

Community Fund Grant Applications

Summary:

To consider grant applications to the Council's Community Fund Grant Scheme received by 31st December 2014.

Portfolio: Cllr Charlotte Morley (Corporate)

Date Signed Off: 8 February 2015

Wards Affected: All

Recommendation

The Executive is asked to consider awarding a grant to the applicants from the Council's Community Fund Grant Scheme.

1. Resource Implications

- 1.1 The Council has its own Community Grant Fund from which it provides grants of up to £25,000 to assist local 'not for profit organisations' with the delivery of community projects. Total project costs of up to £2,000 can claim 75% funding and total project costs over £2,001 can claim up to 50% funding from the scheme.
- 1.2 At the Executive meeting on 4 December 2012, Members agreed two new deadlines for submissions. The submission dates are 30 June and the 31 December each year. This report includes the applications received before 31 December 2014.
- 1.3 Three applications that fulfil the criteria have been made to the Community Fund Grant Scheme in this round. An analysis of each of the bids is included in Annex A.
- 1.4 The amounts requested total £22,966. Officers are recommending a total spend of £22,966 at this meeting. No payments are made until after evidence is submitted that the work is completed. Summary details of each bid are included in Annex B.

2. Additional Information

- 2.1 To qualify for a grant from the Community Grant Fund, applications must meet the Council's objectives from our 2020 Strategy and must demonstrate benefit to the local community. All awards are made at the discretion of the Executive. Each of the applicants is a not for profit organisation. Each project recommended for a grant has been well planned with a sound financial basis. The supported projects all provide local community benefit.

2.2 The Member Panel met on 27 January 2015 and discounted four bids that did not meet the criteria as set out in Annex C. Feedback was given to each applicant as to why. Reasons why these were not valid usually include not meeting the 2020 Strategy objectives, lack of a sound business case or lack of supporting information.

2.3 Information on the Community Fund Grant scheme is provided on the Council's website and occasionally articles are published in the Council's Heathscene magazine promoting recent successful awards. The scheme is further promoted by Voluntary Support North Surrey to ensure greater involvement and wider representation from voluntary groups in the Borough.

2.4 All decisions on grant awards from the Fund rest with the Executive.

3. Options

3.1 The Executive has the option to;

- i. Fund the organisations in line with the proposed amount in Annex B;
- ii. Fund the organisations to a greater or lesser amount of their requested sum;
- iii. Not fund the organisations.

4. Proposals

4.1 It is proposed that the Executive agree the proposed awards set out in Annex B from the Community Fund Grant Scheme.

5. Corporate Objectives And Key Priorities

5.1 The funding of voluntary organisations allows the Council to meet its objectives to:

- Work in partnership with local organisations to provide support to the community and diverse open space and recreation facilities.
- Understanding and supporting local voluntary groups.
- Significantly contribute to civic pride through the provision of events and green spaces.
- Work in partnership with the voluntary and third sector to extend opportunities in the Borough.
- Encouraging greater involvement from local clubs and organisations including volunteering.

6. Equalities Impact

6.1 The Community Grant Fund has been equality impact assessed.

Annexes	Annex A – Summary of Bids Annex B – Proposed Grant Awards Annex C – Discounted Applications
Background Papers	Application Forms
Author/Contact Details	Sarah Groom, Transformation Team Manager sarah.groom@surreyheath.gov.uk
Service Manager	Richard Payne, Executive Head of Transformation

Consultations, Implications and Issues Addressed

Resources	Required	Consulted
Revenue	N/A	
Capital	✓	✓
Human Resources	N/A	
Asset Management	N/A	
IT	N/A	

Other Issues	Required	Consulted
Corporate Objectives & Key Priorities	✓	✓
Policy Framework		
Legal		
Governance		
Sustainability		
Risk Management		
Equalities Impact Assessment		
Community Safety		
Human Rights		
Consultation		
P R & Marketing	✓	✓

Review Date:

Version:

ANNEX A – Summary of Bids

Applicant: Camberley Cricket Club

Project: To demolish old grounds man's shed, and replace with a new secure garage for the ground maintenance equipment.

