



PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE

INDIVIDUAL DECISION BY THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR COMMUNITIES AND SAFETY

TOPIC – COMMUNITY CHEST GRANTS JULY 2008

PROCEDURAL INFORMATION

The Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 4, Section 22 of the Council's Constitution provides for a decision to be made by an individual member of Cabinet.

In accordance with the Procedure Rules, the Corporate Director (Governance), the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance are consulted together with Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Principal Scrutiny Committee and all Members of the relevant Scrutiny Panel (individual Ward Members are consulted separately where appropriate). In addition, all Members are notified.

Five or more of these consulted Members can require that the matter be referred to Cabinet for determination.

Contact Officers:

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Committee Administrator:

Colin Veal, Tel: 01962 848 438, Email: cveal@winchester.gov.uk

SUMMARY

The allocation of grants from the Small Grants Funding scheme which includes Biodiversity, Carbon Reduction, Community Chest, Community Planning, and Twinning, from the approved budget.

DECISION

Deferred Decision - Grant Variation Request

A Community Chest grant of £250 was awarded to "Friends of the Family" in April, 2008, towards the purchase of a laptop computer for their newly set up family befriending service to support vulnerable families with children aged 5-13 years. However this group has since received a donated laptop and therefore have requested that they be permitted to spend the grant on other office equipment related to this project. The list includes two items of equipment, an office chair (£50) and a laminator (£50). They have requested to spend the remaining grant on paper, ink and files (£150).

It is recommended that this group has their grant award reduced to £100 which will enable them to purchase the office chair and the laminator. It was considered that the remaining items on the list are general office costs and should be met by the group.

New Applications:

It is recommended that the following grants be awarded from the **Biodiversity Scheme**:

1. Littleton & Harestock Parish Council

Amount Requested: £500

Amount Awarded: £250

Funding recommended towards the cost of planting spring flowers, principally daffodils in public spaces and along the main road, in roadside banks and verges to improve the local environment and character of Littleton village. A full grant was not awarded as it was not a strong fit with this theme and the group has sufficient funds to meet the remaining costs themselves.

2. Wickham Community Association

Amount Requested: £500

Amount Awarded: £500

Funding recommended towards the cost of improving the boundary hedge between the Community Centre and Garnier Park housing estate. This includes clearing out the hedge, improving the trees and replanting with indigenous species which will be laid as a hedge and will be attractive both to residents and encourage wildlife.

It is recommended that the following grants be awarded from the **Community Chest scheme** (please note that, due to the number of applications received and the total amount of grant requested, not all groups have been awarded the full amount requested):

1. Alresford Methodist Church

Amount Requested: £500

Amount Awarded: £300

Funding recommended towards the cost of installing a commercial quality dishwasher in the Church Hall which is well used by many local community groups. A full grant was not awarded as the group has sufficient funds to meet the remaining costs themselves.

2. Cornershop

Amount Requested: £500

Amount Awarded: £500

Funding recommended towards the cost of collaboration with “Encounters”, an arts initiative which will work with students from the University of Winchester, in order to provide a 3 week engagement with local Winchester residents. The project will be based in the town centre and will lead to future projects with residents to collect stories on their lives and how they came to be living in Winchester.

3. Friends of King Alfred Buses

Amount Requested: £500

Amount Awarded: £400

Funding recommended towards the cost of purchasing specialist equipment to restore a rare Leyland Olympic bus dating from 1950. Due to the number of applications received and the total amount of grant requested in this round this group was not awarded the full amount requested

4. Kinderkiste

Amount Requested: £500

Amount Awarded: £400

Funding recommended towards the cost of establishing this group which supports German speaking families in the Winchester area, and to facilitate the integration of newly arrived German speaking families into everyday life in England. Due to the number of applications received and the total amount of grant requested in this round this group was not awarded the full amount requested

5. Priory Gardens Music Group

Amount Requested: £500

Amount Awarded: £500

Funding recommended towards the cost of purchasing music equipment for this newly formed group which aims to provide facilities to support and encourage communication, expression and participation through music, for people suffering from mental health problems and/or bereavement within the Winchester area.

6. Seniors Holiday Club

Amount Requested: £500

Amount Awarded: £400

Funding recommended towards the cost of supporting this newly formed group which aims to provide a “Holiday at Home” for local residents who are elderly, housebound, isolated or lonely. Due to the number of applications received and the total amount of grant requested in this round this group was not awarded the full amount requested

7. Winchester Archaeological Rescue Group**Amount Requested: £500****Amount Awarded: £400**

Funding recommended towards the cost of an investigation into the historic landscape of an area of land immediately to the south of the medieval buildings of St. Cross Hospital. This will offer the opportunity for up to 20 volunteers to take part at any one time over a 16 day period in early August. Funding is specifically recommended towards the provision of safety fencing (£400) to enable the public to have better access to the site.

It is recommended that the following grants be awarded from the **Community Planning Scheme**:

1. Stanmore Community Plan Steering Group**Amount Requested: £500****Amount Awarded: £500**

Funding recommended towards the cost of consultation events in order to engage with the local residents so that information can be gathered on issues that are of concern to them.

2. Winnall Community Plan Steering Group**Amount Requested: £451****Amount Awarded: £451**

Funding recommended towards consultation events with local residents in order to address issues that have emerged from the recent Love It/Hate It survey.

It is recommended that the following grants be awarded from the **Twinning Scheme**:

1. Winchester Giessen Anglo German Society**Amount Requested: £472****Amount Awarded: £472**

Funding recommended towards the cost of participation in a twinning event being held in Giessen to celebrate 20 years of twinning between Godollo (Hungary) and Giessen. Winchester residents have been invited to this event and funding will enable a larger number of participants to take part in this celebration.

**REASON FOR THE DECISION AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS
CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

Grants from the Community Chest scheme are made four times per year. All applications for grants were considered by the relevant Portfolio Holder who received

advice from the Partnership and External Funding Officer and other relevant officers as appropriate. The following applications were not approved:

The Dever Society requested £500 towards the cost of designing and developing a new section for their web site which is specifically aimed at young people. The decision on this application was deferred in the previous round to allow the group to explain the high level of reserves they appear to hold. The group did not respond to this request.

Southampton Musical Society requested £500 towards the cost of hiring scenery for a production of "Me and My Girl" at the Theatre Royal, Winchester. Grant was refused as it is not entirely clear how this project will specifically benefit residents of the Winchester District.

**FURTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED
FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE DRAFT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION
NOTICE**

N/A

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY THE DECISION MAKER OR A MEMBER OR
OFFICER CONSULTED**

The Portfolio Holder for Heritage, Culture and Sport declared a Personal (and Prejudicial) interest in the Winchester Archaeological Rescue Group.

DISPENSATION GRANTED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

N/A

Approved by: (signature)

Date of Decision

**Councillor John Cooper – Portfolio Holder for Communities and Safety
Signed 4 August 2008**