

## Report to: Finance Committee

**Report Ref:** F1910  
**Meeting Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> January  
**Agenda Item:** 6  
**Prepared By:** Town Clerk



**Subject:** Council Grant Scheme

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### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The grants working group met in January to consider the final round of grant applications for the 2019/20 financial year. Three applications had been received.

The working group considered the grant applications inline with the council's policy on grant awards. Members may request a copy of the application form by contacting the Town Clerk. The council's grants policy is published on the Town Council website.

### 2.0 GRANT APPLICATIONS

#### 2.1 2<sup>nd</sup> KNUTSFORD SCOUTS

<b>Grant requested</b>	£1,500	<b>Score</b>	24	<b>Recommendation</b>	Approve STC
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2<sup>nd</sup> Knutsford Scouts has requested £1,500 towards the cost of landscaping and generally improving the front of their headquarters on Manor Crescent. The project involves the felling of an overgrown conifer, resurfacing the driveway and installing a ramp and handrail. The total project cost is £2,500 and they are using £1,000 of their own funds.

The application scored 24/36 and met the required governance score threshold.

The working group recommends that the approval is subject to the condition that competitive quotes are first submitted for the felling of the tree and resurfacing of the driveway as they are both in excess of £500.

#### 2.2 KNUTSFORD IN BLOOM

<b>Grant requested</b>	£1,500	<b>Score</b>	26	<b>Recommendation</b>	Approve STC
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Knutsford in Bloom has requested £1,500 towards its annual running costs for 2020. The costs are to cover their general administration, planting costs, new signage for planters (which will note the council's funding/support) and repairs to the planters outside Curzon. The group is using £1,085 of its own funds towards the total costs of £2,585.

The application scored 26/36 and met the required governance score threshold.

The working group recommends that the approval is subject to the submission of competitive quotes for the repairs to the planter as it is in excess of £500 and that the group first arranges a third party to review its latest accounting statements.

### **2.3 KNUTSFORD AND DISTRICT TALKING NEWSPAPER**

<b>Grant requested</b>	£1,350	<b>Score</b>	25	<b>Recommendation</b>	Approve
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The Knutsford and District Talking Newspaper has requested £1,350 towards the purchase of specialist playback machines and a copying machine to support their service. The potential of the council purchasing the equipment and gifting it to the charity is being explored and would reduce the expenditure. The charity is using £400 of its own funds towards a total project cost of £1,750.

The application scored 25/36 and met the required governance score threshold.

### **3.0 POLICY REVIEW**

This is the second round of grants being appraised under the council's new grant scheme. In accordance with the resolution on adoption of the policy, the working group reviewed its effectiveness.

The working group considers the policy and new system is an improvement and proposes no changes.

### **4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the committee approves the three grants recommended.