

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## Cabinet Member for Strategic Outcomes

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**Date of Meeting:** 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014  
**Report of:** Principal Manager, Local Area Working  
**Subject/Title:** Allocation of Grants  
**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor D Brown

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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. Funding is focussed on those organisations that complement the aims and objectives of the Corporate Plan.
- 1.2 The report covers the third round of grants for 2014/15 and makes recommendations totalling £69,901 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:

#### War Memorial Commemoration Events

Friends of Handforth Station	Awarded £1,000
King Edward Musical Society	Awarded £686
Knutsford Promenades	Declined
St Peter's Church, Macclesfield	Awarded £725

#### Activities

21 <sup>st</sup> Century Technology & Camera Club	Awarded £500
Alderley & Wilmslow Musical Theatre Company	Awarded £750
Ash Grove Academy	Awarded £750
Chelford Handbell Ringers	Awarded £300
Cheshire Schools Football Association	Awarded £250
Cheshire Streetwise CIC	Awarded £870
Congleton Community Projects	Awarded £500
Congleton Youth In Action	Awarded £350
Crewe Alexandra Ladies and Girls Football Club	Declined
Crewe Amateur Musicals Society	Awarded £600
Crewe Chess Club	Awarded £350
Hampers of Hope	Awarded £1,000
Kokoro Better Me Better World	Declined
Ladyhawkes Netball Club	Awarded £1,000
Lions Youth Brass	Awarded £500
Nantwich Concert Band	Declined

Nantwich Town Crier Community Group	Awarded £720
Projects 4 Poynton	Declined
Shapla	Declined
Tatton Singers	Declined

### **Facilities**

Bunbury Jubilee Playing Fields Committee	Awarded £3,500
Bunbury Watermill Trust	Awarded £2,000
Christ Church, Crewe	Awarded £5,000
Congleton Town Football Club	Awarded £3,250
Eaton with Hulme Walfield PCC Hall Committee	Awarded £5,000
Just Drop-In	Awarded £3950
Kettleshulme Entertainment Committee	Awarded £2,000
Knutsford Football Club	Awarded £2,500
Lindow Cricket Club	Awarded £4,000
Macclesfield & District Canoe Club	Declined
Nantwich Lawn Tennis Club	Awarded £3,250
Oakhanger Methodist Church	Awarded £5,000
Peckforton & Beeston Village Hall	Awarded £3,500
Poynton Youth and Community Centre	Awarded £3,500
Ruby's Fund	Awarded £5,000
St Peter's Church, Congleton	Declined
St Peter's Church, Macclesfield	Awarded £3,500
Ucan.tv	Deferred
Wild Rumpus CIC	Awarded £4,100

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

### **3.1 War Memorial Commemoration Events:**

#### **Friends of Handforth Station –**

**Project Cost £4,400      Requested £1,000      Awarded £1,000**

Friends of Handforth Station require funding to convert old cycle lockers into illuminated profiles of soldiers heading off to war, with an aim of the commemoration of WW1 not being forgotten. The group are contributing to the project themselves and have a contribution from the Parish Council. It is recommended that they are awarded £1,000.

#### **King Edward Musical Society –**

**Project Cost £1,956      Requested £686      Awarded £686**

King Edward Musical Society is holding a concert entitled 'The Armed Man' in commemoration of the First World War. Funding is required towards a professional conductor and soloists. The organisation is hoping ticket sales will fund the remaining costs. It is recommended that they are awarded £686.

#### **Knutsford Promenades –**

**Project Cost £1,000      Requested £1,000      Declined**

Knutsford Promenades would like to run a competition giving the opportunity for young people from 5 schools to submit a 'tweet from the front line'. Entries will be displayed at the main event in July 2015. Unfortunately, the application was received after the grant round closing date and supporting documentation has not been submitted. It is recommended the application is declined.

**St Peter's Church, Macclesfield –****Project Cost £825****Requested £725****Awarded £725**

St Peter's Church will be holding an event over 2 days in commemoration of WW1 which includes afternoon tea and an exhibition and a community remembrance service. Funding is required towards the advertising and publicity of the event. It is recommended that they are awarded £725.

**Activities:****21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology & Camera Club –****Project Cost £930****Requested £600****Awarded £500**

The 21st Century Technology & Camera Club is a new group that is applying for funding to assist the purchase of a training station monitor TV and a group presentation TV. The group does not currently have any of its own equipment and all equipment is being made available by group members. The group requires its own equipment to increase longer term sustainability and have no reserves. It is recommended that they are awarded £500 and seek the remaining project costs from other sources including the Town Council.

**Alderley & Wilmslow Musical Theatre Company –****Project Cost £33,340****Requested £750****Awarded £750**

Alderley & Wilmslow Musical Theatre Company are staging production of The Sound of Music and require funding towards the costs of costumes, printing, advertising etc. The group are contributing towards the production themselves and have other contributions. It is recommended that they are awarded £750.

