

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Cabinet Member for Performance and Capacity

Date of meeting: 2nd February 2010
Report of: Head of Policy & Performance
Title: Community Grants

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 final round of grants for 2009/10, and makes recommendations in line with Cheshire East Council's Policy for the Allocation of Grants.

2.0 Recommendations

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

1)	Macclesfield Civic Society be	awarded £250
2)	Wilmslow Symphony Orchestra be	awarded £250
3)	Girlguiding Handforth be	awarded £250
4)	Macclesfield Oriana Choir be	awarded £250
5)	Alderley Edge Orchestra be	awarded £250
6)	Holmes Chapel Singers be	awarded £250
7)	Wilmslow Guild Friday Art Group be	awarded £65
8)	Bollington Chamber Concerts be	deferred
9)	Crewe Amateur Musicals be	awarded £250
10)	Shavington Village Festival be	awarded £250
11)	Brereton Community Interest Group be	awarded £250
12)	Ringheye Morris of Mobberley be	awarded £250
13)	Macclesfield Barnaby Festival be	awarded £250
14)	King Edward Musical Society be	awarded £250
15)	Goostrey Art & Music Festival be	deferred
16)	Egerton Youth Club be	awarded £250
17)	Sandbach Old Hall Action Group be	declined
18)	Railway Bowls Club be	awarded £500
19)	Nantwich Tennis Club be	awarded £125
20)	Lyme Green Park Residents Committee be	awarded £500

21) Malbank Impact Community Group be	declined
22) 2 nd Poynton Scout Group be	awarded £500
23) Crewe West Community Group be	awarded £484
24) Age Concern East Cheshire be	awarded £250
25) Shropshire Union Canal Society be	awarded £250
26) Ashley Cricket Club be	awarded £500
27) National Autistic Society Parent & Support Group be	awarded £500
28) Trinity Dance Troupe be	awarded £500
29) 1 st S.w. Cheshire Scout Group be	awarded £500
30) Crewe Vagrants Cricket Club be	awarded £250
31) Poynton Concert Band be	awarded £300
32) Barnabas User Group be	awarded £200
33) Alton Street Allotments be	deferred
34) 1 st Buglawton Scout Group be	declined
35) Aquarius Swimming Club be	awarded £373
36) Sandbach Allotment Society be	deferred
37) CAMEO (Come and meet each other) be	declined
38) Rode Heath Young Persons Community Centre be	deferred
39) Bollington Art Group be	awarded £100
40) Concert Brass (Poynton) be	declined
41) Moss Allotment Garden Project be	deferred
42) Disley Cricket Club be	awarded £500
43) Brusheads be	awarded £494
44) Sandbach Sharks Amateur Swim Club be	deferred
45) Bollington Arts Centre be	awarded £250
46) Macclesfield Art Group be	awarded £466
47) Knutsford Grow be	awarded £232
48) Moss Rose Community Band be	awarded £400
49) Food 4 Macc be	awarded £500
50) West St. Christian Fellowship be	awarded £1,500
51) Girlguiding Chesh. Border – Egerton Hall Activity Centre be	declined
52) Canalside Community Radio be	awarded £875
53) Bexton Pre-School Nursery be	awarded £750
54) New Life Pre-School Nursery be	awarded £1,000
55) Dane Valley Scout Group be	declined
56) The Wingate Centre be	awarded £500
57) Middlewich Cricket Club be	awarded £500
58) St. Michaels & All Angels Church Community Centre be	awarded £500
59) Macclesfield Parish Church Scout & Guide Group be	awarded £600
60) Bollinbrook Pre-School be	deferred
61) Acton Parish Planning Group be	awarded £684
62) Marthall, Ollerton & Warford Hall be	awarded £1,420
63) Blakenhall Community Hall be	awarded £457
64) Holmes Chapel Youth Centre be	awarded £735
65) Alsager Community Church be	awarded £250
66) All Saints Church Resource Centre be	deferred
67) Bollington Initiative Trust be	awarded £1,137
68) Congleton Lawn Tennis Club be	awarded £500
69) Macclesfield Speaking Up/Speaking Out be	declined

