

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Lindfield Arts Festival
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Community participation day
Total Project Cost	:	£ 10,200
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£ 1,200
Previous Grants	:	2014/15 - £2,000 2015/16 - £2,000

Background information:

Lindfield Arts Festival runs an annual community event which aims to nurture creativity, broaden the mind, provoke the imagination and provide unique experiences for contributors and visitors alike. Each year the Festival aims to engage with families by offering a wide range of inclusive events and activities that allow people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to learn new skills and try out different things. There are no paid staff, a core of volunteers steer the Festival and community volunteers carry out marshalling and operational duties.

Lindfield Arts Festival 2016 has applied for the closure of Lindfield High Street and has engaged Circus Brighton and Can Control to run activities on 17 September. There will be dance, music and drama throughout the day and these organisations will run a range of participatory activities. Schools, charities and groups such as Kangaroos, The Yews and schools with special educational needs have been invited to participate in the creative skills workshops

These activities will provide opportunities to learn skills including balance, co-ordination and improved confidence. They are beneficial for children and adults of all abilities, especially children with behaviour problems and disabilities as they cover a wide range of physical and mental skills.

Robin Belfield, Young People's Performance Developer at the Royal Shakespeare Company is also writing a street play about the railway coming to Mid Sussex, to be performed in the High Street.

The outdoor events require a public address system, roaming mics, cables and waterproof loud speakers. The Festival wishes to purchase this electronic equipment as an investment. The equipment will be shared with the Parish Council for their Christmas Shopping night and with the King Edward Hall Committee for Village Day and other local groups could request the use as needed. Amplification of announcements is critical to the health and safety at the event.

The total cost of the project is £10,200 which includes £3,700 for the entertainment and workshop leaders plus £4,000 for programmes and marketing. The audio equipment will cost £2,500 and the Festival is seeking a contribution toward these costs. They intend to raise match funding for the other costs from a range of sources including WSCC, Lindfield Parish Council, Friends of the Festival, Sponsorship, Lindfield Preservation Society, The Comber Society, advertising in the programme, Registration of Arts and Crafts and ticket sales. To date only £850 has been secured from the Parish and the County Council.

Head of Finance Comments

Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st January 2016 which show a surplus of £2,659.

Total income was £11,214: mainly generated from Grants (£7,595) and Charitable Activities (£3,619).

Total expenditure was £8,555: consisting of Supplies and Services (£8,555).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net Assets of £17,473, comprising of Cash £17,473.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

The corporate grant assessment group felt that this contribution toward the cost of the PA and other equipment would benefit the Festival in the longer term and provide a local resource. The grant amounts to 12% of the total project cost and the voluntary festival committee is working hard to secure all of the funds needed to deliver and entertaining and enjoyable community event.

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Services – the equipment will enable the Festival to provide an effective, efficient and customer focussed service. The equipment will be stored securely and maintained and will be available for use by other local groups.

Better Lives – the annual Festival is a socially inclusive community event which brings people together to watch, participate, learn and develop. The benefits of participation include confidence, raised self-esteem, better concentration, improved communication skills and team working.

Better Environment – the Festival will promote a vibrant and thriving village.

Recommendation

£1,200

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Disability Access
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Support for disabled people
Total Project Cost	:	£ 7,000
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£ 1,000
Previous Grants	:	2011/12 - £600 2012/13 - £800 2013/14 - £800 2014/15 - £800 2014/15 - £1,000

Background information:

Established in 1996, Disability Access – East Grinstead Area promotes the rights and interests of disabled people in the north of the District and works to ensure, as far as possible, that they are not discriminated against in the areas of access to commercial and leisure services, and premises.

Disability Access works with the District Council's Planning Department to ensure that commercial applications do not infringe disability legislation. They also liaise closely with highways authorities and transport providers to ensure access opportunities for all.

Disability Access distributes a quarterly newsletter to members and runs an increasingly growing and active free loan service for mobility equipment including electric scooters, manual wheelchairs and other mobility equipment which is valued by the users and, importantly, their carers.

