

WINCHESTER TOWN FORUM

24 September 2014

TOWN FORUM SMALL GRANTS 2014/15: AWARDS SUMMARY

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (ECONOMY AND COMMUNITIES)

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RECENT REFERENCES:

WTF174– Town Forum Grants – 7 June 2012

WTF183– Town Forum Small Grants Programme – 21 November 2012

WTF191– Town Forum Small Grants Report back – 11 September 2013

CAB2546– Core Grant Allocations for 2014/15 – 12 February 2014

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In June 2012 Members agreed to establish a small grants programme independent of the General Fund grants schemes (Report WTF174 refers). This was intended to mirror the kind of funding available from parish councils for voluntary and community organisations outside the Town.

The first round of Town Forum Small Grants was conducted in June 2013 (Report WTF191 refers). Following the success of the first round in 2013/14 Members agreed a further sum of £5,000 (Report CAB2546 refers) to be allocated for grant awards in 2014/2015

Authority was given to the relevant Assistant Director to assess and determine the grant allocations, in consultation with the Town Account Grants Informal Group.

It is suggested that Members consider their aspirations for the Programme in 2015/2016 as the budget-setting cycle is now beginning.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That

- 1 the grants which have been awarded under the second round of the Town Forum Small Grants programme be noted;
- 2 comments relating to the Small Grants allocations be referred to the Chair of the Town Account Grants Informal Group for consideration in making future awards;
- 3 the Assistant Director (Economy and Communities), in consultation with the Chair of the Group, be authorised *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 a Town Account grants reserve against future emergency payments.
- 4 confirmation be given that the Forum wishes to continue this Small Grants Programme, and that the existing budget of £5,000 per annum is considered by the Town Account Informal Budget Group as part of the Forum's 2015/16 budget-setting cycle.

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DETAIL:

1 Introduction

- 1.1 In June 2012 Members agreed to establish a small grants programme independent of the General Fund grants schemes
- 1.2 The Small Grants programme provides funding of up to £500 for charitable, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations in the Winchester Town area. It is intended to mirror the kind of funding available from parish councils for similar organisations outside the Town.
- 1.3 Due to the success of the first round of Town Forum Small Grants, a budget of £5,000 was allocated to the second round of the Small Grants Programme (Report CAB2546 refers).
- 1.4 Following the procedures approved by Members in November 2012 (Report WTF183), officers have made 12 awards totalling £4,977
- 1.5 This report summarises the awards made on behalf of the Town Forum.

2 The Decision Process

- 2.1 The Town Forum agreed that the relevant Assistant Director would determine the final awards, based on the advice of the Town Account Grants Informal Group (Report WTF183 refers). To this end, the Group met with officers on 16 July 2014 to consider a total of 12 applications submitted
- 2.2 The Panel Members were referred to the criteria for the Programme, which stated that:
 - a) organisations must serve the people of the six unparished Wards, although Town Forum would be open to partnership funding with surrounding parishes (eg Badger Farm);
 - b) applications must be for one-off items of expenditure, not overheads or ongoing costs;
 - c) applications must demonstrate the support of the local Ward Member (eg in the form of a letter);

- d) applicant organisations must be a constituted body or a new organisation working towards this status;
- e) organisations should demonstrate community benefit;
- f) other organisations can apply on behalf of or be the accountable body for smaller or temporary organisations.

2.3 In addition, the Town Account Grants Informal Group considered qualitative aspects of the bid including:

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

2.4 The views of the Group guided the final allocations of the Assistant Director (Economy and Communities) which can be seen in Appendix 1. The Assistant Director (Economy and Communities) in consultation with the Group be authorised, *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.

2.5 The total amount requested exceeded the sum available in the Small Grants budget. In some cases, therefore, an award of less than the amount requested has been made. In none of these instances is it considered that the awarding of a smaller amount will prevent the project or activity from taking place, as either:

- a) the activity can be scaled down in size to accommodate the difference, or
- b) the difference can be made up through other fund raising plans or reserve balances.

2.6 Members are asked to note the awards made following the assessment process. They are also invited to make any comments about the Programme which they would like to be considered by officers in determining any future grants under this Programme.

