

# Cabinet Member for Communities and Health

## Agenda

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**Date:** Monday, 25th April, 2016  
**Time:** 1.00 pm  
**Venue:** Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

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1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

3. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos.11 and 35 a period of 10 minutes is allocated for members of the public to address the meeting on any matter relevant to the work of the body in question. Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes but the Chairman or person presiding will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned where there are a number of speakers. Members of the public are not required to give notice to use this facility. However, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours' notice is encouraged.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide at least three clear working days' notice in writing and should include the question with that notice. This will enable an informed answer to be given.

4. **Allocation of Community Grants** (Pages 1 - 10)

To consider the allocation of community grants in the first round of grants for 2016/17.

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## CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

### Cabinet Member for Communities and Health

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**Date of Meeting:** 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016  
**Report of:** Principal Manager – Partnerships & Communities  
**Subject/Title:** Allocation of Community Grants  
**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Paul Bates

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#### 1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To determine the award of Community Grants to Voluntary and Community Organisations which meet the criteria approved by Cheshire East Council. The Council recognises the valuable input that the Voluntary and Community Sector brings to the quality of life in the community. Grants are awarded to those organisations which meet the Council's Residents First Outcomes.
- 1.2 The report covers the first round of grants for 2016/17 and makes recommendations totalling £49,737 in line with Cheshire East Council's Policy for the Allocation of Grants.

#### 2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That the following Community Grants be awarded/declined/deferred as indicated:

##### Events

Audlem Music and Arts Festival	Awarded £1,000
Starr in the Community CIC	Declined
Friends of The Heath	Awarded £500
RedShift Radio	Awarded £250
Community Spirit	Awarded £1,000
Wilmslow Partnership	Declined
Acton Amateur Operatic Society	Awarded £750
Knutsford Promenades Association	Deferred
TS Ambuscade - Crewe Sea Cadets	Awarded £1,000

##### Activities

King Edward Music Society of Macclesfield	Declined
Disley Arts Society	Declined
Sports Works Cheshire CIC	Deferred
Prestbury Choral Society	Declined
The Neuromuscular Centre	Awarded £750
Crangate 2000 Art Club	Declined
Air Cadets Sandbach	Declined
The Bigger Picture Film Club and Nantwich Family Films @4	Awarded £1,000
SOL Theatre School	Declined
Cheshire Learning Partnership CIC	Declined
Wheelock Holiday Club	Awarded £97
Wilmslow Symphony Orchestral Society	Declined

South Cheshire Youth League	Declined
Congleton Disabled Access Group	Deferred
Warrior Martial Arts	Awarded £1,000

**Facilities**

1st Sutton St James Scout & Guide Group	Awarded £536
Enterprise and Education Alliance Limited	Awarded £650
35th South West Cheshire Scout Group	Awarded £2,500
St David's Church, Wettenhall	Declined
Winterley Methodist Church & Community Centre	Awarded £2,500
Styal Sports and Social Club	Awarded £2,500
Knutsford Cricket Club	Awarded £454
Friends of Queens Park	Awarded £2,500
Friends of Alderley Edge Railway Station	Awarded £1,000
St John's Community Centre	Deferred
Alderley Edge Partnership	Awarded £1,000
East Cheshire Sub Aqua Club	Awarded £2,500
Baddiley and Ravensmoor Methodist Church	Awarded £2,500
Rode Heath Young Peoples Community Centre	Awarded £2,000
Brindley and Faddiley Village Hall	Awarded £2,500
Poynton Parish Plan Monitoring Group	Awarded £2,500
Warmingham & District Parish Hall	Awarded £5,000
Scholar Green Community Village Hall	Awarded £2,500
Middlewich Community Church - MoCoCo House	Awarded £2,500
Nantwich Methodist Church	Awarded £750
Bromley Farm Community Development Trust	Awarded £2,500
Shavington Youth Club	Awarded £1,000
St John The Evangelist PCC	Awarded £1,500
Mow Cop, Mount Pleasant and The Bank Village Hall	Awarded £1,000