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations (Details of Grants)

3.1 EVENTS (UP TO £500)

Macclesfield Civic Society (CGA.82)
Wilmslow Symphony Orchestra (CGA.81)
Girlguiding Handforth (CGA.79)
Macclesfield Oriana Choir (CGA.99)
Alderley Edge Orchestra (CGA.98)
Holmes Chapel Singers (CGA.97)
Crewe Amateur Musicals (CGA.119)
Shavington Village Festival (CGA.113)
Brereton Community Interest Group (CGA.110)
Ringheye Morris of Mobberley (CGA.131)
Macclesfield Barnaby Festival (CGA.129)
King Edward Musical Society (CGA.125)
Egerton Youth Club (CGA.121)

The above events are all annual productions/events, some with quite high costs and receive income from ticket sales as well as refreshments, programmes etc. These events are important to Cheshire East district as they do make a difference to local residents by way of enabling them to see local talent performing at reasonable prices. It is recommended that they all be awarded a grant of £250 and that their profit/loss for the events be monitored

Wilmslow Guild Friday Art Group (CGA.103)

The project is to purchase exhibition boards to enable them to exhibit their artwork at various venues and are requesting £65. It is recommended they be awarded this amount.

Bollington Chamber Concerts (CGA.101)

Goostrey Art & Music Festival (CGA.124)

These projects are to hold events commencing in October 2010. It has been recommended that these applications be deferred until the next round 2010/11 as grants awarded under £500 must be completed within 6 months

3.2 ACTIVITIES (up to £500)

Sandbach Old Hall Action Group (CGA.84)

As this is an action group it is not in Cheshire East Council's policy to support campaigns by grants and it is therefore recommended the application be declined.

Railway Bowls Club (CGA.86)

The project is to purchase a new professional mower to enable them to keep the green to a good playing standard. The total project cost is £3,000 and they are contributing towards the costs. It is recommended they be awarded £500.

Nantwich Tennis Club (CGA.87)

The project is to purchase new equipment for the junior membership. They have just installed new floodlighting for the courts and have limited funding left. The project is £531 and it is recommended they be awarded £125.

Lyme Green Park Residents Committee (CGA.91)

This is a community housing people with disabilities and the project is to purchase computer equipment to enable the residents to have access to these facilities on site. They have a resident who can teach them IT skills. The project cost is £998 and it is recommended they be awarded the balance required of £500.

Malbank Impact Community Group (CGA.92)

The project is to run a free community cinema every three weeks. As the group are not constituted and therefore does not fit the criteria it is recommended they be declined a grant and advise them how to be constituted.

2nd Poynton Scout Group (CGA.93)

The project is to install a climbing wall and the total cost is £2,290. They have £790 from other external sources and it is recommended they be awarded a grant of £500 which is the maximum amount under the Activities section of this scheme.

Crewe West Community Group (CGA.95)

The group are working hard to improve the West End area of Crewe and are working with the local residents and children to improve the area by developing a wildflower garden. The total project cost is £600 and it is recommended they be awarded the balance required of £484.

Age Concern East Cheshire (CGA.96)

The project is to rejuvenate the local day care group with new activity equipment. Although Age Concern are a large charity, the day care group have to take care of their own funds. The total project cost is £531 and it is recommended they be awarded £250.

Shropshire Union Canal Society (CGA.89)

The project is to improve the picnic area and facilities alongside the canal near to Nantwich which is used by local residents as well as canal users. The project is £1595 and they have requested £500 towards the costs. It is recommended they be awarded £250 with the Society approaching the relevant Town/Parish Council for the remaining £250.

Ashley Cricket Club (CGA.94)

The project is to build 3 lanes of artificial nets allowing much more use and development of the club facilities. The total project cost is £41,479 and have most of the funding in place from their own funds and from other external sources. It is recommended they be awarded £500.

