

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Cabinet Member for Performance and Capacity

Date of meeting: 30th April, 2012.
Report of: Partnerships Manager
Title: Community Grants
Portfolio Holder: Councillor David 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 first round of grants for 2012/13, and makes recommendations totalling £30,057 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:

Events Grant

Alderley Edge May Fair	awarded £250
Scamps Youth Company	awarded £250
Crewe Brass	awarded £250
Sandbach Ceilidhs	awarded £250
Wilmslow Show	Decline
Alsager Ladies Circle	awarded £250
Volume PR	Decline
PRIDE Well Dressing	awarded £250
Poynton Parish Plan Monitoring Group	awarded £250

Activities Grant

Nantwich Park Road Bowling Club	awarded £500
Autism Networks	awarded £500
Action for Sick Children	declined
Knutsford Town Plan	awarded £500
Just Drop In	declined
Sandbach Cricket Club	deferred
Macclesfield Live At Home	awarded £150
Sandbach United FC	deferred

Nantwich Detachment - Cheshire Army Cadet Force	declined
Cheshire East ABA	awarded £350
GB Pro Wrestling	awarded £350
Shapla Women's Group	declined
Bunbury Cricket Club	awarded £350
Disley Arts Society	awarded £165
Cheshire Marshals	awarded £325
Cheshire Carers Centre	declined
Sol Theatre School	awarded £500
Macclesfield Youth Brass Band	awarded £350
Dane Valley Amateur Swimming Club	awarded £350
Ash Court Social Club	declined
Crewe Judo Club	declined
The Debt Advice Network	deferred
Crewe Amateur Boxing Club	awarded £300
Richmond Rovers JFC	awarded £350
Chelford Handbell Ringers	awarded £350
The Georges Mums & Tots Group	deferred
Knutsford Amateur Swimming Club	awarded £250
Wheelock Holiday Club	awarded £117
Crewe Clean Team	awarded £500

Facilities Grant

New Life Church	awarded £3,000
St Luke's Church Mow Cop	awarded £3,000
St Barnabas Church, Macclesfield	awarded £3,000
Congleton Pentecostal Church	awarded £1,100
Alderley Edge Scout & Guide Council	deferred
Dane Valley Scout Group	awarded £1,200
Holmes Chapel Community Pre School	declined
New Testament Church of God – Crewe	awarded £3,000
Age UK Cheshire East	awarded £3,000
Crewe Heritage Trust	awarded £2,000
17th South West Cheshire Scout Group	awarded £1,750
Rode Heath Young Peoples Community Centre Ltd	awarded £1,000

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations (Details of Grants)

3.1 Events (up to £250)

Alderley Edge May Fair
 Scamps Youth Company
 Crewe Brass
 Sandbach Ceilidhs
 Alsager Ladies Circle
 PRIDE Well Dressing
 Poynton Parish Plan Monitoring Group

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 be awarded a grant of up to £250 and that their profit/loss for the events be monitored

Wilmslow Show
Volume PR

The above applications do not have constitutions. As the Community Grant scheme cannot provide grants to groups that are not constituted it is recommended the applications are declined.

3.2 Activities (up to £500)

Nantwich Park Road Bowling Club -

Total Cost of Project - £7,216 Amount Requested - £500

The Bowling Club wish to replace floodlights and lamp standards which are beyond economic repair. They are contributing themselves and have received funding from elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £500.

Autism Networks –

Total Cost of Project - £2,500 Amount Requested - £500

Group want to purchase sensory equipment which will also be available to loan, they are fundraising themselves but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they be awarded £500.

Action for Sick Children –

Total Cost of Project - £550 Amount Requested - £500

This organisation wants to visit schools to promote dental care. Despite having a very healthy bank account, they are only making a small contribution themselves and have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended the application be declined.

Knutsford Town Plan –

Total Cost of Project - £2,000 Amount Requested - £500

This group wishes to implement the actions identified in the town plan. They are contributing themselves and have received £1000 from the Town Council. It is recommended they be awarded £500.

Just Drop In –

Total Cost of Project - £700 Amount Requested - £500

This group has a very healthy bank account and have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended the application be declined.

Sandbach Cricket Club –

Total Cost of Project - £400 Amount Requested - £400

This group intends to run afterschool Quick Cricket sessions. They are not contributing themselves or applied elsewhere, but are running at a loss. It is recommended they be deferred to June pending receipt of constitution.

