

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Cabinet Member for Strategic Communities

Date of Meeting: 22nd October 2012
Report of: Partnerships Manager
Subject/Title: Community Grants
Portfolio Holder: Councillor D Brown

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. Funding is focused on those organisations that complement the aims and objectives of the Corporate Plan.
- 1.2 The report covers the third round of grants for 2012/13, and makes recommendations totalling £22,773 in line with Cheshire East Council's Policy for the Allocation of Grants.

2.0 Recommendation

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

Events Grants

Congleton Youth In Action	Declined
The Lindow Singers	Awarded £250
Goosfest	Declined
Crewe & Nantwich Community Radio Society	Declined
Alsager Arts Association	Awarded £250
Friends of Queens Park	Awarded £250
Wistaston Young Drama Group	Awarded £250
Sandbach Partnership	Awarded £250

Activities Grant

HANFA	Declined
Cheshire Schools Football Association	Awarded £500
Crewe & Nantwich Senior Forum	Awarded £500
Crewe & Nantwich Carer Support Group	Deferred
Nantwich Foodbank	Deferred
Donna Louise Hospice Trust	Awarded £500
Wilmslow Symphony Orchestra	Declined
Canute Badminton Club	Awarded £300

Ruby's Fund	Awarded £300
Congleton Cycling Club	Awarded £500
Park Royal Football Club	Awarded £398
Alsager Bridgestones Amateur Swimming Association	Awarded £350
Cheshire Dance	Declined
Triton Hockey Club	Awarded £400
Ladyhawkes Netball Club	Awarded £495
Middlewich Vision	Declined
Cheshire Hornets Basketball Club	Awarded £350

Facilities Grant

Sound Vibe	Declined
Friends of Sandbach Park	Awarded £3,000
St Mary's Church, Handforth	Awarded £3,000
Macclesfield & Congleton District Trojan Explorer Scout Unit	Awarded £2,000
Market Street Church, Nantwich	Conditionally Awarded £2,300
Fermain	Awarded £3,000
1 st Holmes Chapel Scout Group	Awarded £630
Mary Sunley Canal Boat Trust	Awarded £3,000

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations (Details of Grants)

3.1 Events (up to £250)

Congleton Youth in Action -

Total Cost of Project - £223 Amount Requested - £223

This group are applying to fund admission costs, travel, staff time and refreshments, none of which can be funded, as stated in the guidelines. The group were made aware of this upon application and were given the option to reapply before the deadline. It is recommended the application is declined.

The Lindow Singers -

Total Cost of Project - £387 Amount Requested - £250

This group wish to purchase 'Rack Cards' to help publicise their concerts and reach a wider audience. They have contributions towards the singers for the concerts. It is recommended they are awarded £250.

Goosfest -

Total Cost of Project - £23,800 Amount Requested - £250

Group requested funding to help cover printing costs of producing a flyer to advertise their 10 day festival. Festival takes place 4th - 14th October, which is before the Community Grants decision meeting is due to take place. Therefore this cannot be funded - as stated in the guidelines. It is recommended the application is declined.

Crewe & Nantwich Community Radio Society -

Total Cost of Project - £280 Amount Requested - £250

Group requesting funding towards tickets for finalists under the age of 18. Profit from the event is being donated to charity; therefore this cannot be funded, as stated in our guidelines. It is recommended that the application is declined.

Alsager Arts Association -

Total Cost of Project - £1,175 Amount Requested - £250

Group requesting funding for art materials due to the increased size of their exhibition. They will be contributing themselves and have applied to the Town Council. It is recommended that they are awarded £250.

Friends of Queens Park -

Total Cost of Project - £800 Amount Requested - £250

This group wish to purchase materials and pay artist fees for the production of lanterns to use during a Christmas Lantern parade in the park. It is recommended that they are awarded £250 pending receipt of supporting documents.

Wistaston Young Drama Group -

Total Cost of Project - £1,150 Amount Requested - £250

Group are putting on a Christmas showcase and require funding towards costumes and props. It is recommended they are awarded £250.

Sandbach Partnership -

Total Cost of Project - £1,500 Amount Requested - £250

Group are applying for funding to assist with lighting costs, promotion and prizes. It is recommended that they are awarded £250.

3.2 Activities (up to £500)

HANFA -

Total Cost of Project - £75 Amount Requested - £25

This group are applying for activities for their 2012/13 youth club that involve trips and outings with young people. Unfortunately, these kinds of trips cannot be funded, as stated in the community grant guidelines. The group were made aware of this upon application and were given the option to reapply before the deadline. It is recommended the application is declined.