**3.0 Reasons for Recommendations (details of Grants)**

**3.1 Events:**

**Audlem Music and Arts Festival**

<b>Total project cost £17,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Amount awarded £1,000</b>
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This 5 day festival is largely funded through own fundraising and the parish council. Attendance is free for all in the village. It is recommended they are awarded £1,000

**Starr in the Community CIC**

<b>Total project cost £14,783</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Amount awarded Declined</b>
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Starr in the Community are requesting £1,000 to cover some of the costs of providing free tickets to children with disabilities and special needs as well as disadvantaged children in the Crewe area. They have sponsorship and donations that more than cover the project costs and state that any remaining profits are donated to a number of other charities. As they have already secured all of the project costs and the community grant scheme does fund general appeals and sponsorship for own or other organisations it is recommended that the application is declined.

**Friends of The Heath**

<b>Total project cost £910</b>	<b>Amount requested £910</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £500</b>
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Friends of The Heath intend to hold an outdoor event comprising of a picnic and family orientated, nature based, activities. They are applying for funding to promote the event, hold

activities and for their public liability insurance. The grant scheme cannot cover the costs of insurances. They have applied for other grant funding but do not have a contribution from themselves or their local council. It is recommended they are awarded £500 towards the activities on condition of receiving a copy of their safeguarding policy.

**RedShift Radio**

<b>Total project cost £8,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Awarded £250</b>
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RedShift Radio wish to hold the 3rd annual Big Day Out and are asking for a contribution towards crowd control, event security, PA system and wristbands. They have already secured £7,750 of the projected costs through sponsorship, own fundraising and a contribution from the town council. It is recommended they are awarded £250

**Community Spirit**

<b>Total project cost £3,057</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Awarded £1,000</b>
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The group wish to hold their annual fun day in July. They are requesting funding towards the costs of activities for the event. They have contributions from their local council, sponsors, donations, projected ticket sales and their own fundraising. It is recommended they are awarded £1,000

**Wilmslow Partnership**

<b>Total project cost £1,745</b>	<b>Amount requested £995</b>	<b>Declined</b>
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The partnership wish to create a large street art picture as part of their In Bloom entry. They have a contribution from their local council but are not making a contribution themselves or have funding from any other sources. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Acton Amateur Operatic Society**

<b>Total project cost £23,200</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Awarded £750</b>
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The society require scenery and props for their October performance. They have projected income from ticket sales, own fund raising, donations and grants. It is recommended they are awarded £750

**Knutsford Promenades Association**

<b>Total project cost £7,250</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Deferred</b>
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The group wish to participate in town wide Heritage Open Days during September 2016, which is Knutsford's Canute Millennial year. They are contributing themselves and have sponsorship, they are also continuing to fundraise and seek further sponsorship up to the events and are confident they will secure the full amount. It is recommended the application is deferred whilst further information about the Heritage Open Day scheme and how it is promoted across Cheshire East is sought.

**TS Ambuscade – Crewe Sea Cadets**

<b>Total project cost £5,928</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Awarded £1,000</b>
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The Sea Cadets are the lead organisation in arranging Crewe's first military festival as part of Armed Forces Day, which is to be held at Queens Park. They are looking to put on a number of activities that will be supported by many community groups in the area. They are contributing themselves and have applied to Crewe Town Council and the MOD. It is recommended they are awarded £1,000

**3.2 Activities:**

**King Edward Music Society of Macclesfield**

<b>Total project cost £714</b>	<b>Amount requested £714</b>	<b>Declined</b>
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4 acoustic screens are required to protect the orchestral players ears from damage by excessive orchestral volumes. They are not contributing themselves and have not sought

other funding. They have received previous grants from the Council. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Disley Arts Society**

<b>Total project cost £350</b>	<b>Amount requested £350</b>	<b>Declined</b>
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The society wish to hold demonstrations and workshops in a variety of art mediums to their new members. They are not contributing themselves and have not sought other funding. They have received a number of grants from the scheme over previous years and have said that any shortfall can be covered through an increase in their subscriptions. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Sports Works Cheshire CIC**

<b>Total project cost £927</b>	<b>Amount requested £867</b>	<b>Deferred</b>
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This Warrington based company is new to working in the area and it is not clear how they will fund the proposed girls football sessions beyond the initial 3 month period. It is recommended the application is deferred pending further information about the organisation and their future plans for working with young girls in Crewe.