National Autistic Society Parent & Support Group (CGA.100)

This is a local support group and as such have to secure their own funding for projects. It is a new group and have very limited funds. The project is for furniture

and equipment and the total cost is £4,200 which can be purchased in stages. It is recommended they be awarded £500.

Trinity Dance Troupe (CGA.105)

The group have a large number of young children and have expanded their membership over the last two years. Their p.a. system is not functioning as well as it used to and they would like to purchase a new system along with a CD player. The total cost is £760 and as they have limited funds and subsidise the children's weekly fees it is recommended they be awarded £500.

1st South West Cheshire Scout Group (CGA.107)

The group would like to purchase 6 new exhibition tents to allow their scouts to take part in outdoor expeditions. They have a small amount of funding which they use to subsidise other events and for general running costs. The total project cost is £1,200 and it is recommended they be awarded £500

Crewe Vagrants Cricket Club (CGA.108)

The club have a varied list of projects and the total cost is £1,144. It is recommended they be awarded £250 to contribute towards the coaching sessions to enable juniors to develop their skills.

Poynton Concert Band (CGA.109)

This is a local concert band and would like to purchase their own portable p.a. system to allow them this facility when they travel to various venues and for their own rehearsals. The project cost is £600 and it is recommended they be awarded £300 match funding.

Barnabas User Group (CGA.111)

This is a weekly group helping people recovering from drug addiction by offering various skills to promote a healthy lifestyle. The total cost of the project is £467 and it is recommended they be awarded £200 to cover the cost of materials and demonstrations.

Alton Street Allotments (CGA.115)

The project is to purchase a shed and polytunnels but their application is not clear on their requirements. The total cost is £1050 and they are requesting the full amount and are not contributing to this project themselves. It is recommended the application be deferred to enable them to plan the project and approach another local allotment group for advice.

1st Buglawton Scout Group (CGA.118)

The project is to pay for camping accommodation for scouts/cubs to attend a Chamboree in July. The grant scheme does not contribute towards accommodation costs and it is therefore recommended that a grant be declined.

Aquarius Swimming Club (CGA.120)

This is a swimming club for people with disabilities and their project is for pool hire, training courses and publicity. The total project cost is £2,813 and they have the majority of funding in place. It is recommended they be awarded the balance required of £373.

Sandbach Allotment Society (CGA.123)

This is a new group and have yet to secure land to use as allotments. They have members but no membership fees. The project is for administration costs and is £1,040. It is recommended the application be deferred until they are more established and that they contact Sandbach Town Council regarding the allocation of land.

CAMEO (Come & Meet Each Other) (CGA.127)

This is a fairly new group for people to meet who are alone after bereavement or family crisis. Their project costs and funding are unclear as the majority of costs are already covered "in kind". They do not have a constitution and as such are not eligible to apply and it is recommended they be declined a grant on this occasion and that they become a constituted group.

Rode Heath Young Persons Community Centre (CGA.128)

The project is mainly for equipment and some refurbishment work but they have no breakdown of the project and no quotes/estimates. The project cost is £8,874 and they have no funding in place. It is recommended that the application be deferred awaiting further information.

Bollington Art Group (CGA.132)

This is a well established group and their project is to purchase equipment for labelling artwork and photocopying. They have their own funds which they use for exhibitions etc. The total estimated project cost is £300 and as this is a developing group it is recommended they be awarded £100.

Concert Brass (Poynton) (CGA.133)

The group are requesting funding towards room hire, materials and the occasional repair of instruments but have not given a breakdown of any of these costs. They do have a reasonable bank balance and income. As there are no breakdown costs and no specific projects it is recommended they be declined a grant and that any future applications should be based on specific projects.

