

Ward: Various

Adur Competitive Community Grants Budget 2014/15 – Round 2

Report by the Director for Communities

1.0 Summary

1.1 This report requests the Cabinet Member to consider the allocation of the 2014/15 grants budget in the second round of applications. Seven applications were received before the closing date of 19th September 2014 and a further application is going to be reconsidered from round one. The applications total **£29,549** and the amount in the grants budget is **£63,912**.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 There is no legal obligation on the Council to provide financial or other assistance to voluntary and community groups. However, the Council recognises the vital part played by such groups in the life of the District e.g. in the Councils' corporate priorities 2011-14: 'Develop ways in which the Councils can commission the Community and Voluntary sector to deliver services'.
- 2.2 The Council currently provides grants to voluntary groups in two ways: through ongoing contracts and Service and Funding Agreements with a number of key providers, and through a small grants programme which is subject to applications made on the application form **see Appendix 1**.
- 2.3 The Council also supports voluntary groups through the granting of discretionary rate relief and subsidised rents. However, the recommendations in this report do not apply to these forms of support.
- 2.4 In the first round of the 2014/15 grants were awarded to seven local organisations totalling £19,738.
- 2.5 The eight applications received in the first round of 2014/15 grants will be scored against the criteria set out on the application form – see copy of scoring criteria in **Appendix 2**.

3.0 Proposals

A summary of each of the eight applications can be seen below.

3.1 Adur Petanque Club

Adur Petanque Club is situated at Lancing Manor Leisure Centre. The club have two large floodlit terrains offering a range of challenges to members of the sport at all levels.

Funding of **£2,500** has been requested to replace the wooden boundaries which are rotting away due to years of wear and tear and are becoming a safety hazard. New gravel will also be required, along with 3 storage boxes, paint and a new entrance gate.

The club has an average membership of 50 – 70 active members and offers free taster sessions for people to try it before starting.

3.2 Albion in the Community

Albion in the Community have been successfully running the Friday Night Football Sessions in Lancing for a number of years. Helping participants to overcome challenges, promote wellbeing and raise aspirations. AITC work with many local agencies, forging long and fruitful partnerships, benefitting businesses and improving the lives of local people.

Funding of **£5,000** has been requested to run weekly 2 hour football SESSIONS ON A Friday evening to engage with local young people (aged between 12 – 19 years of age) as part of the county wide Premier League kicks project. These sessions will be free and target young people from the deprived areas of Lancing and utilise BHA new American Express Elite Performance Centre. The intention of these sessions as a by-product of playing football is to develop marginalised young people's self-confidence, improve their self-worth, physical and mental health and ultimately their quality of life.

Since April 2014, 107 young people have benefitted from this scheme.

3.3 Cruse Bereavement Care

Cruse Bereavement Care exists to promote the wellbeing of bereaved adults, children & young People and to enhance society's care of people who have been bereaved. Cruse offers somewhere to turn when someone dies and need someone to talk to outside your own family.

Funding of **£3,000** has been requested to contribute to the running of the core bereavement support services for people residing in Adur which include;

- One to one bereavement support in the clients home
- Access to bereavement support via telephone and email helplines
- Specially trained bereavement volunteers to support children and young people
- Opportunities to meet socially at friends groups
- Access to drop in services for all ages
- Longer term support for those caught up in complex situations
- Information and leaflets for adults, children and young people
- Trained bereavement volunteer based at Lancing Village Action Shop

- Training opportunities for volunteers wishing to support the bereaved and for professionals working in health and social services sectors.

3.4 Fishersgate Community Association

This application is being reviewed after receiving further information and after meeting with other organisations working in the area.

FCA is a registered charity which aims to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

Funding of **£5,000** has been requested as match funding towards a variety of arts and cultural events to be held in Fishersgate over the coming year. In particular, to work with Wordfest and other partner organisations such as The Cornerhouse.

Funding has already been secured for events in the Adur Festival 2014 from the Arts Council and it is hoped that the addition of regular arts activities in the area will provide local residents with the opportunity to participate in things they would not usually have the chance to try.

A summary of audience numbers for events over the past 12 months has now also been received.

It has been agreed to re-look at this application although no evaluation has been received for a previous award granted in February 2013, which may impact on the final decision.

3.5 International Neighbours

International Neighbours aim to celebrate diversity and break down barriers by bringing together different cultures from within the community in a day of entertainment, information and education, creating and building friendships within our local and neighbouring communities.

Funding of **£1,570** has been requested to help towards the costs associated with the event such as hall hire, lighting, sound and publicity. Additional income is sought from stallholders.