Macclesfield Live at Home –

Total Cost of Project - £698 Amount Requested - £500

This group want to start a new luncheon club and require relevant equipment. They have not applied elsewhere, and have previously received funding for similar equipment. It is recommended they be awarded £150.

Sandbach United FC –

Total Cost of Project - £800 Amount Requested - £500

Group wish to attend relevant training courses for managers and coaches. This group has a very healthy bank account and have not applied elsewhere although they have made a small contribution themselves. It is recommended they be deferred to June pending receipt of constitution.

Nantwich Detachment – Cheshire Army Cadet Force

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

Deferred from January, pending receipt of constitution and bank account details. No response has been received, despite reminders. It is recommended this application be declined.

Cheshire East ABA –

Total Cost of Project - £540 Amount Requested - £500

Deferred from January, pending bank account details. Received 27.3.12. New group wishing to purchase new specialist boxing and exercise equipment. They have not applied elsewhere, it is recommended they be awarded £350.

GB Pro Wrestling

Total Cost of Project - £6,000 Amount Requested - £500

Group wish to provide coaching staff for wrestling classes and promotion of the club. Deferred from January pending further details regarding status of the group. Organisation has confirmed they operate as not for profit. It is recommended they be awarded £350

Shapla Women's Group –

Total Cost of Project - £570 Amount Requested - £500

Group has received a grant for this activity before, therefore are not eligible to apply again. It is recommended that the application be declined.

Bunbury Cricket Club –

Total Cost of Project - £1,048 Amount Requested - £500

Deferred from January pending further information which has now been received. Applying for a grant to refurbish net facilities. Not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they be awarded £350 and apply to the Town Council.

Disley Arts Society –

Total Cost of Project - £165 Amount Requested - £165

Group wishes to run art workshops & presentations to educate members of society and attract more participants. It is recommended they are awarded £165.

Cheshire Marshals–

Total Cost of Project - £750 Amount Requested - £325

Group wish to purchase wet weather clothing and hand held radios, as well as training and publicity materials for volunteer marshals. They have applied elsewhere and are contributing themselves. It is recommended they be awarded £325.

Cheshire Carers Centre –

Total Cost of Project - £500 Amount Requested - £300

This group wishes to start monthly support groups and are applying for funding for refreshments, transport and staffing. These do not meet the criteria. It is recommended the application be declined.

Sol Theatre School –

Total Cost of Project - £12,558 Amount Requested - £500

Group wishes to put on 2 weeks of training for children aged 7 - 18 in drama, dance, singing etc during the summer holidays. Following the 2 weeks there is an end performance. It is recommended they are awarded £500.

Macclesfield Youth Brass Band –

Total Cost of Project - £2,458 Amount Requested - £500

This group want to purchase additional instruments and equipment to widen activities including a "drummers" section. They have applied elsewhere for funding and are contributing themselves. It is recommended that they be awarded £350.

Dane Valley Amateur Swimming Club –

Total Cost of Project - £6,285 Amount Requested - £500

This group want to hire swimming pool facilities to hold a 1 day 'swim clinic' course including facility and coach hire. They have £250 off Parish/Town Council and are contributing themselves however, they do have money in the bank. It is recommended they be awarded £350.

Ash Court Social Club –

Total Cost of Project – Not stated Amount Requested - £500

This group are applying to re-theme the garden that they had a grant for in April 2011. Groups cannot apply annually for the same purpose, it is recommended this application be declined & seek funding from Town Council.

Crewe Judo Club –

Total Cost of Project - £433 Amount Requested - £433

This group are applying for a new safety mat and judo suits. They were awarded £500 in September 09 and have yet to provide a report. It is recommended the application be declined.

The Debt Advice Network –

Total Cost of Project - £900 Amount Requested - £500

Group wishes to purchase 2 laptops. They have £400 in other funds but are not contributing themselves. It is recommended that this application be deferred pending further information regarding operating area.

Crewe Amateur Boxing Club –

Total Cost of Project - £1,049 Amount Requested - £500

Group wished to purchase new equipment to complete range offered. They are not contributing themselves and have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they be awarded £350.

Richmond Rovers JFC –

Total Cost of Project - £1,280 Amount Requested - £500

This group wishes to improve coaching methods, coaches to attend courses. They are contributing themselves, it is recommended £350.

Chelford Handbell Ringers –

Total Cost of Project - £850 Amount Requested - £500

New group wishing to renovate the handbells. They will be fundraising to meet the full cost of the project but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they apply to the Parish Council and be awarded £300.