**Prestbury Choral Society**

<b>Total project cost £439</b>	<b>Amount requested £250</b>	<b>Declined</b>
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The choral society wish to produce programme brochures and other advertising materials for their concerts. They are contributing half of the costs themselves. they have stated that any shortfall will be covered from existing funds and the project will not be delayed. It is recommended the application is declined.

**The Neuromuscular Centre**

<b>Total project cost £1,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Awarded £750</b>
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The Neuromuscular Centre, based in Winsford, serves the whole of Cheshire for people with muscular dystrophy. They wish to form a wheelchair football team to play at MMU in Crewe. Funding is required in order to establish the group following a successful trial period. Once established they will introduce subs to cover ongoing costs. They are contributing a small amount themselves and have free hire of the facilities at MMU but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they are awarded £750

**Cranage 2000 Art Club**

<b>Total project cost £2,573</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Declined</b>
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The group wish to purchase improved lighting for their exhibition, along with display stands and promotional materials. They have already secured over the total amount of project costs through fundraising and projected ticket sales. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Air Cadets Sandbach**

<b>Total project cost £1,200</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Declined</b>
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The group wish to purchase 10 laptops/tablets for cadets to complete their DofE coursework. The Air Cadets have previously received a Giveback Grant in March 2015 also requested to purchase laptops for the same purpose. It is recommended the application is declined.

**The Bigger Picture Film Club and Nantwich Family Films @4**

<b>Total project cost £6,256</b>	<b>Amount requested £3,881</b>	<b>Awarded £1,000</b>
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The group have submitted two applications one of which is to create a CIC to oversee the 4 community cinema projects in the area and one to purchase a new projector and screen, clothing for stewards, publicity and a contribution towards licences. The scheme cannot cover licence costs and can only accept one application per organisation in each financial year. They have an income from projected ticket sales and from their local council. It is recommended they are awarded £1000 as a contribution towards a new projector.

**SOL Theatre School**

<b>Total project cost £14,550</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Declined</b>
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The group have asked for a contribution towards the hire costs of Daneside Theatre and provision of the necessary performance and musical licences to perform the show "Sunshine". SOL Theatre School have applied repeatedly to the scheme for a number of years and whilst the scheme has funded different elements of the theatre school repeat funding cannot be granted. They have also secured more funding than the project costs. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Cheshire Learning Partnership CIC**

<b>Total project cost £1,900</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Declined</b>
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The group wish to replace their worn tables and chairs and purchase ipads, tablets and mobile phones to increase capacity and enhance their outreach provision. They have a contribution from their own fundraising and their local council but have not applied elsewhere. As this project is not imperative to the running of the groups core business it is recommended the application is declined and the organisation is given advice on other funding sources and included in mailings for Council furniture disposal.

**Wheelock Holiday Club**

<b>Total project cost £345</b>	<b>Amount requested £97</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £97</b>
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The holiday club wish to purchase an MP3 player and case to download and record the tracks required to go along with the music and DVD's used for activities with the 5-11 year olds that use the holiday club. They are contributing themselves and have a contribution from their local council. It is recommended they are awarded £97

**Wilmslow Symphony Orchestral Society**

<b>Total project cost £948</b>	<b>Amount requested £450</b>	<b>Declined</b>
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The orchestra wish to purchase acoustic screens for health and safety of their players. They are contributing themselves and have a contribution from the town council. They have received a number of grants in the past from the scheme. It is recommended the application is declined.

**South Cheshire Youth League**

<b>Total project cost ?</b>	<b>Amount requested ?</b>	<b>Declined</b>
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The application has not been completed in full and despite a request for further information nothing has been received. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Congleton Disabled Access Group**

<b>Total project cost £910</b>	<b>Amount requested £910</b>	<b>Deferred</b>
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The group wish to replace the scooter batteries that have been in use and recharged for 8 years. The scooters are used as part of the Congleton Shopmobility Scheme. They are not contributing themselves and do not have a contribution from the town council. They do state that they are applying to other funders. As the organisation is in the process of securing new premises it is recommended the application is deferred until new premises are found.