3 The Future

3.1 The sum allocated for Small Grants in 2014/15 was £5,000.

3.2 Members may wish to consider their ambitions for 2015/16, in relation to this Programme. It is suggested that Members' wishes for the Small Grants be referred to the Town Account Informal Budget Group for further consideration as part of the budget-setting cycle

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

5 COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND PORTFOLIO PLANS (RELEVANCE TO):

- (i) The Town Forum Grants directly support the Active Communities outcome of the Community Strategy, enabling not-for-profit groups to provide services and volunteering opportunities for local residents.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- (i) The Town Forum Small Grants budget for 2014/2015 is £5,000. A total awarded is £4,977.

7 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- (i) There are no significant risks arising from this paper.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None.

APPENDICES:

Appendix – Town Forum Small Grants Awards Summary 2014/2015

TOWN FORUM SMALL GRANTS - JUNE 2014 - ALLOCATIONS

Name of organisation	Location	Summary	Grant req	Project cost	Grant Award	Community benefit
1st Winchester Scout Group	St Barnabas	Refit the scout building which is currently not fit for purpose, in order to attract community useage, specifically the toilets which will serve the preschool. This will inopororate toilet and washing facilities for the disabled.	500	558.8	£455	Inclusive community benefit. Increased community usage and hires
11th Winchester Scout Group	St Paul	Contribution to the cost of updating the kitchen facilities in the Log Cabin in order to attract greater community useage. This project has already attracted significant community funding in order to extend and improve the current facilities.	£500	£96,500	£455	Inclusive community benefit. Increased community usage and hires
Abbotts Barton Community Group	St Bartholomew	Funding to improve fitness of adults (16+), Which will be held twice weekly by a professional personal trainer from Abbots Barton. Elderly, vulnerable and limited mobility residents will be activley encouraged to come along and join in.	480	550	£437	Community engagement and supporting the health and wellbeing
Age UK	St Barnabas	Funding for the purchase of Power of Attorney leaflets in order to raise the awareness to families and carers. Funding also for a pull up promotional banner for Age UK Winchester for publicity purposes.	498	498	£453	Community engagement and health/wellbeing
Friends of the Family	St Michael	Funding for a sturdy but mobile tent/canopy/gazebo for the toddlers in the mums and toddlers support group. This would provide much needd extra space and shade from rain/sun.	146.98	146.98	£147	Community engagement and supporting the health and wellbeing

TOWN FORUM SMALL GRANTS - JUNE 2014 - ALLOCATIONS

Name of organisation	Location	Summary	Grant req	Project cost	Grant Award	Community benefit
Highcliffe Community Plan Steering Group	St John and All Saints	Funding to support the Forum in terms of room hire for meetings and printing and paper for surveys and awareness raising.	500	500	£455	Community engagement and supporting the community plan process
St Barnabas Parochial Church Council	St Barnabas	Enhance the flooring in order for existing and new users to benefit from a more hygenic and washable floor. This will enable community groups, nurses and art groups to use the hall for activities are currently limited due to the wooden flooring.	500	8000	£455	Increase activities that the hirers can do in the hall
Weeke Community Association	St Barnabas	Looking for a new oven for the kitchen to wider their hire options and facilities for existing and new users	400	400	£364	of the comm centre to increase hire options/facilities for new and existing users
Winchester Action on Climate Change	Based in St Michael - but activities are in the Town area	The Great Waste Sculpture Trail - Create sculptures in conjunction with students from Winchester School of Art. Sculptures to be displayed at various points in the Town to increase awareness of recyclable waste.	500	2344	£455	Education re: recycling and community engagement in the building of the sculptures

TOWN FORUM SMALL GRANTS - JUNE 2014 - ALLOCATIONS

Name of organisation	Location	Summary	Grant req	Project cost	Grant Award	Community benefit
Winchester Lido Sports Association	St Bartholomew	Funding for a laptop and printer to enhance communication between existing and potential members	479.45	479.45	£436	To increase users to the centre
Winchester Rugby Football Club	St Bartholomew	Purchase of a Membership Card Printer - which would allow the Club to issue all Members with a valid Membership card which details if they are a member, volunteer and what qualifications they carry. This is in line with RFU, Government and Hampshire regulations and policies regarding safeguarding.	500	1044	£455	Community engagement and supporting the health and wellbeing in terms of safeguarding
Youth Options	St John and All Saints	Funding for a set of 5-a-side goalposts for the KAYAK centre in Winnall. To be used by the Youth groups and to enable KAYAK to host 5-a-side tournaments	450	538	£410	Community engagement and physical activity
			£5,454		£4,977	