They also organise, in cooperation with WSCC Library Service, and fund transport facilities for members of, the East Grinstead Visually Impaired Readers Group which meets at the East Grinstead Library every month. Provision of this transport, which is free of charge to the members, is essential in ensuring continuation of the group which provides intellectual interest and social contact.

There are about 150 members of Disability Access, membership is free of charge and is open to any person in the area with any form of disability or mobility issues. The Council grant will sustain this service and allow them to continue offering these services to their members, particularly the direct costs involved with the mobility equipment loan service and supporting the Readers group.

Head of Finance Comments

Unaudited draft accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2016 which show a deficit of £2,529.

Total income was £5,550: mainly generated from Grants (£3,501), Donations (£1,705) and Interest (£344).

Total expenditure was £8,079: consisting of Premises Related (£4,322), Supplies and Services (£3,115) and Transport Related (£632).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net Assets of £10,719, comprising of Cash £10,719.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

The organisation works with the Council on planning related access issues covering the whole of the District and actively participates in community consultation exercises to represent the views of people with disabilities so their reach is broader than their membership. They provide an invaluable service to people with disability issues in the North of the District, enabling them to get out and about and take part in social activities. The recommendation is in line with previous awards.

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Environment - the Group's support for disabled access has achieved objectives in providing safer and cleaner neighbourhoods, for example dropped kerbs, access to bus stops, reduction of pavement clutter and other obstructions, and other general access issues. The Group has reinvigorated its 'Pavements are for People' initiative in negotiation with local authorities, the police and others. The Group's work promoting access helps in improving the town centre, car parking and facilities in East Grinstead and surrounding villages. Particular long term projects in the town are provision of public toilets and the long awaited installation of acceptable access at the railway station and also access from the station area to the Worth Way.

Better Lives - improving access and facilities for disabled people and their carers and those with mobility problems promotes more healthy lifestyles by increasing physical activity and social contacts. The Group has recently been involved with the Bluebell Railway advising on improved access and assisting with publicity for new facilities. The mobility equipment loan service provides an improved quality of life for those using it, including carers. The support to the Visually Impaired Readers Group ensures that the members continue to enjoy intellectual interest and social contact.

Better Services - the Group's activities are focused on improving the access to and provision of services to disabled people by continuing engagement with local authorities and commercial organisations. These efforts provide better services and more choice to disabled people and their carers.

Recommendation

£1,000

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Burgess Hill Shed (BH-Shed)
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Practical workshop space for adults
Total Project Cost	:	£ 11,000
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£ 1,580
Previous Grants	:	None

Background information:

Burgess Hill Shed previously applied for a grant to help establish the organisation which was considered by the Cabinet Grants Panel on 12 January 2016. The application was refused on this occasion because the applicant failed to demonstrate local demand or interest from community stakeholders. The Assessment Group also thought that further work was needed to establish the organisation, find interested partners, locate suitable premises and develop a business plan before the Council should consider offering grant aid. We did however encourage a reapplication when new partners are engaged in the project and demand for the project has been proven.

The organisers of the Burgess Hill Shed project took this advice on board and have made a great effort to move the project forward in recent months. A Board of local volunteers has been established and they intend to register as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

BH-Shed aims to provide a safe place for people to socialize, share interests and pursue activities with like-minded people, in order to contribute to improved health and well-being. It provides space, tools, equipment and machinery and through its membership, information and know-how. These resources enable people to undertake personal projects, help others or work together on common projects beneficial to BH-Shed and/or the community in Burgess Hill and the surrounding area. Through its membership, BH-Shed is planning to facilitate skills training and coaching in specific practical subjects relevant to members' projects.

BH-Shed is collaborating with Burnside, a West Sussex County Council day centre based in Burgess Hill for adult people with learning difficulties. Burnside is providing BH-Shed with a substantial bare workshop which will be equipped by BH-Shed with facilities, tools, equipment and machinery, and space for members and visitors to work, relax and socialize.

