

**Surrey Heath Borough Council**  
**Executive**  
**20<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

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**Community Fund Grant Scheme**

<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	<b>Support &amp; Safeguarding –</b> Cllr Sarah Jane Croke
<b>Strategic Director/Head of Service</b>	<b>Louise Livingston</b> – Head of HR, Performance & Communications
<b>Report Author:</b>	<b>Jayne Boitout</b> – Community Partnership Officer
<b>PH Sign off:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All</b>

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**Summary and purpose**

To consider grant applications to the Council's Community Fund Grant Scheme received by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**Recommendation**

The Executive is advised to RESOLVE that

- (i) Up to £5,500 be awarded to Frimley Cricket Club to support the purchase of the new roller for the cricket green;
- (ii) Up to £3,400 be awarded to The Eikon Charity to support the Surrey Heath Youth Council costs with hall hire and project costs for the next year; and
- (iii) Up to £6,050 to be awarded to Chobham Recreational Ground Charitable Trust to undertake safety repairs to 5 play areas at the recreation ground in Station Road Chobham.

**1. Background and Supporting Information**

- 1.1 Full details and Information on the Community Fund Grant scheme is provided on the Council's website and articles are regularly published in the Council's Heath scene magazine promoting recent successful awards.
- 1.2 This scheme 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 attract 75% funding and total project costs over £2,001 can attract up to 50% funding from the scheme.

- 1.3 The total amount requested from the three applications totals £24,050. However, it is recommended a total spend of £14,950 is awarded from an existing reserve of £75,772. No payments are made until after evidence is submitted that the work is completed.

## **2. Frimley Cricket Club**

- 2.1 The club was established in 1820 and is a not for profit, constituted club located in Chobham Road, Frimley. It is club mark accredited, an ECB Focus Club, plus an all stars (for 5–8-year-olds) cricket centre. The present membership is around 180 with 80% from Surrey Heath, there are male and female adult and junior teams, and the site is used by Tomlinscote School for training purposes on a Tuesday evening and The Grove school on a Monday evening during term time.
- 2.2 The club are seeking assistance in replacing their 60-year-old roller that is not working, all parts are obsolete with any repairs possible are achieved through hacking parts together. An unverified replacement cost is estimated at £11,000 and the club are seeking up to £5,500 from the Councils Community Fund grant scheme to enable its replacement to be purchased. The remaining 50% of the costs are to be contributed by the club. As yet no further applications have been made to alternative funding sources. With the current roller being out of order the cricket square will diminish and impact all club and community users. The ECB suggest that a new modern roller will see an 15-25% improvement with the square and improved experience for the 1800 cricketers who use the site each season.
- 2.3 The club signed a 20-year lease with the Council from 1st September 2015 with the annual rent of £4,500 being reduced to £700 from the community benefits and access provided.
- 2.4 The club have recently invested in improved security measures, from a spate of burglaries, which include re-enforced doors, steel roller shutters and CCTV which have used some of the reserves, which are now insufficient for the club to be able to purchase the roller without the help of a grant award.
- 2.5 Any award would be subject to obtaining two quotations for a comparable roller and that further funding bid applications are sought to assist with this cost.

## **3. The Eikon Charity**

- 3.1 Eikon is a charitable company with a recorded expenditure on 31st March 2021 of £2,001,891 and an income of £2,495,792, of this £1,243,289 is from two government contracts and £65,278 from 1 government grant. There are forty-nine employees, 12 trustees, and 50 volunteers, with 1 employee who receives total benefits over £60,000.
- 3.2 The history of Eikon includes the merging of Windle Valley Youth Project in 2016, the Life train Trust in 2019 and the Raymond Coleman Charitable trust

in 2021. Eikon's office is in Addlestone, but the activities of the charity are countywide.

- 3.3 Eikon has supported the young people in Surrey Heath with their Youth Council for several years (a legacy from the Windle Valley Youth Project). This project enables change decided by and for young people in this local area and brings their views and opinions to the Council. The Youth Council has been operational for the past 10 years, and during term time, and when the young people are not home schooled, they meet weekly at St Martins Church in Camberley. There are presently 15 members aged between 11 and 18, with an ambition to increase this to 25 over the next year.
- 3.4 The project is designed to continue with the achievement and impact over the last 9 months, the ideas form, and galvanise from discussions and debates when the members meet weekly and then they each spend within their respective schools engaging the school population. Examples of this are: Cycling Safety project which sought to consult and hear views on how to improve safety, this generated 320 responses, which were submitted to the Active Travel Council members and Highways planning officers. The youth councillors were also consulted on their views connected to a skate park, where 90 social media accounts were reached. Over the next year, the group hope to go on a residential trip, no further details are available at present.
- 3.5 This project is designed to provide support from Eikon in meeting their costs which are £26,551 for one year, of which just under £20,000 is attributed to staff, training and on costs the venue hire, and project activities total £6,800 and the application seeks a contribution of £12,500. Historically funding for this project has been provided by the Community Foundation for Surrey who have contributed £5,000 in 2019, and 2021 and £1000 from the Youth Majors Project in 2022, the gaps have been filled with the use of Eikon's unrestricted reserves. In 2021, the charity overview showed that £493,900 was retained for future use.
- 3.6 The community fund grant scheme criteria are designed to assist with the one-off costs, and this project has operated for the past 10 years and hopes to continue, the staffing costs would generally fall outside of the scope of this grant criteria. It is suggested that this grant could support with the venue hire costs and project activities which are costed at £6,800 for the year from which a 50% contribution could award a grant of £3,400 to enable the charity to continue to support the Youth Council in Surrey Heath.