**Warrior Martial Arts**

<b>Total project cost £1,840</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,000</b>	<b>Awarded £1,000</b>
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The group are moving to a new location to accommodate their growing junior student base and need a new mated area for training. They have applied under the facilities category but this project should be submitted under activities. They have included project costs for other work, some of which has already been completed and as retrospective funding cannot be granted this cannot be considered with the application. They have not requested funding from other sources. It is recommended they are awarded £1,000 and request the additional funding from Congleton town council or other funding sources.

### 3.3 Facilities:

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Sutton St James Scout and Guide Group

<b>Total project cost £4,990</b>	<b>Amount requested £536</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £536</b>
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Stage lighting is required for the Scouts HQ. The stage is used for a minimum of 14 performances per year, including their own Gang Show and fundraising concerts. It is also used by other community groups in the area. The funding is requested as 3<sup>rd</sup> party funding for WREN. It is recommended they are awarded £536

#### Enterprise and Education Alliance Limited

<b>Total project cost £1,650</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,650</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £650</b>
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The group wish to install a disabled ramp for access to the community garden, where members visit to plant up. In addition they wish to purchase a small selection of power tools and other gardening equipment. They are not contributing themselves and have not sought other funding. It is recommended they are awarded £650 and request the additional funding from Crewe Town Council or other funding sources.

#### 35<sup>th</sup> South West Cheshire Scout Group

<b>Total project cost £180,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £5,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,500</b>
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This is a large project that has been broken down into phases. The group received a Giveback grant for £10,000 as a contribution to the first phase of the build project and are now requesting a grant towards internal decoration, electrics and heating, joinery, new kitchen and toilets. They have received grants from other sources, including the town council and have their own fundraising. They are also applying elsewhere for the remainder of the project costs. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500

#### St David's Church Wettehnall

<b>Total project cost £6,023</b>	<b>Amount requested £2,500</b>	<b>Declined</b>
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As there is no community hall in Wettehnall the Church is used for both worship and as a base for a mix of community activity for the village. They wish to re-decorate to make the building more inviting for the individuals and groups who are using it. They are contributing themselves and have a contribution from the parish council. As the redecoration does not contribute to the Residents First Outcomes it is recommended that the application is declined.

#### Winterley Methodist Church and Community Centre

<b>Total project cost £160,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £5,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,500</b>
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The church wish to build a single storey extension to provide a lobby, toilets, kitchenette and office. This will primarily be used for the pre-school but will enable more community activity to take place by having a separate area for the pre-school providing safeguarding of the children. They already have a number of groups who use the building and hope to increase this with the extension. They have secured large grants from other funding sources, have their own fundraising and have a contribution from their local council. They are continuing to fundraise and submitting further grant applications. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500.

#### Styal Sports and Social Club

<b>Total project cost £8,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £4,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,500</b>
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The club wish to refurbish their club house with external décor, electricity re-wiring and a kitchen refresh. It is hoped the refurbishment will encourage more bookings of the club and help to cover future running costs. They are contributing themselves and have a contribution from their local council. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500 on receipt of their constitution, safeguarding policy and supporting documents.

**Knutsford Cricket Club**

<b>Total project cost £574</b>	<b>Amount requested £454</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £454</b>
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The club wish to replace their existing wicket covers, that are old and leaking, are cumbersome and require a lot of time and effort to use, with a layflat waterproof sheet. The cost of replacing like-for-like is several thousand pounds whereas this system is a lot more cost-effective. They are making a contribution themselves. It is recommended they are awarded £454.

**Friends of Queens Park**

<b>Total project cost £20,302</b>	<b>Amount requested £5,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,500</b>
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The group wish to refurbish/re-landscape the Burma Star memorial in Queens Park and slightly relocate the memorial. This will create a more attractive position for the memorial and those wishing to spend time near it. They have contributions from other grant funders, and their own fundraising but not from their local council. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500 and seek the remaining project costs from Crewe Town Council. .