BH-Shed will involve activities and projects including wood, metal and other craft work. In order to ensure a safe environment, BH-Shed must define and implement a Health and Safety Policy. An essential part of this is the provision of

an appropriate number of first aiders to deal with emergencies and injuries. Until Emergency First Aid cover is available, BH-Shed members and visitors will not be able to undertake handicraft activities, such as wood working using hand tools. Until First Aid in the Work Place cover is available, BH-Shed members and visitors will not be able to use woodworking and metal work machinery and equipment. The BH-Shed start-up risk assessment shows that six people will need to be trained in Emergency First Aid at Work and four people trained to First Aid in the Workplace. The grant will enable BH-Shed to train an appropriate number of First Aiders to provide cover during open days.

Members must be over 18 years old and each member pays £25 to join and an annual subscription of £30. Members are charged £5 per day and £3 per half day session and the facilities will initially be open for two days per week 9-30am – 4.30pm. Non-members can also drop-in and are charged a slightly higher rate at £10 per day and £7 per half day. The Board have drawn up a business plan based on a minimum of 50 members, with a target number of 100 plus a further 75 visitors per annum. The facilities will also be made available to other local community organisations.

Head of Finance Comments

New organisation – no accounts provided.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

This is an ambitious and socially useful project which will provide resources and a community space where members can support one another to complete practical projects which contribute to their personal development. The organisers have shown tenacity and enthusiasm to get this start-up going and seed funding from the Community and Economic Development fund will help them to develop the project and ensure a safe environment for users.

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Environment - BH-Shed members will undertake their own projects and work together on group and community projects. Some of these projects will involve the use of recycled materials, reclamation, repair and restoration. For example, using recycled wood to make bird nest boxes, planters, garden furniture, decorative fencing. In addition and in common with other typical Shed organisations, BH-Shed anticipates receiving donations of tools and equipment from the public and local organisations. Members will refurbish these items and donate them to the 'Tools For Self-Reliance' organisation.

Better Lives - BH-Shed will help lonely and socially isolated people to engage with others through meaningful activities which can lead to improved health, self-esteem and well-being. These may be retired people, people who have lost a job through redundancy, people who have suffered a mental or physical illness or people that have become socially isolated for any other reason. BH-Shed will also help anyone who wishes to pursue their own project but lacks space and

equipment, or are constrained by noise, light or safety considerations as may be the case for people living in flats. It will help anyone wishing to contribute in a purposeful way to their community through common and community projects. Finally, it will help unemployed people or those wishing to enhance career prospects, to learn and practice new skills, improve self-esteem and consequently job prospects. BH-Shed aims to provide a safe, relaxing and fun environment where people undertake practical activities together and share interests and experiences.

Better Services - BH-Shed is already working with several local charities and community groups to address social isolation and loneliness. This includes Age UK who help older people, Sussex Oakleaf, who help people who have suffered a mental illness, Circles Network who help socially isolated people, West Sussex County Council, Burnside, who help adults with learning difficulties. All of these groups can through associate membership, access BH-Shed facilities and members, to gain the benefits as described above. Once established, BH-Shed will provide a rare facility for group craft work which can in addition to the above groups, be attractive to other community groups such as U3A and adult education providers.

Recommendation

£1,580 - subject to receipt of the constitution and evidence the organisation has applied to register with the Charity Commission, plus a copy of the Health and Safety Policy and Public Liability Insurance, to be approved by the Head of Leisure & Sustainability.

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Kangaroos
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Activity centre residential for children with learning difficulties
Total Project Cost	:	£ 2,212
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£ 500
Previous Grants	:	2011/12 - £2,500 2012/13 - £2,000 2013/14 - £2,000 2014/15 - £3,443 2014/15 - £4,000

Background information:

Kangaroos has been a registered charity since 1994 and provides a wide range of activities for children and young people with learning disabilities, many have additional behavioural, physical or sensory problems, Autism, complex and medical needs and Epilepsy. Membership costs £30 per annum and members are charged between £7.50 for a short in-house session to £25 for a whole day trip out.

