employer Engagement Officer (PBC)

Senior Regeneration Officer (PBC)

Assistant Economic Development Officer (PBC)

Committee Administrator (PBC)



29. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests. Other members of the Panel were also asked to declare any interest as appropriate.

The following person declared a non-pecuniary interest in the items indicated –

Kevin Clark	Applications for Grants for Growth in relation to	
	Oll Ltd	Minute No. 32(b)
	PE Ltd	Minute No. 32(c)
	P Ltd	Minute No. 32(d)
	UC (NW) Ltd	Minute No. 32(e)
	Brownfield Sites Grant Fund – Land at Kirkstall	Minute No. 33
	Drive, Barnoldswick	

30. MINUTES

AGREED

That the Minutes of this Panel, at a meeting held on 23rd October, 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

31. APPLICATIONS FOR START-UP GRANTS

The Panel was provided with a project summary and an overview of the business with regard to

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the following applications for start-up grants. In reaching their decision, the members of the Panel considered the business plan and received information on what the requested grant was to be spent on.

(a) Appraisal 1 – MR - RSA, Barrowford

Enterprise Lancashire had provided the applicant with business support.

AGREED

That a start-up grant of £1,432.71 be awarded to MR – RSA.

REASON

The business appears sustainable and will contribute to the Council's priorities of creating jobs and sustaining strong economic growth.

(b) Appraisal 2 – NO – SDB, Colne

Enterprise Lancashire had provided the applicant with business support.

AGREED

That this application for a start-up grant be refused.

REASON

The application does not meet the agreed criteria and does not appear sustainable. Therefore it does not contribute to the Council's priorities of creating jobs and sustaining strong economic growth.

(c) Appraisal 3 – AM – A Ltd, Nelson

Enterprise Lancashire had provided the applicant with business support.

AGREED

That this application for a start-up grant be refused.

REASON

The items requested are not essential to the business.

(d) Appraisal 4 – GR – EK, Colne

Enterprise Lancashire had provided the applicant with business support.

AGREED

That a start-up grant of £2,000 be awarded to GR – EK.

REASON

The business appears sustainable and will contribute to the Council's priorities of creating jobs and sustaining strong economic growth.

(e) Appraisal 5 – LD – LJU, Colne

Enterprise Lancashire had provided the applicant with business support.

AGREED

That a start-up grant of £2,000 be awarded to LD – LJU, subject to the appropriate planning permissions being in place.

REASON

The business appears sustainable and will contribute to the Council's priorities of creating jobs and sustaining strong economic growth.

32. APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS FOR GROWTH

The Panel was provided with a project summary, including information on the background of the Company, and a breakdown of investment costs, with regard to the following applications –

(a) Appraisal 1 – GPM Ltd T/A GP&RV, Foulridge

The application had been submitted on behalf of a Community Fibre Partnership which consisted of nine businesses and six residential properties.

The project would create two full time and two part time posts.

AGREED

That a growth grant of £3,000 be awarded to GPM Ltd T/A GP&RV.

REASON

The project will contribute to the Council's priorities of creating jobs and sustaining strong economic growth.

(b) Appraisal 2 – Oil Ltd, Barrowford

(Kevin Clark declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item.)

As a result of the project the business would create two part time posts.

AGREED

That a growth grant of £2,718 be awarded to Oil Ltd.

REASON

The project will contribute to the Council's priorities of creating jobs and sustaining strong economic growth.

(c) Appraisal 3 – PE Ltd, Nelson

(Kevin Clark declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item.)

As a result of the project two full time posts would be created and two existing full time jobs would be safeguarded. It would also lead to the upskilling of the existing workforce.

AGREED

That a growth grant of £6,000 be awarded to PE Ltd.

REASON

The project will contribute to the Council's priorities of creating jobs and sustaining strong economic growth.

(d) Appraisal 4 – P Ltd, Trawden

(Kevin Clark declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item.)

It was expected that two full time posts would be created as a result of this project.

AGREED

That a growth grant of £2,072 be awarded to P Ltd.

REASON

The project will contribute to the Council's priorities of creating jobs and sustaining strong economic growth.

(e) Appraisal 5 – UC (NW) Ltd, Colne

(Kevin Clark declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item.)

It was expected that 20 full time jobs consisting of a range of skilled, managerial, unskilled and clerical posts would be created over the next two years as a result of this project.

AGREED

That a growth grant of £10,000 be awarded to UC (NW) Ltd.

REASON

The project will contribute to the Council's priorities of creating jobs and sustaining strong economic growth.

33. BROWNFIELD SITES GRANT FUND

(Kevin Clark declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item.)

At the request of the Panel, further information was submitted with regard to an application to the Brownfield Sites Grant Fund, which was first considered at the last meeting, for land at Kirkstall Drive, Barnoldswick.

AGREED

That this application to the Brownfield Sites Grant Fund be refused.

REASON

The grant would be serving to inflate the land value, based upon the scheme presented.

34. APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED SINCE THE LAST MEETING

There was no report on applications considered since the last meeting.

35. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business considered.

36. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

AGREED

- (1) That the next meeting of the Panel be held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday 12th February, 2019.
- (2) That, in the meantime, Officers be granted authorisation to seek a decision from members of the Panel via email on applications that are subject to time constraints.

REASON

To avoid unnecessary delay.

CHAIRMAN _____