#### **4. Chobham Recreation Ground Charitable Trust**

- 4.1 The recreation ground playing fields, the children's playground and the memorial garden are looked after on behalf of Chobham village by a charity, the Chobham Recreation Ground Charitable Trust, with the only trustee being Chobham Parish Council this was established in 1920.

- 4.2 The trust's income for the year ending 31/03/21 was £37,908 of which £21,513 from Chobham Parish Council and an SHBC (Government Business) grant of £10,808, from the impact of closures due to Covid.
- 4.3 The bid to this fund is focussed upon the replacement of the safety surfaces of many pieces of equipment in the children's playground, specifically the five areas of wet pour under two sets of swings, a rocker, springer, and roundabout an area of rubber mulch under a galleon climbing frame, and an area of grass mattering under a large nest swing, the recreation ground location is accessible to all.
- 4.4 The estimated cost provided to undertake the works is £12,158 and an application for funding has been received for £6,050. The applicant has confirmed that further applications will be made for funding, and that the remainder of the funds will be contributed by either the trust or via a grant from Chobham Parish Council.

## **5. Reasons for Recommendation**

### Frimley Cricket Club

- 5.1 A suggestion of £5,500 has been made in relation to this application, which is reflective of the local benefits provided in and around the Frimley community, and the reduced reserves due to the recent improved security measures.

### The Eikon Charity

- 5.2 A suggestion of £3,400 is made in relation to this application which has carefully considered the benefits to the community, and in particular young people, however the numbers are extremely low at present at 15, this with the charity overview that £493,900 was retained for future use. A condition of this award is that future projects are wherever possible linked to Council priorities to enable improved collaboration and greater partnership opportunities.

### Chobham Recreation Ground Charitable Trust

- 5.3 A suggestion of £6,050 in connection to this grant application, the award is offered at this level due to the benefits provided to the community of Chobham and surrounding areas, and conditional that the applicant introduces a policy that manages, plans and budgets accordingly for future maintenance works of this nature.

## **6. Proposal and Alternative Options**

- 6.1 The Executive has the option to:
- i) Fund the organisations in line with the recommendations.
  - ii) Fund the organisations applications at a greater or lesser percentage of their requested sums.

- iii) Not fund any of the organisations.

## **7. Contribution to the Council's Five-Year Strategy**

### **7.1 Health and Quality of Life:**

- 7.1.1 The health and quality of life of all the Borough's residents is very much at the core of the services that the Council provides to its residents understanding that having a warm, safe and secure home, and a healthy, attractive environment which is key for improving health outcomes and our residents' quality of life.
- 7.1.2 The Council wants to ensure communities have the infrastructure and accessibility to meet the needs of a changing and growing population. Supporting the development of attractive, sustainable and vibrant communities for people to live, work and enjoy. We will also take a positive approach to supporting those who are most vulnerable.
- 7.1.3 To nurture the strong sense of community across the whole borough, fostering a sense of respect and consideration. We aim to ensure everyone can access a safe, quality home to meet their needs.
- 7.1.4 We will take a positive approach to supporting all sectors of our community, including those who are most vulnerable. We will promote active and healthy lives for all and a rich programme of cultural and community events.

## **8. Resource Implications**

- 8.1 The Council funds a voluntary organisation which either work in partnership with the Council or can perform functions on the Council's behalf.

## **9. Section 151 Officer Comments:**

- 9.1 None

## **10. Legal and Governance Issues**

- 10.1 No matters arising.

## **11. Monitoring Officer Comments:**

- 11.1 All Community Fund Grant awards are subject to a standard offer conditions letter with confirmation being required prior to payment.

## **12. Other Considerations and Impacts**

### **Environment and Climate Change**

- 12.1 No matters arising.

## **Equalities and Human Rights**

12.2 No matters arising

## **Risk Management**

12.3 No matters arising.

## **Community Engagement**

12.4 No matters arising.

**Annexes** none

**Background Papers:** Applications.