The Charity offers Saturday, holiday, youth and sports clubs for children and young people aged from 6 to 18 together with a youth and a social club and a social and recreational programme for young adults. They aim to increase their confidence, independence and self-esteem by giving them opportunities to have new, stimulating experiences together with their peers.

Kangaroos wish to offer an overnight stay for two nights in August at an outward bound centre for up to twelve of their younger children who have a range of very complex learning difficulties ranging from severe autism, Downs Syndrome and challenging behaviour to cerebral palsy, visual and hearing impairments and epilepsy. This kind of trip would challenge the children both in a physical and emotional way, encouraging them to test themselves together with their peers in new environments. They will be offered new opportunities to reach their full potential and increase their self-esteem, whilst being supported by staff and volunteers. The children do not get the opportunity to go on school trips, or away with Scouts or friends and it is extremely important for their personal development that they get the chance to be independent from their parents in this way.

The residential stay will be held at an activity centre with activities tailored to the needs of the children attending, including those with complex physical disabilities and/or behavioural difficulties as well as learning difficulties. These centres have special equipment which will allow the children with complex physical disabilities

to access the same activity as their more physically able peers, for example they can use hoists to enable the children to climb the rock climbing wall or use the zip wire. For children who are confined to wheelchairs this kind of activity gives them freedom from their chairs and the opportunity to experience an adrenalin rush and the feeling of being up high. These children don't usually get to experience these feelings as many activities, such as rock climbing at the local leisure centre or roller coasters at a theme park, are not accessible to them.

The children who will attend this trip all have learning difficulties and are not able to take part in universal activities due to their level of disability. The event will give them an opportunity to try out new activities, have new experiences, be independent of their families and to interact and have fun with their peers. These are all things that most children take for granted, but our user group can only experience whilst being supported by qualified staff who understand their needs.

Head of Finance Comments

Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2015 which show a surplus of £5,135.

Total income was £282,646; mainly generated from Grants (£196,583), Activities and Membership (£62,497), Donations (£23,559) and Bank Interest (£7).

Total expenditure was £277,511; consisting of Staff Related (£174,044), Supplies and Services (£101,367) and Governance (£2,100).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £14,400, comprising of Tangible assets £12,608, Cash £15,829 and Creditors less than 1 year (£14,037).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

This project will provide new experiences for children with learning difficulties in a supportive environment. It will also be of benefit to their carers who can have a break knowing that their child will be having an enjoyable time and will be well looked after.

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – the children benefit considerably by having their own clubs where they can enjoy activities, meet friends, make new friends and experience leisure activities that other young people take for granted.

Better Services - Kangaroos aims to enrich the lives of disabled young people, and support their families by providing appropriate services with the aid of trained staff and volunteers to increase their independence, self-confidence, social competence and inclusion within the community.

Recommendation £500

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Family Support Work
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Informal support group
Total Project Cost	:	£ 1,972
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£ 1,972
Previous Grants	:	None

Background information:

Family Support Work (FSW) has been helping vulnerable children and their families in Sussex since 1890. Founded by Chichester churchwomen, they are now an independent charity working in partnership with the Diocese and providing services to families of all kinds, of all faiths and none. There is no religious content to their work and they have no religious requirement for staff and volunteers.

Family Support Workers provide 1-2-1 support to families who are struggling with multiple issues including unemployment, low income, mental health, physical health and disability, learning difficulties, debt, bereavement and family breakdown. Many families are referred by schools because of children's non-attendance or exclusion. Workers undertake home visits, providing emotional and practical support to help families tackle their own problems. They also run support groups, play activities and provide food parcels. There are two Support Workers in Mid Sussex (Haywards Heath and East Grinstead) who worked with 29 families (67 children) in 2015.

FSW is planning to set up a drop-in, informal support group for parents/carers in Hayward's Heath to complement their one-to-one work with vulnerable families in the town. The group will run once a week, on a Wednesday morning from 10-11.30am at the Saltworkz Café. It will provide a space for social interaction, sharing experiences, receiving information and support from FSW's Worker, along with peer support. They expect that 16 people to attend initially, growing to a maximum of 30.

FSW works mainly with mothers approximately half of whom are lone parents. A proportion struggle with depression and anxiety and almost all are isolated. Many have difficulty coping with children who have learning difficulties, an illness or disability, or who display challenging behaviour.

The venue will be provided free of charge, including a private back room available for confidential conversations. FSW is seeking funds to cover refreshments and travel costs for the group. As all families will be on low incomes, with most in financial hardship and receiving food parcels, FSW would

like to offer them tea or coffee and a drink for their child if they attend (allowing £3 pp per week) to ensure money is not a barrier to receiving support. The project budget also includes £10 per week for travel to enable volunteers to collect participants who do not live locally. The project will run from June 2016 to March 2017 (34 weeks). The applicant has indicated that they aim to raise £250 toward the project costs through a volunteer fundraising committee.

Head of Finance Comments

Independently audited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2015 which show a surplus of £8,488.

Total income was £433,177: mainly generated from Grants (£164,301), Deanery Committee Contributions (£112,484), Donations (£69,206), Fundraising (£46,521), Rental Income (£30,000), Legacies (£10,450) and Interest (£215).

Total expenditure was £424,689: consisting of Staff Related (£246,009), Supplies and Services (£177,680) and Governance (£1,000).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net Assets of £2,919,014, comprising of Tangible assets £2,841,006, Debtors £40,621, Cash £177,024, Creditors due within 1 year (£54,451) and Creditors due after more than 1 year (£85,186).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

This project will support some of the most vulnerable families in the District and will help those involved to become more confident and self-reliant. The positive benefits of group support will help address the personal difficulties of parents/carers and have an impact on their children and the wider community. People taking part will be able to benefit from 1-2-1 advice from a Family Support Worker and peer support. The assessment group thought that FSW should make a 10% contribution toward the project costs.

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – the weekly group will give troubled parents/carers in Haywards Heath and the surrounding villages a chance to meet socially with others, widen their networks and develop confidence in group situations. It will enable them to share information on matters affecting their children and families e.g. parenting skills, housing issues, debt problems etc. The group aims to positively impact the wellbeing and life chances of vulnerable children and their families.

Better Services - the need for external services is reduced e.g. FSW worked with three families last year whose children were deemed 'at risk' by social services. Social services stepped down in all of these cases after FSW supported the families to make changes.

Recommendation

£1,775

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Ashenground Community Centre
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Open Afternoon showcase event
Total Project Cost	:	£ 800
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£ 500
Previous Grants	:	2014/15 - £500

Background information:

Ashenground Community Centre is a registered charity that provides facilities and services in the interests of social welfare in order to improve the conditions of life of the inhabitants of Haywards Heath and the surrounding areas. It aims to provide services and facilities to those who may be otherwise prevented from taking a full part in social activities because of low income, lack of access to services, or other circumstances. It provides room facilities for groups/individuals to hire, which in turn provides a variety of activities for the local community to become involved in.

The community centre is seeking a grant to help toward the cost of the main attraction from Altitude Events at their Open Afternoon on Monday 25 July. Altitude Events, based in Uckfield, offers a range of outdoor activities for hire such as climbing walls, crazy golf, segway hire and inflatables.

At the Open Afternoon the community centre invites all the organisations use the facilities to attend for free and showcase their activities. They advertise to the wider community, including through all the local schools, and most of the activities are provided free of charge to encourage new members for the groups. The Open Afternoon gives the local community a fun occasion to try out different things. The main attractions will be on the grassed area outside the centre which will help draw people in.

Most visitors are from the Ashenground Ward in Haywards Heath but some come from further afield as they advertise the event through local schools. The total cost is estimated at £800 and the community centre is seeking £500 to subsidise the activities.

Head of Finance Comments

Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 30th April 2015 which show a deficit of £14,915.