Moss Allotment Garden Project (CGA.134)

The group have been established for a number of years but have only £47 in their account. The project is to purchase a polytunnel (£748) and they are requesting the full amount from Cheshire East Council. They have nothing to contribute themselves and have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended the application be deferred and that further information be requested before applying again.

Disley Cricket Club (CGA.135)

The project is to replace the artificial wicket and the total cost is £4,590. They have applied for funding from external sources and it is recommended they be awarded £500

Brusheads (CGA.137)

This is an arts and crafts group specifically for people with long term mental health problems. The project is to develop the group by providing additional materials,

train volunteers and fund visiting artists to bring in new ideas. The total cost is £1,005 and it is recommended they be awarded the balance requested of £494.

Sandbach Sharks Amateur Swim Club (CGA.138)

The project is to purchase computer equipment and software to enable the group to download swimming competition results onto the internet. They do not have a breakdown of costs for the equipment and it is recommended the application be deferred.

Bollington Arts Centre (CGA.150)

The Arts Centre are launching a large redevelopment project in Spring to expand the facilities for local people. This particular project is to develop an interactive website which will be available to the Community. The total project cost is £4,170 and they have the majority of funding in place. It is recommended they be awarded a grant of £250

Macclesfield Art Group (CGA.138)

The group are well established and now want to invite experienced artists to demonstrate new techniques and also to purchase a microphone system. The total project cost is £851 and it is recommended that they be awarded the balance required of £466.

Knutsford Grow (CGA.141)

The group provide a gardening service for people with disabilities and is run totally by volunteers. The project is for three volunteers to attend a qualified first aid course and to purchase a printer. The total project cost is £464 and it is recommended they be awarded match funding of £232.

Moss Rose Community Band (CGA.149)

The group are formed of juniors and adults from a deprived area of Macclesfield and are very well organised with a business plan of their intentions for the future. They have already purchased new instruments from external funding sources and their own funds but now require extra instruments and music stands which currently they are borrowing. The total project cost is £500 and they are able to contribute £100 themselves. It is recommended they be awarded the balance of £400.

Food 4 Macc (CGA.146)

This is a group of volunteers whose aim is to encourage the growing of local fruit and veg by setting up plots in various locations, i.e. nursing homes etc., thereby involving the residents. This is a fairly new group but is well organised with a business plan but very limited funding at the moment. The project cost is £1,100 and it is recommended they be awarded £500 to help them to establish this on-going project.

3.3 FACILITIES (up to £1,500)

West Street Christian Fellowship (CGA.151)

The organisation has worked tremendously hard to secure funding for this centre and have had it completely refurbished. The centre when complete will be very

well used by residents of the West End of Crewe. This project is to furnish the new property with new kitchen etc. with the total cost being £55,481 and it is recommended they be awarded £1,500.

Girlguiding Cheshire Border – Egerton Hall Activity Centre (CGA.147)

The activity centre is used as residential accommodation. The project is to box in pipework at a cost of £1,070. The group have a healthy account and are contributing very little of their own funds. It is recommended a grant be declined.

Canalside Community Radio (CGA.85)

A very successful community radio service and the project is to refurbish the studio and training module. The total cost is £1,750 and it is recommended they be awarded match funding of £875.

Bexton Pre-School Nursery (CGA.88)

The project is to improve drainage of the play area as it is not suitable for use during wet weather. The facilities are well used and the total project cost is £1,675 and it is recommended they be awarded £750.

Dane Valley Scout Group (CGA.80)

The project is to fit new toilets to the new extension. The group have had grants for £6,000 towards the new extension in the previous financial year. The total project cost is £2,859 and it is recommended a grant be declined on this occasion.

The Wingate Centre (CGA.77)

The organisation runs residential and day courses for children with special needs and provides a very valuable service to the area. The project is to purchase new chairs at a total cost of £1,478 and it is recommended they be awarded £500.

Middlewich Cricket Club (CGA.90)

The project is to replace toilet facilities for the young males as they make up a large part of the club membership. The total project cost is £1,186 and it is recommended they be awarded £500.