**Friends of Alderley Edge Railway Station**

<b>Total project cost £5,349</b>	<b>Amount requested £5,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £1,000</b>
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This is a new organisation which is yet to formalise their constitution and other supporting documents. They are looking to adopt the railway station and replace existing planters and hanging baskets and create a community garden. They are working with the rail company and officers of the Council to take forward the community garden project. They have applied for £4,000 in other grant funding but have not made a contribution themselves and do not have a contribution from their local council. It is recommended they are awarded £1,000 on condition of supplying a copy of their constitution, safeguarding policy and bank account details.

**St John's Community Centre**

<b>Total project cost £15,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £5,000</b>	<b>Deferred</b>
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St John's Community Centre have previously received £15,000 from the Giveback fund as a contribution to the refurbishment of their community centre. They are looking for additional funding to refurbish the kitchen in the centre. They have a contribution from their own fundraising and a contribution from the parish council but have an additional shortfall of £8,000. It is recommended the application is deferred whilst further information is supplied on how the remaining project costs can be secured.

**Alderley Edge Partnership**

<b>Total project cost £4,772</b>	<b>Amount requested £3,500</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £1,000</b>
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This is a new organisation which is yet to formalise their constitution and other supporting documents. They are looking to replace the existing planters and hanging baskets in the village, which belong to Alderley Edge Parish Council, in order to enter Alderley Edge in Bloom. They are also seeking funding for gardening tools and litter pickers They have applied for £2,000 in other grant funding but have not made a contribution themselves and do not have a contribution from the parish council. It is recommended they are awarded £1,000 on condition of supplying a copy of their constitution, safeguarding policy and bank account details.

**East Cheshire Sub Aqua Club**

<b>Total project cost £8,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £5,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,500</b>
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The sub aqua club are looking to refurbish the kitchen in their club house to support community events. Environmental health have visited the club house and said that the kitchen is no longer fit for purpose, as such all food must now be prepared off site. They are willing to cover the projected shortfall in funding through fundraising and existing club funds and have an in-kind contribution but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500

**Baddiley and Ravensmoor Methodist Church**

<b>Total project cost £12,200</b>	<b>Amount requested £5,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,500</b>
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The church wish to refurbish their community hall and room next to the hall to create a community space and meeting room. They are in discussions about becoming a community hub and are the only community venue in the local area. They have contributions from fundraising and donations but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500

**Rode Heath Young Peoples Community Centre**

<b>Total project cost £4,800</b>	<b>Amount requested £2,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,000</b>
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The community centre is used by a number of different community groups and is the hub for the village. They wish to refurbish the community centre kitchen which is 25+years old. They have contributions from their own fundraising, other grant funders and their local council. It is recommended they are awarded £2,000

**Brindley and Faddiley Village Hall**

<b>Total project cost £18,558</b>	<b>Amount requested £5,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,500</b>
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This is a very well used hall which wishes to update a back room of the hall in order to accommodate more bookings and help to become self-sustaining. They have contributions from their own fundraising, other grant funders, donations and their parish council. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500

**Poynton Parish Plan Monitoring Group**

<b>Total project cost £18,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £5,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,500</b>
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The group wish to construct a heritage garden in the grounds near the library. They have contributions from their own fundraising, parish council, donations and other grant funders. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500

**Warmingham and District Parish Hall**

<b>Total project cost £700,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £5,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £5,000</b>
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A large bid of £610,000 has been submitted to the Big Lottery, along with a bid to WREN for £50,000 to rebuild Warmingham Village Hall. They have raised £40,000 and are asking for a contribution from the Council as third party funding for the Lottery application. It is recommended they are awarded £5,000

**Scholar Green Community Village Hall**

<b>Total project cost £6,621</b>	<b>Amount requested £2,621</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,500</b>
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The group need to replace their inadequate entrance and fire doors for safety reasons. The hall is used on a daily basis by a number of different community groups. They have contributions from their own fundraising, the parish council and other grant funders. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500

**Middlewich Community Church - MoCoCoHouse**

<b>Total project cost £5,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £4,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,500</b>
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The group wish to upgrade their camera system, improve the in-house laundry provision and upgrade the fire alarm system at MoCoCo House which provides accommodation for young people. They are contributing from their own funds but do not have a contribution from their local council and have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500 on condition of securing the remaining project costs and supplying their constitution and safeguarding policy.

