



## PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE

### INDIVIDUAL DECISION BY THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ECONOMY AND ESTATES

#### TOPIC - COMMUNITY PROJECT GRANTS 2016/17

#### 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 Head of Legal and Democratic Services, the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance are consulted together with Chairman and Vice Chairman of The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and any other relevant overview and scrutiny committee. In addition, all Members are notified.

If five or more Members from those informed so request, the Leader may require the matter to be referred to Cabinet for determination

#### Contact Officers:

**Case Officers:** Melissa Fletcher, Funding & Development Officer, Tel: 01962 848 492 or email [mfletcher@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:mfletcher@winchester.gov.uk)

**Democratic Services Officer:** Nancy Graham, [ngraham@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:ngraham@winchester.gov.uk), Tel: 01962 848 235

#### SUMMARY

- The [Community Project Grants](#) programme provides funding of over £500 and above for charitable, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations in the District.
- The programme is intended to support the costs of one-off projects, specialised equipment, start ups and improvements, renovations or construction of facilities.
- A total budget of £71,000 was allocated for Small Grants and Project Grants, of which the Community Project Grants form part.,in 2016/17 within the overall Council budget (CAB2754 January 2016 refers)
- The first round of Small Grants 2016/17 accordance with the scheme of delegation awarded £10,615 in June 2016, which leaves a balance of £60,385.

- The total being allocated for Community Project Grants under this Decision Notice is £28,070.
- The Council has traditionally sought to provide support for as many of the eligible applications under this programme as possible.
- A total of 18 applications for project grants were received. One application is deemed ineligible and two requested £500 so they have been referred to the second round of the Small Grants Programme, with decisions due by the end of November 2016.
- In the interests of transparency, a scoring guidance sheet was published with the grants application information and criteria. An information sheet about the priorities of the Community Strategy was also produced and made available to applicants.
- In relation to the application by Live Theatre Winchester Trust for a bursary scheme, some further information is still required: Theatre Royal Winchester is working with Age UK Mid Hampshire to define a 'low income' measure. No payment would be made until this measure has been agreed.
- A reserve fund of £17,000 also exists, which can provide emergency funding for community organisations if required.
- Appendix 1 sets out the proposed grant allocations for the Project Grants Programme for 2016/17.

## **DECISION**

1. That the recommended non recurring or emergency grant awards to local voluntary and community organisations from the Community Project Grants Programme for 2016/17 be approved, as set out in Appendix 1.
2. The Assistant Director (Economy and Community) be authorised, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, *not* to make the recommended award, should officers determine that there are reasonable grounds not to do so, and to reallocate any such monies to the grants reserve against future emergency payments.

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

- The recommendations set out at Appendix 1 are made in accordance with the criteria for the Community Project Grants Programme.

- Organisations are asked to demonstrate where possible that their project or activity is linked to the delivery of one or more of the Winchester District Community Strategy priorities. These are:
  - PEOPLE Active Communities
  - PLACE High Quality Environment
  - PROSPERITY Prosperous Economy
- Officers applied the following principles in determining the recommended awards set out in Appendix 1:

*a) Previous applications*

In order to spread the benefits of the grants scheme as widely as possible, any organisation which received payments previously through the Active Project Grant programme is not entitled to funding in 2015/16.

*b) Community Strategy priority weightings*

Once the maximum grant has been determined as above, the final amount is then determined using the following percentages:

- |      |  |      |
|------|--|------|
| i.   | clearly supports three of the above priorities   | 100% |
| ii.  | clearly supports at least two of the above priorities  | 90%  |
| iii. | clearly supports one of the above priorities or supports wider outcome of Active Communities | 80%  |

Although working within the parameters above, other qualitative aspects of the bids will have been considered. These include:

- value for money (eg consideration of the estimated number of beneficiaries);
- the level of credibility of the bid in terms of the way it is structured, evidenced and costed;
- the distinctiveness and creativity of the project proposed.

If the applicant confirms that the awarding of a smaller grant than has been requested puts the project into question, officers will withdraw the funding allocation and direct it to the aforementioned grants reserve, for possible emergency payments. However, the confirmation of a relatively modest amount of funding by the Council can often help to secure other grants and contributions, so it is not always the case that a smaller grant than requested puts the project in jeopardy. Where it is needed, officers will work with the applicant to identify other sources of funding which may help to make the project viable in a future year, and will then invite a further application when it seems to be a more viable proposition.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

A total budget of £71,000 was allocated for Small Grants and Project Grants in 2016/17 within the overall Council budget ([CAB2754](#) January 2016 refers).

