

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Name of Organisation | : | Ardingly Parish Council |
| Purpose for which Grant is Sought | : | Zip wire at Ardingly Recreation Ground. |
| Total Project Cost | : | £10,219 |
| Amount of Grant Sought | : | £5,000 |
| Previous Grants | : | None |

Background information

Ardingly Parish Council owns Ardingly Recreation Ground which provides facilities for residents, local sports clubs, the primary school, walkers and visitors. These facilities include a sports pavilion, public toilets, tennis courts and a children's playground. The Council also has its own allotments and current projects include the Ardingly Traffic Calming Scheme, refurbishment of the sports pavilion and involvement with community projects.

The playground at the recreation ground was upgraded in 2010, it offers a range of play equipment for children of all ages and is well used by residents. The facilities did include a zipwire which was installed around 2002 but due to health and safety concerns it was removed. The zipwire was a popular piece of equipment that was used mainly by children aged 6+ years.

As a result of user feedback, the Parish Council would like to install a new timber build zipwire unit and safety surfacing to upgrade the playground facilities. The applicant has obtained competitive quotes to ensure best value. The new equipment should serve the community for 15-20 years.

Head of Finance Comments

Ardingly 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

The installation of a new zipwire at Ardingly Recreation Ground will improve the facilities available to residents. There is clearly demand for this equipment and it should be well used for years to come. The Assessment Group considers a grant toward the cost of this equipment a good use of funds and recommends an award of the full amount requested. It will provide opportunities for children to take part in free physical activity which will improve their health and wellbeing.

Overall score: 11

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – the new equipment will be free to use and will increase the number of children and young people using the recreation facilities at Ardingly Recreation Ground. It will encourage them to take part in outdoor activities which is particularly important in this day and age where the use of computer games and mobile devices is resulting in children socialising less and being less physically active. Good quality facilities also benefit the parents of younger children in rural areas who can meet and socialise at the recreation ground.

Recommendation

£5,000

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Name of Organisation | : | Balcombe Cricket Club |
| Purpose for which Grant is Sought | : | Extension of cricket pavilion for two new changing rooms |
| Total Project Cost | : | £70,000 |
| Amount of Grant Sought | : | £5,000 |
| Previous Grants | : | None |

Background information

Balcombe Cricket ground (two pitches) and pavilion is owned and managed by the Cricket Club. The club has over 150 adult and junior members and has a number of sides; membership of the club costs £15-90 per annum plus match fees of £5-10 per game. The adult section comprises of three league teams, one friendly Sunday team and a midweek 20/20 team. The junior section comprises of U13s, U11s and U9s. During the cricket season the pavilion is in use nearly every day of the week and the facilities are also used by Balcombe Stoolball Club on a weekly basis during the summer.

Balcombe Cricket Club has planning approval for an extension to the existing cricket pavilion (DM/16/2816) to provide two additional changing rooms. The extra space will enable players from both cricket pitches to change inside the pavilion (22 players currently use an external metal container). The improvement works also include enlarging the internal bar/social space and tidying up the grounds equipment and ancillary storage sheds. The scheme also incorporates an internal games area so that the club can accommodate and entertain the junior cricketers during wet weather.

The club hope that the improved accommodation will encourage visiting teams and guests to make greater use of the bar and increase community use of the facilities. This will increase revenue for the club and help meet the needs of the growing membership, especially the junior section.

The cricket club is an important community resource and ought to be supported in its plans. The Cricket Club is not only used for sports activities, it is also available for hire and has been used for several wedding receptions and parties by local residents of Balcombe.

The extensions will only improve the experience for other people willing to hire the pavilion. We plan on building to extensions, one to the East and one to the West of the current pavilion. The building works is planned in two phases over two years so the pavilion can remain fully operational during the cricket season. The applicant has set aside £35,000 from their own funds and secured match funding from a range of sources including West Sussex County Council (£2,500),

Balcombe Parish Council (£2,500), Balcombe Christmas Tree Society (£2,000), Persimmon Homes (£1,000), Wow Construction (£500), Members Donations (£1,000).

Head of Finance Comments

- Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st December 2016 which show a surplus of £4,773.
- Total income was £36,748; mainly generated from Bar and food profit (£11,183), Donations and grants (£9,474), Match fees (£5,848), Subscriptions (£5,450), Fundraising (£2,521), Sponsorship (£1,500), Ground hire (£625), Kit (£146) and Interest (£1).
- Total expenditure was £31,975; consisting of Premises related (£19,277) and Supplies and Services (£12,698).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £36,160, comprising of Cash £36,160.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

Capital projects are usually funded through Section 106 contributions but due to a lack of development in Balcombe the Council is not holding any funds that would be suitable for this project. Therefore, a Community and Economic Development Grant is considered appropriate as the cricket pavilion extension will improve the lives and environment of those living in the village and the project meets the criteria for funding.

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Services - The new changing rooms will improve the experience of playing cricket for Balcombe members and visiting teams. The improved facilities will help to increase membership and revenue, making the club's future more secure.

Better Lives – the club aims to attract more people into playing cricket and being active and expects the junior and senior sections to grow as a result of this project. The improvements will also enable the club to have separate changing rooms for the expanding junior girls section.

Recommendation

£5,000

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

| | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| Name of Organisation | : | Brighton Science Festival |
| Purpose for which Grant is Sought | : | Summer Pocket Science Festival |
| Total Project Cost | : | £7,000 |
| Amount of Grant Sought | : | £5,000 |
| Previous Grants | : | None |

Background information

Brighton Science Festival brings science to young people in Sussex. The Pocket Science Festival will visit five venues in the region for a day of fun, which is similar to a funfair with a twist of science, over the summer. The 'Explainers', paid staff that go around the different attractions and explain the science behind them, will help people enjoy the attractions, answer their questions, and explain the science. Their passion is to make science accessible, affordable, and fun.

The 'Funfair with a twist' has 20 hands-on activities for children aged seven and upwards, including parents, to help them develop skills and learn new things. Some of the activities can be found at fairs and fetes, such as, Splat the rat; Guess the weight of the cake; Pin the tail on the donkey, but are re-engineered to teach the participants about: reactions times in the case of Splat the rat; measuring skills in the case of Guess the weight of the cake; and internal maps in the case of Pin the tail on the donkey.

The organisation currently runs a number of events in Brighton and is looking to expand into Mid Sussex.

The concept of the Pocket Science Festival appears good but the applicant has not supplied a marketing plan to demonstrate how they will attract their target audience. In a follow up telephone conversation they explained that they will use social media and put posters up in nearby shops to attract attendees. They may also ask schools to put flyers in their book bags. