



**Decision to be taken on or after 18 February 2015**

**Ward:** Various

## **Adur Competitive Community Grants Budget 2014/15 – Round 3**

### **Report by the Director for Communities**

#### **1.0 Summary**

1.1 This report requests the Executive Member to consider the allocation of the 2014/15 grants budget in the last round of applications. Five applications were received before the closing date of 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2015. Further consideration is also requested for the use of the remaining Grant budget to go towards supporting the Adur Hearty Lives Project. The applications total **£17,548** and the amount in the grants budget is **£48,713.18**

#### **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 second round of the 2014/15 grants were awarded to seven local organisations totalling £23,549 and a further £10,000 was agreed for Adur Furniture Network.
- 2.5 The five applications received in the third 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 five applications can be seen below.

#### **3.1 Fishersgate Bike Project (Shoreham Academy)**

Shoreham Academy Gateway Centre in Fishersgate is seeking funding of **£4,800** to purchase the tools and equipment necessary to set up the Fishersgate Bike Club, a bicycle refurbishment workshop for the use of a variety of partner groups in the Fishersgate area. These will include Fishersgate residents, pupils at the Shoreham Academy Gateway educational unit, the Corner House Mental Health Resource Centre, Shoreham Opportunities for Learning Disabilities, and others as the demand arises.

They are also seeking to fund a sessional worker to deliver training in cycle refurbishment (and general workshop operations) one day a week for a period of 40 weeks in order to establish the workshop in the community and develop a sustainable volunteer base.

#### **3.2 Friends of Fishersgate Rec**

Friends of Fishersgate Rec, made up of a group of local Fishersgate residents are seeking **£4,068** to increase the use of the rec by actively involving the local community as well as providing facilities for that community. Specifically an Easter egg hunt, summer fayre and a Christmas event.

Easter egg hunt: This will run for a period of three hours, one weekend over Easter there will be an Easter Egg hunt, face painting, egg painting and a lucky dip for the children of local residents. It is hoped that over 50 children will participate with their parents and carers.

The Summer event will run from 12 to 4pm one day in August. There will also be an evening barn dance event. It is anticipated that there will be an attendance of around 200 – 300 people during the daytime event. There will be inflatables, face painting, petting zoo, circus skills, music/bands, bird of prey man, food, raffle/lucky dip plus invited local projects/organisations with their own stalls.

It is hoped that if the summer event is successful it will lead to an annual Fishersgate Community festival being viable, this would be a brilliant way to continue to unite the community and develop a greater sense of pride in the area. The funding would enable this first summer event to have the greatest possible impact, which would give them the best possible chance of getting more local people involved and sustaining the event for the future.

#### **3.3 Shoreham Football Club**

Shoreham Football Club based in Middle Road, Shoreham are seeking **£4,000** to help with purchasing equipment and to provide a new porta-cabin for their youth engagement programme. The newly refurbished porta-cabin needs to be linked up with a water and electricity supply to enable local children that are members to use them as changing rooms and a sports learning class room for such things as football courses, first aid courses etc.

The club also needs additional sports equipment for their growing youth membership. It is anticipated that this will all be in place by July 2015 in readiness for the new sports season.

They are also looking at starting a walking football session for the elderly and/or disabled. This will engage a wider audience from the community.

By providing additional facilities and equipment for the local residents it is hoped that they will be able to engage with more local children who will then take up sports activities and that additional parents and carers will engage with the club on a more regular basis.

### 3.4 **Sompting Village Morris**

Sompting Village Morris are seeking **£3,600** to enable a non-profit making International Morris Festival to be held in Shoreham in July 2015, the first of its kind in the town. It is intended to involve over 300 dancers from all over the country and abroad many of which will need to be fed and accommodated over the weekend.

As Shoreham has no facility to put up a large group of performers they have secured the use of Adur Rec. alongside the river to set up a campsite for tents, caravans and campervans, a marquee and some toilet and shower units.

As the Rec is a public area they will also need to employ licensed security and fencing. However the cost of hosting such an event and providing necessary services to the site is a major stumbling block. The event will generate an increase in numbers of visitors both participants' and spectators and provide an opportunity for Shoreham to promote itself as major tourist attraction and a place with a worthy heritage. It will also provide a useful opportunity to fund raise for SAILABILITY, a local charity.

### 3.5 **Southlanders**

Southlanders are a self-funded group and have to raise money for any activities that are organised. They are seeking funding of **£1,080** towards the costs of planned trips in 2015.

The cost of hiring transport has been increasing and they have had to cut back on these outings to the point that they may not be able to undertake them in 2015 due to lack of funds.

The outings are usually to places which are inaccessible to most people due to their financial situation or mobility. They offer the chance to learn something new, be independent, talk to others but most of all to get out of their houses and prevent depression. Many older people avoid going out because they are scared of going on their own or feel depressed, these trips offer a way out of this. The group would like to provide access to days out once a month especially in the winter.

### **3.6 Adur Hearty Lives Project**

It is proposed that this remaining budget of £31,165 be allocated to a forthcoming commissioning project to develop phase two of the Adur Hearty Lives project working with local Adur schools around health and wellbeing for pupils, teachers and parents. Officers are working with to help secure additional funding from the British Heart Foundation for this work.

### **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 **£0.18** remaining in this grants pot following the allocation of these grants, if all the applications are agreed by the Executive Member.

### **6.0 Recommendation**

6.1 It is recommended that the Executive Member makes decisions concerning the allocation of the 2014/15 Adur Community Grants budget in line with the suggested scoring criteria.

### **Local Government Act 1972**

#### **Background Papers:**

None

#### **Contact Officer:**

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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