

PAPER NO. 1

**REPORT TO THE CABINET SUB –COMMITTEE GRANTS
MEETING OF 26th JANUARY 2022**

Meeting: Cabinet Sub-Committee Grants
Date: Wednesday 26th January 2022
Subject: Community Grant Allocations
Report of: Alison McDaid – Parish Liaison Officer
Sarah Pickering - Community Safety Manager
Portfolio Holder: Councillor Simon Whelband, Wellbeing and Localities
Status: For Decision

1 Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to submit the recommendations on funding allocations for the Community Grant Fund for 2021/22 for decision.

2 Recommendations:

2.1 **To approve the Community Grants as recommended in Appendix A.**

3 Summary of Reasons for the Recommendations

3.1 All 15 Community Grant Applications have been through a rigorous scoring process linked to the Grant Criteria as well as financial checks on the organisations.

3.2 A ranking system has been used to guide recommendations.

4 Key Facts

4.1 For the year 2021 to 2022, Harborough District Council has allocated £40,000 of its New Homes Bonus money and £3,000 from the Harborough Lotto to community grants and initiatives.

4.2 The Community Grant Fund criteria and guidance notes were reviewed for this year and remain open to all Parishes, and voluntary and community groups. A copy of guidance notes can be found at Appendix B.

4.3 This year we are under-subscribed from applicants with bids totalling £28,792.45

- 4.4 The key terms and conditions of the community grant fund include that;
- Grant limit: up to £2,500.00
 - Match funding no less than 25% in addition to the amount requested from the community grant.
 - No restrictions apply to groups that have successfully applied for the community grant previously. Each project will be assessed on its merits.
 - Funding can support project overheads, salaries, equipment and capital costs but is limited to £2,500.00
 - Funding can go towards expanding existing projects or new projects.
 - An up-to-date Safeguarding Policy must be held by the organisation and submitted upon request.
 - Safeguarding and Equality not to be scored but required if relevant to project.
 - Projects that can demonstrate sustainability will be given extra weight in the scoring process.
 - Projects would ideally be delivered within 12 months, 24 months maximum.
 - The Council reserves the right to refuse applications.

4.5 The closing date for applications was Friday 26 November 2021 at 5pm and a total of 15 applications were received.

- 001 Great Easton Village Hall
- 002 The Well
- 003 Claybrooke Parva Parish Council
- 004 The Coplow Centre
- 005 1st Fleckney Scouts
- 006 Market Harborough Lawn Tennis Club
- 007 Houghton Field Association
- 008 Broughton Astley PC
- 009 Market Harborough Rugby Union FC
- 010 Glooston Village Hall
- 011 Arnesby Primary School
- 012 Spirit at Play
- 013 Burton Overy Parish Council
- 014 Learning South Leicestershire School Sports Partnership
- 015 Learning South Leicestershire School Sports Partnership

4.6 The 15 applications were scored against the criteria, terms and conditions and then ranked by their score and a cut off point found for funds available. This table can be found at **Appendix C**.

5 Legal Issues

5.1 The Community Grant fund is funded from the New Homes Bonus Locality Reserve. This is not ring-fenced money and it is for the Council to decide how this is utilised.

6 Resource Issues

- 6.1 The resources to deliver the Community Grants process are met within existing resources.
- 7 Equality Impact Assessment Implications/Outcomes
- 7.1 Equality is addressed within the application criteria, terms and conditions.
- 7.2 The Application form and guidance notes are designed to be user friendly and have been agreed in consultation with the Councils Equalities Officer.
- 7.3 The process is communicated widely to all who could potentially gain from these grants. There is a communication plan for the Community Grants fund.
- 7.4 Applicants are required to demonstrate that their projects are accessible to all and would not have a detrimental impact on any of the groups of protected characteristics.
- 8 Impact on the Organisation
- 8.1 There should be a positive impact on the organisation as Harborough District Council are providing financial assistance as a result of development to projects that will benefit our local communities.
9. Risk Management Implications
- 9.1 All successful applications will be bound by Terms and Conditions that aim to minimise risk and promote best value. In addition, applicants must demonstrate as part of their application that their organisation has the appropriate governance arrangements and skill sets to carry out the named project. The Sub Committee Panel also consider financial risk, with higher priority to applicants who submit evidence of a full funding package. The application form includes a checklist.
- 10 Consultation
- 10.1 Applicants are required to demonstrate that consultation with their local community has taken place and that the community are supportive of their proposals.
- 11 Background Papers
- 11.1 15 Community Grant Application Forms and supporting documents
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Previous report(s): -

Information Issued Under Sensitive Issue Procedure: N

Ward Members Notified: Yes

Appendices:

A Community Grant Summaries and Recommendations

B Criteria and Guidance Notes

C Application Ranking