**Ash Grove Academy –****Project Cost £1,420****Requested £1,000****Awarded £750**

Ash Grove Academy is based on a deprived estate in Macclesfield, where there are often high levels of tension and conflict between families. The school wants to develop a project which will focus on developing community links around the school, starting with creating events that families and members of the local community can take part in. The school are making a contribution themselves. It is recommended that they are awarded £750 towards creating the pathway through the woods, bedding plants and a willow artist.

**Chelford Handbell Ringers –****Project Cost £680****Requested £450****Awarded £300**

Chelford Handbell Ringers have had more of their bells restored over the past 12 months. Funding is now required towards a protective case to keep the bells in. This will also allow the bells to be transported to different venues for performances. The group are contributing towards the remaining costs themselves, despite few reserves. It is recommended that they are awarded £300.

**Cheshire Schools Football Association –****Project Cost £700****Requested £400****Awarded £250**

Cheshire School's FA is holding a new football tournament for girls in years 3 and 4 of primary school. Funding is required towards medals and cups, match balls and printing. Other costs include St John's Ambulance and sundry expenses. The club have sponsorship but are not contributing themselves. It is recommended that they are awarded £250 towards the event and seek additional funds from other sources or from their reserves.

**Cheshire Streetwise CIC –****Project Cost £10,259****Requested £870****Awarded £870**

Cheshire Streetwise CIC are running a project called 'Art Attack' with an aim of allowing children to take part in something positive and engaging. The project has expanded since it was last run throughout the summer and funding is now required for more art materials. The organisation has contributions towards the room hire. It is recommended that they are awarded £870.

**Congleton Community Projects –****Project Cost £2,877****Requested £926****Awarded £500**

Congleton Community Projects require funding towards holding 3 all day public lantern making workshops followed by a lantern parade. Funding is required towards, artist fees, materials and a band. The group are contributing themselves but do not have contributions from elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £500 towards the project and seek support from the Town Council.

**Congleton Youth in Action –****Project Cost £600****Requested £500****Awarded £350**

Congleton Youth in Action require funding for replacement equipment due to their current equipment being old and out dated. They wish to purchase sensory toys, arts and crafts materials, baking equipment and toys. The group are contributing themselves but have not applied anywhere else. It is recommended that they are awarded £350.

**Crewe Alexandra Ladies and Girls Football Club –****Project Cost £500****Requested £500****Declined**

Crewe Alexandra Ladies and Girls Football Club have requested funding to assist with the development of a girl's under 16's team which would not be football specific and would also encourage exercise and healthy living. All costs related to pitch and referee hire fees which cannot be funded. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Crewe Amateur Musicals Society –****Project Cost £5,640****Requested £1,500****Awarded £600**

Crewe Amateur Musical Society is applying for funding towards the preparation and presentation of a musical. Funding is specifically requested for the hire of rehearsal rooms, which cannot be funded but it is recommended that they are awarded £600 towards programmes, posters and flyers and that they also apply to other funding sources for support.

**Crewe Chess Club –****Project Cost £700****Requested £700****Awarded £350**

Crewe Chess Club is a new group that requires funding for set up costs and the purchase of their own equipment rather than relying on members' equipment. The group have no reserves but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £350 and seek funding from the Town Council and/or other funding sources to assist with the remainder of the set up costs.

**Hampers of Hope –****Project Cost £1,491****Requested £1,000****Awarded £1,000**

Hampers of Hope require funding to purchase 3 laptop computers and software. The centre manager and area co-ordinators are currently working on personal computers. As the information that the organisation holds is sensitive, they wish for staff to work on IT equipment owned by Hampers of Hope so that the charity can oversee IT security and so that only authorised people can access data. The organisation are contributing to the purchase of the equipment and have little reserves, it is recommended that they are awarded £1,000.

**Kokoro Better Me Better World –****Project Cost £3,000****Requested £1,000****Declined**

Kokoro works with teenage girls, helping them to realise their potential in life and achieve success by engaging effectively and confidently. Funding has been requested for salaries, volunteer expenses and venue hire, which we unfortunately are not able to fund through the scheme, it is recommended that the application is declined.

**Ladyhawks Netball Club –****Project Cost £10,614****Requested £1,000****Awarded £1,000**

Ladyhawks Netball Club wants to develop a 2 year mentoring programme with the aim of providing coaching and umpiring training to 20 volunteers over a 2 year period. This is a well thought out project with good long term aims. The club are contributing to the project themselves and have other contributions. It is recommended that they are awarded £1,000 and that the monitoring period is extended from 6 months to 2 years, for the duration of the project.