The proposed grant awards at Appendix 1 total £28,070 of this budget allocation.

**CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN ON THE DECISION**

The Portfolio Holder for Economy and Estates has reviewed the Community Project Grant applications and endorses the proposed grant awards. Further input has since been invited from relevant officers from within the Council and from the Corporate Management Team through the drafting of this Decision Notice. The Draft Notice is itself a consultation document, seeking Member feedback on any aspect of the Project Grants.

Officers are increasingly seeking to make the grants process as time-efficient and streamlined as possible, to the benefit of both the voluntary organisations that are applying. Consultation is deliberately restricted, with the objective of making rapid decisions based on published criteria and adopted priorities.

**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**

n/a

**DISPENSATION GRANTED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

n/a

Approved by: (signature)

Date of Decision: 01.12.16

Councillor Steve Miller – Portfolio Holder Economy and Estates

Appendix 1 - Recommended Awards under the Communities Project Grants Programme, 2016/2017

Name of organisation	Location	Project	Community Strategy Priorities	Total Project cost	Request ed	Grant recommended	Rationale for recommendation
Soberton Parish Council	Soberton	Soberton Parish Council want to implement a Speed Watch Scheme to educate drivers to drive at an appropriate speed to create a safe environment for residents. Soberton Parish Council deem this to be of great important for the rural environment.	Active communities	2780	1280	1025	Meets one priority = 80%
Integr8 Movement	Winchester Town	Integr8 Movement supports three strategic priorities through their work with young people. Integr8 Movement want to run a project engaging young people. The event will be a culmination of information provision and a social event for local young people. This is building on the previous pilot of beats and pieces held a couple of years ago.	Active communities & Prosperous Economy	2820	2115	1900	Meets two priorities = 90%
Winchester Radio	Winchester and District	Winchester Radio wishes to purchase a new automated music/programme playout and scheduling system to support the needs of the community radio station which is broadcasted from Winchester Hospital. There is a diverse range of individuals listening to the Winchester Radio station, with 10% of those individuals coming from two of the most deprived areas in Winchester. The aim of this new community licence is around health and wellbeing.	Active communities & Prosperous Economy	5114.12	3500	3150	Meets two priorities = 90%
Shedfield Parish Council	Shedfield, Shirrell Heath, Waltham Chase	The Shedfield Parish Council would like to purchase three defibrillators for the villages of 3 villages of Shedfield, Shirrell Heath and Waltham Chase, it is felt that the availability of a defibrillator in each of the 3 villages will be of great benefit to all parishioners and could possibly save lives. It has been noted that a defibrillator has already been part grant funded at the Waltham Chase Village Hall.	Active communities	4145.25	1000	800	Meets one priority = 80%
Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC)	Winchester Town - Stanmore	The project aims to increase the number of residents walking between Stanmore and Winchester Town. The purpose of the WinACC is to reduce the number of people making short journeys which creates both air pollution and gas emissions. The WinACC want to make small scale changes to foster the community to mutually be more environmentally concerned.	Active Communities, High quality environment, Prosperous Economy - education	2114	1585	1585	Meets three priorities = 100%
The Conservation Volunteers	Hursley	The Biodiversity Action Team will deliver a programme of 6 sessions at Pitt Down, near Hursley. Taking place during between November 2016 and end of February 2017 the programme will undertake the coppicing of secondary woodland that is establishing itself on the chalk grassland. The sessions will involve demonstrating how to use the tools and how to carry out the task; ensuring the safety of volunteers and members of the public, providing first aid and insurance for everyone taking part; ensure volunteers are learning and having a good time; and also providing refreshments.	Active Communities, High quality environment	2100	1450	1300	Meets two priorities = 90%
Waltham Chase Village Hall	Waltham Chase	The village hall would like to upgrade curtheir current gas cooker to an electric cooker so that it is safe to use for those who hire the village hall	Active communities	2000	1500	1200	Meets one priority = 80%
Winchester Live at Home Scheme	Winchester Town	The Winchester Live at Home Scheme provides emotional and practical support for elderly individuals going back home after being discharged from hospital. It aims to promote engagement and regaining independence for those who have begun or could feel isolated. The Live at Home Scheme supports vulnerable adults by establishing supportive collaborative relationships with there care givers when returning to their homes from a stay in hospital. The scheme aims to hire a paid co-ordinator for 5 hours per week. In addition to advertising for more volunteers	Active communities & Prosperous Economy	3511	2511	2260	Meets two priorities = 90%