Total income was £35,892: mainly generated from Hall Hire (£34,121), Grants (£1,095), Other income (£418), Donations (£250) and Interest (£8).

Total expenditure was £50,807: consisting of Supplies and Services (£35,256), Staff Related (£14,710) and Governance (£841).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net Assets of £567,072, comprising of Tangible assets £541,572, Debtors £3,009, Cash £24,031, Creditors (£1,540).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

This is a local celebration which promotes the activities and facilities available in the community centre and brings local residents together to enjoy a free and fun afternoon during the summer holidays. It provides entertainment for children and families and encourages them to take part in ongoing classes and groups which are good for their mental and physical wellbeing and help develop community cohesion.

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – access to the groups and activities on offer in Ashenground Community Centre improves the wellbeing of local residents by giving them affordable access to leisure facilities on their doorstep, reducing social exclusion and encouraging healthy lifestyles. The community centre hires out the facility to a number of physical activity groups which are open to all ages and abilities.

Recommendation

£500

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Writers on the Heath
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Writing competition and website
Total Project Cost	:	£ 1,666
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£ 1,666
Previous Grants	:	None

Background information:

'Writers on the Heath' is a newly formed unincorporated association, set up in September 2015, which aims to engage and inspire existing and potential Mid Sussex writers, aged 18+ years. It is run by a group of dedicated volunteers who are all involved professionally in the media and communications. The group meets on the third Friday of each month at 7.30pm at Haywards Heath library and is funded through voluntary contributions.

The goal is for members to develop writing skills, test their capabilities in a supportive environment and improve their chances of reaching an audience. Members have different ambitions in how widely they might want to circulate their work. Some are looking to reach a network of friends, colleagues and family. Most are looking to build a national and international readership for their work, either through self-publishing or by being spotted by a publisher willing to invest in their work.

'Writers on the Heath' is designed to support all these creative endeavours, by running a regular monthly workshop and building a supportive network. Each of the writers is encouraged to read their work aloud and the group gives constructive feedback. For writers looking to establish themselves, such collaboration can be invaluable in helping them to improve their style, find their voice and gain confidence in their capabilities.

'Writers on the Heath' is aiming to broaden its appeal to a wider section of the community and increase membership to 2,500. It would like to build a website to promote its meetings, share writing techniques and resources and promote events for writers. It would also like to extend its range of activities by hosting masterclasses with established writers, running a quarterly competition and recruiting judges, who are already professional writers or working in publishing.

They are seeking funding toward the cost of creating a well-designed logo and hosted website (£840), prize money (£300), subscription to meetup.com (£126), a publicity flyer (£100) and to pay a submission manager for the competition entries (£300).

Head of Finance Comments

Newly formed unincorporated organisation no accounts provided.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

A grant would provide seed funding to kickstart this initiative and enable the group to create a website and fund the competition until it becomes established. The Council has a policy of not funding prizes so this element of the proposal is not eligible for funding and the group would be encouraged to find match funding of at least 10%.

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Environment – the project will promote Haywards Heath and Mid Sussex as a lively and creative hub for writers of all levels and abilities, offering a vibrant alternative to London and Brighton.

Better Lives – Writers on the Heath will encourage participation from all members of the community, helping them all to find their creative voice, find an audience and improve their employability skills. They will aim to create a supportive environment in which writers can regularly meet each other, helping them to overcome any social isolation or exclusion that may be holding them back.

Better Services – Writers on the Heath works closely with the local library and will promote the services, resources and events on offer.

Recommendation

£1,200

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Horsted Keynes Parish Council
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Queens 90th birthday celebratory picnic
Total Project Cost	:	£ 1,500
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£ 500
Previous Grants	:	None

Background information:

Horsted Keynes Parish Council operates various community facilities within the village including allotments, toilets, recreation ground and children's play area. The Council is currently involved in producing a Neighbourhood Plan.