The Georges Mums & Tots Group –

Total Cost of Project - £1,299 Amount Requested - £500

New group wishing to purchase equipment to help establishment, tables & chairs, toys etc. Group does not have its own bank account. It is recommended the application is deferred to June 12 pending this information.

Knutsford Amateur Swimming Club –

Total Cost of Project - £695 Amount Requested - £500

Group wish to purchase an underwater camera to improve swimming techniques. They have not applied elsewhere and are not contributing themselves, although they have substantial reserves. It is recommended they apply to the Town Council and be awarded £250.

Wheelock Holiday Club –

Total Cost of Project - £397 Amount Requested - £117

Club want to purchase a speaker system to use with the multimedia projector and banners for outside venue. They are contributing themselves and have applied elsewhere. It is recommended they be awarded £117.

Crewe Clean Team –

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

Newly formed group wishing to purchase litter picking equipment. They are not contributing themselves and have not applied elsewhere. No reserves as newly formed. It is recommended they be awarded £500.

3.3 Facilities (up to £3,000)

New Life Church - Congleton –

Total Cost of Project - £10,948 Amount Requested - £3,000

This group wishes to update and refurbish toilet facilities, used by a large number of community groups. They are contributing themselves but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they be awarded £3,000.

St Luke's Church – Mow Cop –

Total Cost of Project - £14,276 Amount Requested - £3,000

This group wishes to install toilet facilities as none exist at present. They are contributing themselves and have received funding from the Parish Council. It is recommended that they are awarded £3,000.

St Barnabas Church – Macclesfield –

Total Cost of Project - £65,500 Amount Requested - £3,000

This group wants to undertake a large improvement project including extensive renovations. The grant is required as 3rd party funding to WREN. It is recommended they be awarded £3,000.

Congleton Pentecostal Church–

Total Cost of Project - £2,190 Amount Requested - £2,190

This group is applying for seating for lounge area used by a variety of groups. They have not applied elsewhere or contributing themselves. It is recommended they be awarded £1,100

Alderley Edge Scout & Guide Council–

Total Cost of Project - £2,500 Amount Requested - £2,000

This group wishes to improve their Scout hall by creating a tent drying area to maximise space. They are contributing themselves but have not applied elsewhere. No constitution provided. It is recommended they be deferred to June pending receipt of constitution.

Dane Valley Scout Group –

Total Cost of Project - £5,000 Amount Requested - £1,200

This group wish to install gas central heating into their scout hut for use of the building during the winter months. They have confirmed funding from elsewhere and are contributing themselves. It is recommended they be awarded £1,200.

Holmes Chapel Community Pre School –

Total Cost of Project - £3,000 Amount Requested - £500

This group wish to purchase a sun shade to replace their damaged awning. They are contributing and have applied to the Parish Council. However, it is recommended the application be refused as the canopy would be for the sole benefit of the pre-school and not the wider community. Constitution not provided.

New Testament Church of God – Crewe –

Total Cost of Project - £6,000 Amount Requested - £3,000

This group wishes to improve accessibility to the front of the building to make the facility more accessible to wheelchair users, pushchairs etc. The group wishes to extend and widen the range of services provided. They are contributing themselves and have a donation. It is recommended they be awarded £3,000

Age UK Cheshire East –

Total Cost of Project - £19,440 Amount Requested - £3,000

This group wants to install a lift to enable disabled access to the upper floors of their centre. They are contributing themselves and have a lot of funding already

committed towards this project. The group have a very healthy bank account. It is recommended that they be awarded £3,000.

Crewe Heritage Trust

Total Cost of Project - £2,846 Amount Requested - £2,846

This organisation wish to mount an exhibition on the History & Heritage of Crewe. They wish to purchase materials to build new display boards and new light fittings. They have not applied elsewhere and are not contributing themselves. It is recommended they be awarded £2,000.

17th South West Cheshire Scout Group

Total Cost of Project - £2,750 Amount Requested - £2,220

This group wish to improve kitchen facilities due to increase in members, they would also like to replace their camping equipment to improve range & quality of activities offered. The group are contributing themselves. It is recommended they be awarded £1,750.

Rode Heath Young Persons Community Centre Ltd

Total Cost of Project - £2,500 Amount Requested - £1,000

The group wish to replace the windows and gutters within the community centre, which is used by a wide range of groups. They are contributing themselves and have money off the Parish Council. It is recommended they are awarded £1,000.

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 2012/13 and beyond (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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