

Bristol Airport Environmental and Amenity Improvement Fund (known as the Bristol Airport Local Community Fund) and Diamond Fund

Management Committee

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November – 14:00 – 16:00

Minutes of the meeting

Present:

David Hall	Chairman
Cllr Steve Bridger	North Somerset Council
Cllr Wendy Griggs	North Somerset Council
Cllr Annemieke Aaite	North Somerset Council
Natalie Richards	North Somerset Council (Planning Policy Manager)
Tracy Comer	Bristol Airport
Harry Ellis	Bristol Airport
Matthew Sharp	Bristol Airport
Bethany Wingfield	Bristol Airport

**1. Apologies:**

Apologies received from Cllr Thomas Daw (North Somerset Council).

**2. Update of monies committed in 2025:**

An updated total was provided to the committee members.

**3. Correspondence:**

Since the previous meeting, we have received one letter of gratitude from a previous successful organisation:

- Groundwork South thanked the committee members after they were awarded funding to purchase new windows and doors for their educational centre at Goblin Combe Lodge, Cleeve. They stated the new windows have helped mitigate the sound of aeroplanes, and has lowered their energy usage at the Centre.

#### **4. Applications for funding:**

#### **Bristol Airport Environmental and Amenity Improvement Fund (known as the Bristol Airport Local Community Fund)**

##### **Winford Church of England Primary School**

Winford Church of England Primary School requested £7,700 from the Local Community Fund to help restore, protect and enhance the school's existing wildlife pond area and create a biodiversity learning trail through the grounds.

The committee members agreed that this project is situated in close proximity to the Airport and meets the 'schemes which improve, enhance, protect and conserve the natural environment within the vicinity of the Airport' criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £7,700 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £7,700 is approved by the committee.**

##### **Winford Parish Council**

Winford Parish Council requested £3,269.37 from the Local Community Fund to create a dead standing habitat of a decaying Beech Tree on Felton Common, near to St Katherine's Church, Felton, and also to pollard a willow tree on Winford Village Green. To offset this, the Parish Council stated that they will plant replacement trees throughout the local community.

The committee members agreed that this project is situated in close proximity to the Airport and meets the 'schemes which improve, enhance, protect and conserve the natural environment within the vicinity of the Airport' criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £3,269.37 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £3,269.37 is approved by the committee.**

### **Mizzymead Recreation Centre**

Mizzymead Recreation Centre in Nailsea requested £7,695 from the Local Community Fund to support the cost of the insulation and ceiling tiles of their community centre.

The committee members agreed that this project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the 'schemes which generate renewable energy or schemes designed to reduce energy consumption within the vicinity of the Airport (for non-residential buildings only).' The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £7,695 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £7,695 is approved by the committee.**

### **Somerset Wildlife Trust**

Somerset Wildlife Trust requested £4,680 from the Local Community Fund to purchase essential tools, PPE and accredited training for the volunteers, continue restoring of habitats, protecting wildlife and connecting local communities with nature.

The committee members agreed that this project is situated in close proximity to the Airport and meets the 'schemes which improve, enhance, protect and conserve the natural environment within the vicinity of the Airport' criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £4,680 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £4,680 is approved by the committee**

## **Diamond Fund**

### **Graphic Science**

Graphic Science, based near Felton Common, requested £900 from the Diamond Fund to pay the registration fee for one school to enter the IET First Lego League and to purchase a LEGO SPIKE Prime Education set.

The project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £900 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £900 is approved by the committee.**

### **Backwell Athletic Junior Football Club Under 10's**

Backwell Athletic Junior Football Club Under 10's requested £1,000 from the Diamond Fund to purchase equipment, including shirts, shorts and socks for all 30 squad members.

The project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £1,000 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £1,000 is approved by the committee.**

### **Stanton Drew & Pensford Preschool**

Stanton Drew & Pensford Preschool requested £1,000 from the Diamond Fund to enhance their Forest School programme, a weekly outdoor learning session for children aged 3–5. This includes upgrading their equipment (tools, waterproofs, shelter), staff training and to make sessions more accessible for all children.

The project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £1,000 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £1,000 is approved by the committee.**

### **Ashton FC U13 Boys Colts**

Ashton FC U13 Boys Colts requested £917 from the Diamond Fund to purchase equipment, training kit, warm jackets for their sports team.

The project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant a £917 contribution towards this project.