Cheshire Schools Football Association –

Total Cost of Project - £1,085 Amount Requested - £500

This group are applying for support with their Inter-School cup competitions. They have had funding towards this competition in the past, but are applying for a different element. Contributions are being made from Siemens and Redrow. It is recommended that they are awarded £500.

Crewe & Nantwich Senior Forum –

Total Cost of Project - £750 Amount Requested - £500

This group want to hold complimentary therapy sessions for elderly (massage, reflexology etc), to reduce depression, loneliness and isolation. They are contributing themselves and have little reserves. It is recommended that they are awarded £500.

Crewe & Nantwich Carer Support Group –

Total Cost of Project - £TBC Amount Requested - £TBC

The original application requested funding for venue hire and refreshments - it was explained via telephone that these cannot be funded therefore group wished to apply just for assistance with having speakers come to their twice monthly meetings. Application form was missing information regarding costs and income - this was requested - however it is yet to be received. It is recommended the application is deferred pending the receipt of this information.

Nantwich Food Bank –

Total Cost of Project - £7,500 Amount Requested - £500

New group set up to provide emergency food assistance to families in need. Various equipment is needed to assist with the set up of the project such as protective head wear, industrial scales and storage containers. Large project with assistance from Wulvern and applications in elsewhere. Currently in the process of devising a constitution, therefore it is recommended that the application is deferred until December.

Donna Louise Hospice Trust –

Total Cost of Project - £5,500 Amount Requested - £500

Donna Louise Hospice Trust are looking at running a parent befriending service for low level intervention to families in the early days of diagnosis of their child having a life limiting condition. Funding is required towards the training of these parents. They are contributing themselves but have not yet applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £500.

Wilmslow Symphony Orchestra –

Total Cost of Project - £19,965 Amount Requested - £500

Group have applied to offset losses for the upcoming season. It was explained upon application that running costs cannot be funded as stated in the guidelines and the group were invited to re-submit their application, No amends have been received therefore it is recommended that the application is declined.

Canute Badminton Club

Total Cost of Project - £300 Amount Requested - £300

Club are applying to purchase new nets, rackets and shuttles for the junior group as well as various equipment to support coaches and develop the junior section of the club. The club has no reserves but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £300.

Ruby's Fund –

Total Cost of Project - £500 Amount Requested - £500

Ruby's Fund wish to carry out a feasibility study to establish what changes/adaptations would be required to meet requirements at Congleton Business Centre. They are not contributing themselves despite considerable reserves and have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £300.

Congleton Cycling Club -

Total Cost of Project - £1,200 Amount Requested - £500

Group wish to further train coaches to achieve club mark accreditation from British Cycling and in turn attract more members. They are contributing themselves; it is recommended that they are awarded £500.

Park Royal Football Club –

Total Cost of Project - £908 Amount Requested - £398

Group are applying for assistance with purchasing new footballs and kit. Part of the total project cost includes pitch/facility hire, which cannot be funded, this has been discussed with the group and they will fund this element themselves. It is therefore recommended that they are awarded the remainder of the costs towards the footballs and kit of £398.

Alsager Bridgestone Amateur Swimming Club –

Total Cost of Project - £1,258 Amount Requested - £500

Group are applying to fund coaching staff through further training, to fund volunteers through safeguarding/disability and team management training and to purchase some new stop watches. The group are not contributing themselves but have applied to the town council. The group received funding in January 12 for similar purposes. It is recommended that they are awarded £350 as a contribution.

Cheshire Dance –

Total Cost of Project - £750 Amount Requested - £500

Cheshire Dance wish to continue to offer dance workshops on Colshaw Estate in Wilmslow to engage with young people. They are contributing themselves. It is recommended that the application is declined as Cheshire Dance are already funded through Adult Services.

Triton Hockey Club –

Total Cost of Project - £790 Amount Requested - £500

Hockey Club wish to fund training in umpiring, 1st aid, safeguarding and level 1 coaching. They are contributing themselves but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £400.

Ladyhawkes Netball Club –

Total Cost of Project - £1,095 Amount Requested - £495

Club wish to purchase various equipment such as balls and bibs. They also wish to provide umpire and coach essentials packs as an incentive

and to provide additional information on the sport to encourage more participants It is recommended that they are awarded £495.