Grant requested: £5,866

Project cost: £11,732

Report:

Camberley Cricket Club has operated since 1944, and is an established facility in Upper Verran Road, Camberley. The club has around 800 users per year, with the vast majority residing within the Surrey Heath area. The grounds man's shed provides storage to some costly maintenance equipment but is now dilapidated with a leaky roof and a broken door.

Other community groups use the facilities regularly which include rotary, U3A, yoga and bridge clubs.

Recommendation: Offer a grant of £5,866.

Applicant: Frimley Green Village Hall

Project: To replace the dilapidated external storage unit and provide external disabled access.

Grant requested: £6,600

Project cost: £13,200

Report:

The hall in Frimley Green opened in 1897, and provides a base from which many local organisations deliver a wide range of local activities ranging from the nursery unit, judo, karate, U3A, women's guilds, Indian dancing, yoga etc. that exceed 300 users per week.

The application will enable the external storage area to be replaced which has been in situ since the 1940's, it will also enable external disabled access to be provided, and an area of hard standing to be used as an additional play space or in the case of an emergency, a fire assembly point. The grant will be subject to the planning permission applied for being approved. The works are scheduled to take place during the summer holidays in 2015.

Recommendation: Offer a grant of £6,600.

Applicant: Parity for Disability

Project: To purchase furnishings and equipment for the new centre opening in Mytchett.

Grant requested: £10,500

Project cost: £21,000

Report:

Parity for Disability has been providing services and support for people with profound and multiple disabilities since 1991, and has had a presence in Camberley and surrounding areas for the past 25 years.

The people who use Parity are aged 18 and over and can access all kinds of academic, social, living and recreational activities at the centre together with a wide range of therapies, including speech and physiotherapy. Parity has four mini-buses which are used to transport the clients and to provide days out for this high need group.

Over 20 people from the local area have been on Parity's waiting list for service plans and in January 2014 the search began for a new centre to fulfil the local need. The new centre will be at 23 Salisbury Grove, Mytchett.

The equipment required is a list of items for the kitchen ranging from fridge freezers, hob, oven, kettles etc. to equipment such as a hoist, pillows, slings etc., with a total list costing £21,000.

Recommendation: Offer a grant of £10,500.

ANNEX B – Proposed Grant Awards

Organisation	Project Details	Full Project Cost	Amount Requested	Amount Proposed
Camberley Cricket Club	Groundsman's garage	11,732	5,866	5,866
Frimley Green Village Hall	External storage and disabled access	13,200	6,600	6,600
Parity for Disability	Equipment for new centre at Mytchett	21,000	10,500	10,500
TOTAL			22,966	22,966

ANNEX C – Discounted Applications

Applicant	Project	Amount Requested	Reason for Rejection
Camberley Central Job Club	Delivery of training for post 18 age group	£1,850	Project details incomplete and no estimates. Unclear as to the scope. (Ongoing tutor fee and running costs are not funded through this scheme.) Economic Development Officer working closely with the Club to develop partnership working.
Holy Trinity Church – West End	Improve vestry, access, storage and new boiler room	£8,000	Lack of a wider community benefit beyond the church family of patrons. 1 st Estimate provided 2 nd estimate incomplete. Church has £30,000 in reserves so can meet the 50% not funded by SHBC.
Deaf Plus	Purchase of replacement information bus to cover South of England	£25,000	Incomplete estimates. £25,000 represents almost 50% of the cost of the vehicle yet it is being used across a wide area of Hants, Surrey and Somerset. Only 1.4% of users came from SHBC.
R-U-Able	New Cycling pilot for adults with learning disabilities.	£7,563	Application incomplete. Total funding for project £15,126 so will require additional funding to make it work, not yet secured. Funding requested to purchase storage container and adapted cycles. No long term plans. Sports Development Officer to support project via other means.