The Council is working with others to provide a day of celebration to honour H.M. Queen Elizabeth II 90th birthday by providing entertainment and a picnic on the village green for the children in the parish, followed by music for young adults and adult members of the community. Plans are in hand to hold the event on Saturday 11 June 2106 for approximately 500 people.

The grant will enable the parish Council to engage the services of professional entertainers for the children during the afternoon programme of events. The Parish Council would like to book two bands and a children's entertainer which will cost £1,500 in total.

Head of Finance Comments

Horsted Keynes Parish Council is a statutory body and therefore it is not normal practice to comment on the organisations financial accounts.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

Horsted Keynes is a small village with lots of families with children who will enjoy the event to make this special occasion and celebrate the Queen's Birthday. It is recommended that the Parish Council is awarded a grant of £500 toward the costs of providing entertainment.

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – the purpose of the event is to bring together local people of all age groups to meet in the centre of the village and to enjoy the village green. Children will be given the opportunity to play safely on professionally operated facilities; the picnic will provide an opportunity for people to share food and beverages in a

relaxed manner and then in the evening, young adults will be able to dance and enjoy music under the safe guidance of more senior members of the community.

Recommendation

£500

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name of Organisation	:	Horsham and Mid Sussex Voluntary Action
Purpose for which Grant is Sought	:	Community room moving costs
Total Project Cost	:	£ 6,637
Amount of Grant Sought	:	£1,037
Previous Grants	:	Partnership Agreement (2016-19)

Background information:

Horsham and Mid Sussex Voluntary Action (HAMSVVA) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation which supports local charities, community groups and social enterprises that deliver front-line services to residents throughout Mid Sussex and Horsham. HAMSVVA provides practical support services, equipment and space hire, volunteer services, training provision, networking and consultation, attendance at strategic meetings and events to represent the voluntary sector.

HAMSVVA currently rents premises in Church Road from Burgess Hill Town Council (BHTC). The BHTC lease with the landlord ceases in August 2016 and they have therefore been served notice to move out by 31 May 2016. Having investigated a number of options, a contract has been signed for affordable premises at Martlet Heights which will enable HAMSVVA to retain a presence in Burgess Hill town centre.

In the current premises, HAMSVVA has a meeting room for hire which provides them with a small amount of earned income and offers an affordable meeting space for local charities and community groups on 4-5 days per week. 31 groups have hired the room in the past 12 months and they are already taking provisional bookings up until December 2016 so there is a lot of local demand.

The new premises have provision for a Community Room which will enable them to continue to provide this facility but the room needs some work to make it suitable. Specifically, there is a gap in the carpet across the middle of the room where there was previously a partition wall. For health and safety reasons, HAMSVVA will need to replace the carpet as it currently poses a trip hazard. They also need a new under counter fridge for use by community groups as the current one at Church Road is not working at the correct temperature and freezes up on occasion. Again, this is a potential health and safety risk.

The total costs for moving are over £6,500 and HAMSVVA is seeking a contribution toward the new carpet (£877) and the fridge (£160) to make the

Community Room accessible. The room will also need to be deep cleaned and redecorated but these costs will be included in the general moving budget.

Head of Finance Comments

Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2016 which show a surplus of £127,534.

Total income was £305,793; mainly generated from Donations from Legacy Organisation (£148,330), Grants (£145,189), Room Hire (£6,568), Membership fees (£3,327), Interest (£1,641), Miscellaneous Income (£485) and Other Donations (£253).

Total expenditure was £178,259; consisting of Staff Related (£145,518), Supplies and Services (£24,135) and Premises related (£8,606).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £130,127, comprising of Tangible assets £4,668, Cash £137,004 and Creditors (£11,545).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

HAMSVA receives core funding from the Council toward their general running costs but this does not include the office move. They were given notice so have had to move and therefore did not choose to incur these additional costs. The grant request is specifically for the Community Room which will benefit many local groups.

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives - by providing these facilities to groups who aim to improve the quality of life of Mid Sussex residents in various ways including help for older people, those with mental health problems, families in need and groups that support people with specific health conditions.