**Lions Youth Brass –****Project Cost £5,687****Requested £1,000****Awarded £500**

Lions Youth Brass require funding to record and produce a CD to give the band an overall goal, advertise and increase awareness of the band and to raise income for the band through sales. Funding is required towards a guest conductor and towards the actual production of the CD. The group are contributing to the project themselves and have applied to other grant sources. It is recommended that they are awarded £500.

**Nantwich Concert Band –****Project Cost £965****Requested £965****Declined**

Nantwich Concert Band requires funding for new fleeces following the rebranding of the band and for outside concerts. The fleeces won't affect the ability of the group to perform and continue and will not generate wider community activity. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Nantwich Town Crier Community Group –****Project Cost £3,600****Requested £860****Awarded £720**

Nantwich Town Crier Community Group is holding a Town Crier Competition that is well attended by the local community. Funding is required towards the hire of staging and seating, a gazebo and towards the printing of the programme. Project costs also include lunch, which cannot be funded by the scheme. The organisation has contributions from elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £720.

**Projects 4 Poynton –****Project Cost £5,396****Requested £1,000****Declined**

Projects for Poynton are applying for funding towards their annual Christmas event; funds are required for street entertainers, fireworks, stage hire etc. Projects 4 Poynton are operating under the constitution and bank account of Poynton Parish Plan Implementation Group, which still have a project ongoing that has received community grant funding. It is recommended that the application is declined.

**Shapla –****Project Cost £4,414****Not specified amount requested****Declined**

Shapla is applying for funding for room and swimming pool hire and for the costs of weekly instructors. The costs included on the form are annual costs. The scheme is unable to fund room/facility hire or running costs. It is recommended that the application is declined.

**Tatton Singers –****Project Cost £3,910****Requested £250****Declined**

Tatton singers are requesting funding for soloists and an orchestra for their concert in November. Tatton singers were awarded a grant for the same purposes in 2013 and as we cannot award repeat funding, it is recommended that the application is declined and that they apply again for different purposes in the next round.

**Facilities:****Bunbury Jubilee Playing Fields Committee –****Project Cost £6,770****Requested £5,000****Awarded £3,500**

Bunbury Jubilee Playing Fields Committee is requesting funding to refurbish the pavilion kitchen which is worn out and in need of repair. Costs include plastering, painting and decorating and electrical work. The organisation is contributing themselves and a contribution from the parish council. It is recommended that they are awarded £3,500 and seek additional support from other funding sources.

**Bunbury Watermill Trust –****Project Cost £3,250****Requested £3,250****Awarded £2,000**

Bunbury Watermill Trust is requesting funding for new furniture for the visitor centre as current furniture is old and has become shabby. The trust has recently received a large grant from WREN towards the costs of re-pointing the Mill brickwork and they have also been fundraising towards other elements of refurbishment. It is recommended that they are awarded £2,000.

**Christ Church, Crewe –****Project Cost £84,087****Requested £5,000****Awarded £5,000**

Christ Church in Crewe is starting a large project to improve the community facilities within the church since the purchase of the Parish Hall by Cheshire East, which meant that such facilities were lost. The Church has also applied to the Giveback fund for larger elements of the project but is applying for funding from the community grant scheme to help with the purchase of a barista machine, furnishings and fittings, a fridge and projector. The Church is making a large contribution themselves and is actively applying to other funding sources. It is recommended that they are awarded £5,000 on the condition of clarification of their bank details.

**Congleton Town Football Club –****Project Cost £9,500****Requested £3,500****Awarded £3,250**

Congleton Town Football Club requires funding towards a major refurbishment of their floodlights. They are contributing towards the project themselves and have other funding. It is recommended that they are awarded £3,250.

**Eaton with Hulme Walfield PCC Hall Committee –****Project Cost £97,100****Requested £5,000****Awarded £5,000**

Eaton with Hulme Walfield PCC Hall Committee requires funding to carry out urgent repairs and improvements to Eaton Church Hall to increase community activity in the hall. This is a large project with applications being made to WREN, CCF and the Giveback scheme. It is recommended that they are awarded £5,000.

**Just Drop-In –****Project Cost £7,100****Requested £3,950****Awarded £3,950**

Just Drop-In requires funding to redecorate and refurbish their ground floor, to make the area more fit for purpose and more appealing to the young people coming in to access services. The group are contributing themselves and have other contributions. It is recommended that they are awarded £3,950 and are encouraged to extend their lease beyond 2016.

**Kettleshulme Entertainment Committee –****Project Cost £5,150****Requested £4,150****Awarded £2,000**

Kettleshulme Entertainment Committee has recently spent a large amount of money on new double glazed window units at the village hall. Funding is now required for replacement curtains to fit around the new windows and for a replacement stage curtain which is many years old. The group are contributing to the costs of the curtains themselves and have little reserves. It is recommended that they are awarded £2,000 and seek support from other sources.