Middlewich Vision –

Total Cost of Project - £1,100 Amount Requested - £500

Middlewich Vision is applying on behalf of Friends of Fountain Fields that are forming to regenerate the park. Middlewich Vision is intending to act as an accountable body. Further applications for other funding will be sent once a bank account is set up. It is therefore recommended that the application is declined and that Friends of Fountain Fields apply again once they are further established.

Cheshire Hornets Basketball Club –

Total Cost of Project - £500 Amount Requested - £500

This group are applying for assistance with coaching costs to increase opportunities for women to participate in basketball. Not applied elsewhere or contributing themselves, it is recommended they are awarded £350.

3.3 Facilities (up to £3,000)

Sound Vibe –

Total Cost of Project - £3,000 Amount Requested - £3,000

This group are applying for assistance with marketing and advertising. They wish to purchase a computer, print flyers and banners and advertise in the local papers and radio. The group have not provided copies of their constitution or other supporting documents. They do not have their own bank account. It is recommended the application is deferred to January pending the receipt of this information.

Friends of Sandbach Park –

Total Cost of Project - £38,940 Amount Requested - £3,000

This group wish to transform and restore the pond and wetland areas of Sandbach Park. It is a large project and other funding applications have been made to the town council, Wren and Co-operative Community Fund. It is recommended that they are awarded £3,000.

St Mary's Church, Handforth –

Total Cost of Project - £24,000 Amount Requested - £3,000

The group wish to upgrade the toilet facilities in the Church Hall to include disabled and baby changing facilities. The Hall is used by many community groups, including Brownies, toddler groups, yoga etc. They are making a large contribution to this project themselves and will be applying to the parish council as well as Cheshire Community Foundation and Emerson Trust. It is recommended that they are awarded £3,000.

Macclesfield & Congleton District Trojan Explorer Scout Unit –

Total Cost of Project - £73,350 Amount Requested - £3,000

Scout group require new camping equipment due to current equipment being in a poor state of repair. They have recently being taken over by a

new leader and have no reserves. They have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £2000.

Market Street Church, Nantwich–

Total Cost of Project - £4,600 Amount Requested - £3,000

St Mary's Church requires replacement windows/repairs in the Church hall, due to rotting. They replaced the heating system last year and aim to be more energy efficient by replacing old windows and conserving heat. The Church has some reserves and has not applied elsewhere for funding, it is recommended that they are awarded half of the project cost of £2,300 subject to securing match funding for the rest of the project.

Fermain –

Total Cost of Project - £4,644 Amount Requested - £3,000

Fermain wish to erect a 6ft perimeter fence along the side of the property to provide the centre with increased security and to meet OFSTEAD requirements and to prevent unauthorised use of the property. Applications will be made to other funders to cover the remainder of the costs, the centre have very little reserves. It is recommended that they are awarded £3000.

1st Holmes Chapel Scout Group –

Total Cost of Project - £1,230 Amount Requested - £630

This group wish to purchase new tents and groundsheets to replace old ones that are leaking. This will allow the whole group to take part in camping expeditions together instead of in small groups. They have not applied elsewhere and are not contributing themselves. It is recommended that they are awarded £630.

Mary Sunley Canal Boat Trust –

Total Cost of Project - £105,000 Amount Requested - £3,000

The Mary Sunley Canal Boat Trust's canal boat is in need of a complete re-furbishment due to deterioration. Due to the costs involved, in it proposed to have a new purpose built boat. This huge project has a large amount of funders contributing, so far £81,672 has been confirmed. They are also contributing themselves. It is recommended that they are awarded £3,000.

4.0 Wards Affected

4.1 All wards within Cheshire East Council

5.0 Local Ward Members

5.1 All Wards within Cheshire East Council

6.0 Policy Implications

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 the Borough Treasurer)

7.1 All of the proposed grants can be funded from within existing budgets approved as part of the Council's Budget for 2012/13

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

8.1 In awarding grants, the Council must ensure that in each case it has the legal power to fund the proposed scheme. In all cases there is a condition requiring a report back to the Council on the expenditure of the grant. Consideration should also be given in each case to the imposition of other appropriate conditions.

8.2 The Council's legal powers for awarding these grants are contained in various statutes, including Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, and Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000. In addition, the Council should ensure that there is a transparent process and policy in respect of determining the level of grant subsidy to any community group.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 None

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 Overview of Year One and Term One Issues

11.1 Allocation of Grants for 2012/13 only.

12.0 Access to Information

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

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