Better Services - continuing to provide a much needed community facility in Burgess Hill for local community organisations and charities at affordable prices.

Recommendation

£1,037

Community and Economic Development Grants

Greater Brighton Economic Board Grant Request

£11,234

Summary of proposal:

The Greater Brighton City Deal agreement was signed by Government and the various partners, including Mid Sussex District Council, on 11 March 2014.

The City Region encompasses Brighton & Hove, Lewes, Mid Sussex, Adur and Worthing. It represents around 689,000 residents and over 32,000 businesses. The Economic Board is focussed on creating jobs and increasing productivity, by working in partnership to unlock sites and space and to set the right conditions for the area's businesses to grow. Greater Brighton is also actively working towards a devolution package with the Government. The Economic Board meetings take place quarterly and are attended by the Leader of the District Council and the Chief Executive.

Broad economic and other benefits arise from closer working with Mid Sussex's local authority, business and educational partners across the City Region. Specifically for Mid Sussex, the City Deal will help to deliver the proposed Science and Technology Park, which is identified as a Growth Location in the agreement. The City Deal was also a factor in securing the £17 million Local Growth Fund contribution towards A2300 improvements required in connection with Burgess Hill developments. With endorsement from the Economic Board in January 2016, the District Council has recently submitted a bid for funding from the current round of the Local Growth Fund from the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership to further assist with infrastructure required to support the growth proposals within and around Burgess Hill. We are also working with partners on other initiatives, such as making better use of publically owned land to providing housing and other developments, revitalising railway stations and creating a shared database on available employment floorspace.

Funding arrangements for 2016/17 were considered by the Greater Brighton Economic Board at its meeting on 19 April 2016. Total costs for 2016/17 are anticipated to be £156,434. This includes the salaries of both the existing Business Manager and a proposed new Policy and Projects Manager post, together with other legal, financial and administrative costs. A figure of £40,000 is also included for specialist external consultancy support. Underspend of around £28,000 from 2015/16 will be carried forward into this financial year. Brighton and Hove City Council will continue to act as the lead authority for the Board in terms of day to day running costs.

There are ten City Deal partners, including five local authorities, the South Downs National Park Authority and the Coast to Capital Local Economic Partnership. Working age population has been used as a basis for calculating appropriate contributions from the local authorities. Officers have negotiated a 50% reduction in Mid Sussex's annual contribution to reflect the distance of some

residents, such as those living in and around East Grinstead, from the Greater Brighton City Deal area.

The proposed 2016/17 contributions of the other local authorities range from £53,406 for Brighton and Hove to £12,345 for Adur. The South Downs National Park Authority would contribute £7,500. The proposed contribution for 2016/17 from Mid Sussex, which due to the 50% reduction is the lowest of the local government partners, is £11,234. Last year, Mid Sussex made an initial contribution of £5,428 towards running costs. During the year, a further contribution of £11,436 was agreed for specialist support, bringing the District's total contribution for 2015/16 to £16,864.

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Supporting economic vitality is a key objective of the Mid Sussex Sustainable Communities Strategy. The vision for the Mid Sussex economy set out the Economic Strategy is *“A strong Mid Sussex economy, where business profits fully from economic growth and where our residents have the opportunity to work within their communities.”*

This was taken forward in the Council's Economic Development Strategy, which was refreshed in 2013. The Strategic Objectives sought to support a robust and resilient economy and to improve the District's self-sufficiency by creating 7,600 new jobs by 2031. The fourth objective sought to *“Engage with wider partnerships to deliver economic benefits for Mid Sussex.”* Over the next few months, Members, officers and the business community will be working together to prepare an updated Economic Development Strategy for the District.

The emerging District Plan contains policies to support the District's economic growth generally and also specific proposals for a Science and Technology Park and a Business Park at Burgess Hill.

Recommendation

That the sum of **£11,234** from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed as the Mid Sussex District Council contribution to project management, financial, legal, administrative and external consultancy support for the Greater Brighton Economic Board for 2016-17.