New Life Pre-School Nursery (CGA.83)

The facilities are used by pre-school children and community groups and the project is to install new kitchen facilities to enable greater use of the building. The total project cost is £5,829. It is recommended they be awarded the balance required of £1,000

St. Michaels & all Angels Church Community Centre (CGA.117)

The church have secured a new community facility which they are refurbishing and have secured all the funding required. This project is to purchase a large counter refrigerator at a total cost of £893 and it is recommended they be awarded the balance requested of £500.

Macclesfield Parish Church Scout & Guide Group (CGA.116)

The project is to install disabled toilet facilities as they have a number of scouts and guides with disabilities who have difficulty using the current facilities. The total project cost is £2,085 and it is recommended they be awarded £600.

Bollinbrook Pre-School (CGA.112)

The project is to build a new centre using recycled shipping containers. The group have applied for some funding but are awaiting outcomes. They are not due to start the project until September 2010 and it is recommended the application be deferred awaiting further information on grant applications.

Acton Parish Planning Group (CGA.140)

This group are working hard to improve the open spaces/pathways around their area and this project is to finalise all improvements by making repairs to the countryside pathways and signage. The installation of the signage is to be run as a community event along with local litterpicking etc. The total project cost is £3,167 and they have secured £1,800 from other external sources. It is recommended they be awarded £684 as match funding of the balance required.

Marthall, Ollerton & Warford Hall (CGA.148)

This is a new village hall which is complete and being used by the community. This project is to secure extra funding to install internal folding walls which would utilise the space more. The total cost is £4,920 and it is recommended they be awarded the balance required of £1,420.

Blakenhall Community Hall (CGA.145)

This is a rural community hall and is well used by a wide variety of groups. The project is to purchase a new water boiler, microwave and catering tea urn to enable refreshment facilities to be better utilised. The total project cost is £957 and it is recommended they be awarded the balance required of £457.

Holmes Chapel Youth Centre (CGA.144)

The project is to refurbish the kitchen area as part of the ongoing building refurbishment. The centre is regularly used by adults and youth of the area. The total project cost is £1469 and have secured £300 towards this cost. It is recommended they be awarded a grant of £735 as match funding of the balance.

Alsager Community Church (CGA.142)

The project is for costs towards a feasibility study regarding development of the community buildings. This study will enable the church to identify how best to use the existing facilities for greater community purposes. The total cost is £2,587 and it is recommended they be awarded £250.

All Saints Church Resource Centre (CGA.136)

The project is to purchase new chairs for a new extension which has not yet been completed and funding has not yet been secured. It is recommended that the application be deferred until the extension is in place.

Bollington Initiative Trust (CGA.130)

The project is to complete the final phase of the restoration of “Tinkers Clough” which is a large public space with woodland and pathways. The group have applied for funding from WREN and require third party funding. The total project cost is £10,340 and it is recommended they be awarded the third party funding of £1,137.

Congleton Lawn Tennis Club (CGA.126)

The project is to refurbish the old clubhouse to create an indoor coaching area. The total project cost is £5,302 and do have most of the funding in place. It is recommended they be awarded £500.

Speaking Up/Speaking Out (CGA.122)

This building is on short term lease and ends April but can be extended. The project is to install disabled toilet facilities at a cost of £4,700. It is recommended the application be declined due to the short term lease and the group not contributing any of their own funds.

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 Positive impact

7.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)

7.1 None

8.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)

8.1 All of the proposed grants can be funded from within existing budgets approved as part of the Council's Budget for 2009/10.

9.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

9.1 In awarding grants, the Council must ensure that in each case it has the legal power to fund the proposed scheme. In certain cases above £100 it will be necessary to impose 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.

10.0 Risk Management

10.1 None

11.0 Background and Options

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

12.0 Overview of Year One and Term One Issues

12.1 Allocation of grants for 2009/10 only.

13.0 Access to Information

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

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