

REPORT TO COMMUNITY COMMITTEE COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME AWARDS



Report Reference COM-24-18
Meeting Date 3rd February
Agenda Item 6
Prepared by Town Clerk

1.0 BACKGROUND

The small grants working group considered the grant applications received for the final round of the financial year in line 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.

All applications were scored based on:

- Achieving outcomes under the council's grants policy
- Value for money
- Organisational / project governance
- Alignment with council strategy

In line with policy, the working group prioritised grants based on their score. A total of £3,376 is available in the budget for this grant round.

2.0 APPLICATIONS

2.1 KNUTSFORD FIRST RESPONDERS

Amount Requested: £1,500
Recommendation: Approve
Summary: Funding of three replacement AEDs

The application seeks funding towards the costs of the replacement of AEDs in Knutsford. This follows the presentation given by the group at the last committee meeting which explained the necessity to replace AEDs due to their age (15+ years). The project is a total cost of £3,000 to replace 6 AEDs with the council funding half of this batch of replacements.

The average score for the application was 35 and it is recommended to be approved in full.

2.2 KNUTSFORD SCOUTS

Amount Requested: £828
Recommendation: Approve (purchase and donate)
Summary: Purchase of replacement marquee

The application is for the replacement of the Scotus marquee which is used at camps and activity

events. It is also used at community events (such as at Music on the Moor etc).

The average score for the application was 35. It is recommended that the council purchases the marquee and donates it to the Scouts to enable the recovery of VAT at a cost of £690.

2.3 FRIENDS OF ST JOHN'S WOOD

Amount Requested: £708.43
Recommendation: Approve (partial)
Summary: Funding towards interpretation boards/signage

Friends of St John's Wood is looking to install two interpretation boards at the entrance to the woodland. The total project cost was £3,660 and the group sought a grant from Manchester Airport for around £3,000 but was only awarded £1,000. The application sought funds to cover the delivery cost and installation costs.

The average score for the application was 32. The recommendation is to provide a grant of £626 and provide the Town Ranger's services for the installation of the board. This would enable the group to purchase on board with the funds available.

2.4 ST CROSS CHURCH

Amount Requested: £1,500
Recommendation:
Summary: Funding towards recovering the church hall roof.

The application seeks funding towards the recovering of the roof of the church hall, which is used for a number of community activity including hosting the Hope Centre. The total project cost is c. £30k.

The average score for the application was 32. Whilst the working group agree it is a fundable project it was noted that the available funds after recommendations 2.1-2.3 would be only £560 and that the application noted the project would not be affected by a decision not to award a grant, with the funds being drawn from reserves. It was therefore agreed not to recommend approval of a grant.

2.5 KNUTSFORD AND DISTRICT TALKING NEWSPAPER

Amount Requested: £350
Recommendation: Approve
Summary: Funding towards redecoration of studio.

The application seeks funds towards the cost of redecorating the recording studio used by the group. The total project costs are £1,000 and the group has secured/is seeking funds from other funders towards the cost.

The average score for the application was 31 and it was agreed to recommend awarding in full.

2.6 KNUTSFORD COMMUNITY GARDEN

Amount Requested: £125
Recommendation: Approve

Summary: Funding of tabards for volunteers

This donation application seeks funds to purchase branded tabards for volunteers when they are working in the new community garden.

The application was scored an average of 31 and it was agreed to recommend it being awarded in full.

3.0 DECISION REQUIRED

It is recommended that the committee approves the recommendations to:

- a) Award a grant of £1,500 to Knutsford First Responders
- b) Purchase and donate a marquee for Knutsford Scouts
- c) Award a grant of £626 to Friends of St John's Wood and provide the services of the Town Ranger to install the sign
- d) Refuse the application from St Cross Church
- e) Award a grant of £350 to the Knutsford and District Talking Newspaper
- f) Award a grant of £125 to Knutsford Community Garden