**Resolved: A grant of £917 is approved by the committee.**

### **Candlelight to Dancefloor Event**

Candlelight to Dancefloor is an independent, community-led charity concert taking place in 2026 to support and raise money for The Brain Tumour Charity. The organiser requested £1,000 from the Diamond Fund to go towards the costs of the hosting the event in Backwell.

The project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £1,000 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £1,000 is approved by the committee.**

### **Well House Project**

Well House Project requested £920 from the Diamond Fund to pay for a half-panel viewing door and a door frame for an 18th Century wellhouse. The money would go towards providing public viewing access to the internal water-raising mechanism.

The project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £920 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £920 is approved by the committee.**

### **Winford Parochial Church Council**

Winford Parochial Church Council requested £954 from the Diamond Fund to install handrails at the entrance to the Church.

The project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £954 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £954 is approved by the committee.**

#### **Bristol Epilepsy Social Group**

Bristol Epilepsy Social Group requested £1,000 from the Diamond Fund to go towards supporting face-to-face support groups for people living with epilepsy in Bristol and North Somerset

The project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £1,000 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £1,000 is approved by the committee.**

#### **Golden Valley Primary School (Nailsea)**

Golden Valley Primary School requested £1,000 from the Diamond Fund to purchase a wide range of new books for their library and classrooms, including both fiction and non-fiction titles.

The project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £1,000 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £1,000 is approved by the committee.**

#### **Prestow Wood Conservation Group**

Prestow Wood Conservation Group requested £1,000 from the Diamond Fund to create a footpath through the woodland area in Wrington to link up other paths and to create a viewpoint overlooking the Wrington valley and the Mendip Hills.

The project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £1,000 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £1,000 is approved by the committee.**

### **Churchill Preschool**

Churchill Preschool requested £926 from the Diamond Fund to purchase new toys for the children to help their cognitive and higher motor functions, and also to encourage independent learning and skills building.

The project is within close proximity to the Airport and meets the criteria of the Fund. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £926 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £926 is approved by the committee.**

### **SS Great Britain**

SS Great Britain requested £1,000 from the Diamond Fund to go towards helping 14,000 school children aged 6-11 and their families visit the SS Great Britain for free. Whilst the SS Great Britain is located outside of the core area of support, the applicant provided a list of schools in North Somerset and South Bristol who benefit from these free educational visits. The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £1,000 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £1,000 is approved by the committee.**

### **Ethical Communications**

Ethical Communications requested £1,000 from the Diamond Fund to set up a storytelling project between St Anne's Church Academy in Hewish to help pupils explore and share positive stories about local people, places, and community life within the Bristol Airport area.

This project was not supported as the committee members felt that it did not meet the criteria of the Fund.

**Resolved: A grant will not be awarded to this group**

### **Frankie Howerd OBE Trust**

Frankie Howerd OBE Trust requested £1,000 from the Diamond Fund to go towards the running costs of the minibus which helps isolated people in rural North Somerset meet other residents as well as taking these people on day trips.

Whilst the Frankie Howerd OBE Trust HQ is located outside of the core area of support, the minibus is used to connect people who live within the 6-mile radius of the Airport (including residents who live Backwell, Churchill and Winford). The committee supported this project and were happy to grant £1,000 towards the project.

**Resolved: A grant of £1,000 is approved by the committee.**

### **Long Ashton Cinema**

Long Ashton Cinema requested £900 from the Diamond Fund to go towards the running costs of the licence fees, hall hire and supplies for the cafe/bar at their venue.

This project was not supported as this project had already received funding from the September 2024 Diamond Fund committee meeting and therefore, was not eligible to apply again for 24 months. The committee members would be happy for this project to apply again at the September 2026 meeting.

**Resolved: A grant will not be awarded to this group**

## **5. Noise Overview**

Matthew Sharp, Planning Manager, informed the committee members on the applications received for the 2025 Noise Insulation Grant programme. An update and results of the applications were presented to the committee members. They are as follows:

### **Applications**

- Currently, we have committed to spend £200,000 to 39 households in 2025. So far, we have paid £140,874.70 to 25 properties.

## **6. Any other business**

Cllr Annemieke Waite raised the question whether the Local Community Fund or Diamond Fund could be used to mitigate light pollution for the properties in close proximity to the Airport. BAL noted that it was not currently possible as the guidelines and criteria do not support this, however

they are aware of the properties in question and are liaising with them directly to better understand the issue. Cllr Waite suggested funding to mitigate light pollution should be something the Airport considers introducing in the future.

**7. Date of the next meetings in 2026:**

- Monday 16th March
- Monday 8th June
- Monday 14th September
- Monday 7th December