Name of organisation	Location	Project	Community Strategy Priorities	Total Project cost	Request ed	Grant recommended	Rationale for recommendation
Winchester City Basketball Club	Winchester Town	The basket ball club play at Kings School. The club are aiming to increase their numbers by growing the size of the club. However, they are suffering from a lack of infrastructure. In order to achieve this the club would like to recruit and train new volunteer coaches and purchase new equipment.	Active communities & Prosperous Economy	3106.65	2329.99	2100	Meets two priorities = 90%
Bighton Village Hall	Alresford	Upgrade the pitched roof which is currently close boarded and covered with felt tiles. The roof will be enhanced with a 3 later felt system . The upgrade will take place before the roof leaks, as a previous roof covering was delayed which resulted in causing internal damage.	Active Communities, High quality environment	15672	2500	2250	Meets two priorities = 90%
Trinity Winchester	Winchester Town	Trinity are committed to developing our services in the context of a Psychologically Informed Environment (PIE), to help staff understand where these behaviours are coming from and to work more creatively and constructively with our clients. The PIE approach has been fully embraced by Trinity's Board of Trustees, Senior Management team and staff. Trinity are in the process of transforming the physical environment and social spaces within Trinity's Bradbury House centre . This funding request is towards the second phase of enhancing the social spaces.	Active Communities, High quality environment	4800	2323	2100	Meets two priorities = 90%
Swanmore Village Hall	Swanmore	The Village Hall would like to purchase a large projector screen and a DVD player. This will enable them to hold community cinema nights. These nights will aid community cohesion with the facilities being used by a variety of individuals from the community. It will also provide some sustainability to the running of the hall.	Active Communities	4951.35	3500	2800	Meets one priority = 80%
Theatre Royal Winchester	Winchester Town	The project aims to diminish the prevalent isolation amongst Winchester's elderly community by investing in project to reduce anxiety, increase wellbeing and aid in the engagement of social isolated individuals. The project is ultimately aimed to be a public sharing production of skills that cannot be offered anywhere else. The project aims to positively impact elderly individuals self esteem. The Theatre Royal see's the project as a clear gap in provision for those aged 65+.	Active Communities - community cohesion, healthy and safe, accessible sport and recreation	8515	3431	2750	Meets one priority = 80%
John Keble PTA/Friends of Hursley School	Hursley	The Friends of Hursley School want to enhance their schools grounds to create a space outside of the classroom suitable for learning. The Hursley School aim to increase the community cohesion by designating specific areas for communal seating/picnic area and a biodiversity trails/wildlife corner. These spaces will be accessible to the wider community outside of school time, weekends, school hours etc via a booking system.	Active Communities, High quality environment, Prosperous Economy - education	2273	1704.75	1700	Meets three priorities = 100%
The Colden Common Shed	Colden Common	The Colden Common shed lack equipment which will facilitate the projects that they wish to undertake, such as the production of hedgehog and owl boxes. The equipment we lack is a table saw capable of handling sheets of plywood and a wet stone sharpening machine for sharpening chisels, planer blades, etc, which will also allow them to provide sharpening services to the community.	Active Communities, Prosperous economy	1709.94	1282.46	1150	Meets two priorities = 90%
The Greenery Nursery School	Swanmore	The Greemery Nursery School nurtures and educates children between the ages of 18 months and 5 years. The Nursery want to move to a larger building with more outside space for the children to play and develop skills. The nursery wants to safeguard the young children by putting up a secure fence around the permitted.		4425.02	3265	0	Not eligible - Ltd Company

Name of organisation	Location	Project	Community Strategy Priorities	Total Project cost	Request ed	Grant recommended	Rationale for recommendation
Bishop's Waltham in Bloom	Bishop's Waltham	Bishops Waltham in Bloom wish to provide additional wild flower planting in approximately 6 locations in Bishops Waltham. They also wish to increase the amount of bulbs planted in grass verges. In order to do some of this work a rotivator will be required to prepare the ground.	Active Communities, High quality environment	760	500	0	Defer to small grants as request for £500
Cheriton Parish Council - Conservation volunteer group	Cheriton	The purpose of this funding is to enhance the environment and involve local schools. In addition to enhancing the flood protection, the funding is for the tools to make these improvements for volunteer group.	Active communities & High Quality Environment	750	500	0	Defer to small grants as request for £500
<b>Totals</b>				<b>71547.33</b>	<b>36277.2</b>	<b>28070</b>	