**Nantwich Methodist Church**

<b>Total project cost £1,743</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,531</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £750</b>
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The church wish to replace their access doors for better wheelchair access and to have a crashbar for fire safety. They are making a small contribution themselves but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they are awarded £750.

**Bromley Farm Community Development Trust**

<b>Total project cost £10,000</b>	<b>Amount requested £5,000</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £2,500</b>
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The group wish to make a number of improvements to the building to create a community hub, including new storage heaters, kitchen floor, lighting, fire doors, smoke detectors and paving, all of which is being funded by Cheshire East Council Assets Team (£3,000). The remaining project costs include a storage container, tables, shelving, storage cupboard, trolley, curtains, TV, paving, noticeboards and chairs. They have a contribution from CEC, their own fundraising and a donation, including in-kind donations of decorating the whole of the centre. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500

**Shavington Youth Club**

<b>Total project cost £3,200</b>	<b>Amount requested £3,200</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £1,000</b>
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The youth club wish to alter the current sports hall so that it can be used for more community activity. Project costs include chairs, stage, carpentry and acoustics and lighting equipment. They are not contributing themselves and have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they are awarded £1,000 and asked to seek a contribution from their local council and through other funding sources.

**St John The Evangelist PCC**

<b>Total project cost £6,767</b>	<b>Amount requested £3,383</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £1,500</b>
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The church wish to replace their boiler, originally installed in 1994 with a more reliable boiler. The hall is used by a number of different community groups. They are contributing themselves but have not applied elsewhere and have said that they can apply to the charity commission to use endowment funds for any project shortfall. It is recommended they are awarded £1,500

**Mow Cop, Mount Pleasant and the Bank Village Hall**

<b>Total project cost £1,441</b>	<b>Amount requested £1,201</b>	<b>Amount Awarded £1,000</b>
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The group wish to install an entrance gate and fire exit. The gate is to stop unlawful access and fly-tipping / vandals. The fire exit is for H&S standards. The group hope that the upgrade will encourage more use by the local community. They have in-kind contributions but have not contributed themselves and have not asked the parish council as they have contributed to another project recently. It is recommended they are awarded £1,000

**4.0 Wards Affected**

4.1 The recommendations relate to all wards within Cheshire East

**5.0 Local Ward Members**

5.1 All Ward members

**6.0 Policy Implications (including carbon reduction and health)**

6.1 All of the applications contained in this report have been considered in the light of the Council's Policy for the Allocation of Grants, and the recommendations on each one conform to that Policy.

**7.0 Financial Implications (authorised by Chief Operating Officer)**

7.1 All of the proposed grants can be funded from within existing budgets approved as part of the Council's Budget for 2016/17

**8.0 Legal Implications (authorised by Borough Solicitor)**

8.1 The Council has the powers to award grants to organisations using its general power of competence in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. In exercising the power the Council must satisfy its public law duties. In essence this means that in making the decision the Council must have taken into account only relevant considerations, followed procedural requirements, acted for proper motives and not acted unreasonably. A grant policy is a clear statement of the criteria that the Council is applying and is essential if the Council is to defend any challenge to its decision making process.

8.2 Cabinet has approved and Cheshire East Council has put in place a Policy for the Allocation of Grants to Voluntary and Community Organisations 2015/16. This Policy deals with the allocation of community grants which are awarded to defined Organisations following an application process and against set criteria. There are conditions requiring that Organisations report back to the Council upon expenditure of the grant and to enable further appropriate conditions to be imposed. The decision making process was delegated to the Portfolio Holder in order ensure that decisions can be made expeditiously and at the appropriate level.

8.3 Grant funding organisations based on the application of the Council's grant policy satisfies the Council's public law duties.

**9.0 Risk Management Implications**

9.1 The risk of not agreeing an approach to funding the community and voluntary sector is that some organisations may be unable to continue their activities, resulting in a loss of community benefit. This is a particular issue during an economic downturn when other funding sources may not be available.

**10.0 Background and Options**

10.1 Applications received and allocated in accordance with Cheshire East Council's Policy for the Allocation of Community Grants.

**11.0 Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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