3.6 Ropetackle Arts Centre

The Ropetackle Arts Centre has established itself as the hub of community cultural life, building a loyal audience who accurately reflect the diversity of the district. Ropetackle provides a unique model for the running of a community arts centre at the lowest possible cost whilst providing the highest standards of activity by utilising the skills and enthusiasm of local volunteers. The volunteers engage in every aspect of the centre activity from managing the box office and bar to meeting and greeting audiences.

Funding of **£4,479** has been requested to provide engaging workshops led by a professional theatre company for family centres in the Adur area, followed by two performances for children and families at Ropetackle Arts Centre.

Using knowledge and skills gained over the past 7 years the centre would like to work more extensively in the community. They hope to extend their work to families and children with a personal experience that will engage, excite, entertain and educate within the arts.

The grant would be used to work with local family centres; Lancing, Boundstone, Stepping Stones and Kingston Buci, providing them with workshops led by professional theatre company Long Nose Puppets (<http://www.longnosepuppets.com>) which would be open to all families who use the centre. This would be followed with two performances by the company at Ropetackle Arts Centre.

As well as access to the workshops we would also offer tickets for the performance to the children from Rocking Horse, Chestnut Tree House and if there is any more space available to the children of Herons Dale Primary School.

These workshops would take place in May or June prior to the Adur Festival. These events would be held prior to the Adur Festival, the activities of which would be promoted to the families in order to encourage their participation in the activities of the Adur Festival.

We would ensure the successful delivery of the project by employing an Outreach Project Manager to manage and coordinate the activities, ensuring that the workshops and shows are fully attended, monitored and assessed. The Outreach manager would also strengthen relationships with the Family Centre's and Charities with Ropetackle and hope to continue future projects and support their participation.

3.7 SASBAH

SASBAH provide information, advice, advocacy and support to people throughout East & West Sussex who have Spina Bifida and/or hydrocephalus so that they are able to make the most of their opportunities in life; to support families of service users; to increase social inclusion for this group and certain people with other disabilities; and to raise awareness in the community of the conditions and of the impact of disability more widely.

Funding of **£3,000** has been requested to support the many services Sasbah provides for those in the Adur District, principally the Advisor Service, the Social Programme and Buddy Scheme, and their West Sussex training and work experience centre. Taken together, these contribute substantially to improving the health, wellbeing, social inclusion, and community cohesion of those with the substantial disabilities that Sasbah support. The application covers just the proportion of our services (7%) that is delivered in the Adur district for service users there.

3.8 Wickers Gymnastics Club

Wickers aims;

- To promote and provide opportunities for participation at all age levels for children, young adults and adults within the Adur community
- To provide the local community with a high quality gymnastics facility which can be accessed by all
- To promote coach education as an integral part of gymnastic development

Funding of **£5,000** has been requested to buy additional equipment in order to promote a safe environment in an additional unit which is being used to increase the size of the facility. Specialist matting is required to cover an area of 124 square meters. The matting comes in 30 meter lengths which are 2 meters wide and have a foam thickness of 30mm. 4 of these will be needed at a cost of £72 per meter.

4.0 Legal

- 4.1 Section 2 of the Local Government Act, 2000 allows a Council to do anything which they consider is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of its area. This includes the giving of grants.

Part 1 Local government Act 2000, this provides power to promote the environmental wellbeing of the area.

5.0 Financial implications

- 5.1 There will be approximately **£34,363** remaining in this grants pot following the allocation of these grants, if all the applications are agreed by the Cabinet Member.

6.0 Recommendation

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet Member

Makes decisions concerning the allocation of the 2014/15 Adur Community Grants budget in line with the suggested scoring criteria. A further round of grants will take place in January 2015.

Local Government Act 1972

Background Papers:

None

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Schedule of Other Matters

1.0 Council Priority

- 1.1 Work more closely with and commission our communities, the voluntary sector, public organisations, business and commercial sectors to develop and deliver services

2.0 Specific Action Plans

- 2.1 Develop ways in which the Councils can commission the Community and Voluntary sector to deliver services.

3.0 Sustainability Issues

- 3.1 Matter considered and no issues identified

4.0 Equality Issues

- 4.1 Scoring criteria include: 'targeting inequalities and deprivation' and 'target local neighbourhood improvement areas'

5.0 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)

- 5.1 Matter considered and no issues identified

6.0 Human Rights Issues

- 6.1 Matter considered and no issues identified

7.0 Reputation

- 7.1 Supporting the voluntary sector locally enhances the Council's reputation

8.0 Consultations

- 8.1 Matter considered and no issues identified

9.0 Risk Assessment

- 9.1 Matter considered and no issues identified

10.0 Health & Safety Issues

- 10.1 Matter considered and no issues identified

11.0 Procurement Strategy

- 11.1 Matter considered and no issues identified

12.0 Partnership Working

- 12.1 Partnership working with the voluntary and community sector