**Knustford Football Club –****Project Cost £9,906****Requested £9,906****Awarded £2,500**

Knustford Football Club require funding for portagoal nets and a cylinder mower to allow them to run sessions that offers football and coaching development to less advantaged youths within the area. The club are making a contribution and have sponsorship but they have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £2,500 and that they apply to other funding sources including the Town Council and Sport England.

**Lindow Cricket Club –****Project Cost £50,000****Requested £5,000****Awarded £4,000**

Lindow Cricket Club requires funding for the provision of a three-lane outdoor artificial-turf cricket net facility. This would reduce the amount of cricket sessions being cancelled due to adverse weather and the risk of damaging the turf. The club then hope to make the outfield available for other community activities. This is a large project; the club are contributing themselves and have applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £4,000.

**Macclesfield and District Canoe Club –****Project Cost £14,000****Requested £5,000****Declined**

Macclesfield and District Canoe Club are part of a large project developing a new facility in Hurdsfield, Macclesfield. A large application has also been received from the Sea Cadets via the Giveback fund which has been put forward for approval. We are unable to fund the same project multiple times. It is recommended that the application is declined and that we work closely with the groups during the progression of the project. Once the building is complete, we will be able to accept further applications to support with equipment costs.

**Nantwich Lawn Tennis Club –****Project Cost £26,667****Requested £5,000****Awarded £3,250**

Nantwich Lawn Tennis Club requires funding for new floodlights which will upgrade the courts to LTA standards, allow safe, all year round play and attract new members. The club are making a large contribution for the project and have applied to the Town Council. It is recommended that they are awarded £3,250 and also seek support from other funding sources.

**Oakhanger Methodist Church –****Project Cost £250,000      Requested £5,000      Awarded £5,000**

Oakhanger Methodist Church is undertaking a large project to create a new multi-purpose building to improve the services to the local community. A new annex will be built to house toilets and replace the current outdoor toilets and the existing hall will be extended. The Church is making a large contribution to the project, as well as submitting many funding applications to other sources. It is recommended that they are awarded £5,000 subject to securing funding for the remainder of the project.

**Peckforton & Beeston Village Hall –****Project Cost £5,088      Requested £5,000      Awarded £3,500**

Peckforton & Beeston Village Hall require funding to improve access to the hall for disabled residents. The steps have now become hazardous and groups are starting to use alternative facilities. The group are making a small contribution themselves, despite recently using a lot of reserves to refurbish the kitchen facilities. It is recommended that they are awarded £3,500 and seek additional support from other sources.

**Poynton Youth and Community Centre –****Project Cost £5,300      Requested £4,300      Awarded £3,500**

Poynton Youth and Community Centre is applying for funding to repair the flat roof, which is leaking, causing damage and preventing use of certain areas in the building. The group are contributing themselves but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £3,500 and seek assistance from the town council.

**Ruby's Fund –****Project Cost £16,395      Requested £5,000      Awarded £5,000**

Ruby's fund require funding for the renovation of an upstairs room into a sibling/carer room to allow recreational opportunities for siblings and young carers while their family members access the centre. The organisation is contributing to the project and has other contributions. It is recommended that they are awarded £5,000.

**St Peter's Church, Congleton –****Project Cost £10,200      Requested £5,000      Declined**

St Peter's Church, Congleton require funding to carry out urgent window repairs. A bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund will be made for the restoration of all 26 cast iron windows, however, funding is required to trial the repairs of one window to see if the conservators method is suitable and cost effective before proceeding with the work on all windows. The restoration will not benefit the wider community or generate more community activity. It is recommended that the application is declined.

**St Peter's Church, Macclesfield –****Project Cost £7,000      Requested £5,000      Awarded £3,500**

St Peter's Church in Macclesfield wishes to make use of the land around the church for community purposes and wants to develop community gardens. Funding is required for a small prefabricated store, materials, raised beds, seeds etc and publicity. The Church is contributing towards the project but has not applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £3,500 and seek support from other funding sources.



**Ucan.tv –****Project Cost £10,497****Requested £4,916****Deferred**

Ucan.tv is creating a digital audio and video production suite in partnership with Ohana Music. It is aimed that the suite will be used for a large range of purposes including creating music, film, presentations and community events. The technologies in the suite are not usually easily accessible to the community. The organisation is contributing to the project and has secured preferential prices on some equipment. It is recommended that the application is deferred and that more information is requested on the actual number of people that will be using and benefitting from the facility.

**Wild Rumpus CIC –****Project Cost £9,150****Requested £4,100****Awarded £4,100**

Wild Rumpus would like to establish an outdoor theatre space to allow the organisation to programme theatre events outdoors throughout the spring/summer and autumn, instead of just for one festival per year. This will increase the amount of theatrical productions which come to Cheshire, and attract new audiences. The organisation is contributing to the project and has contributions from elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £4,100.

**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 2014/15

**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 2014/15. 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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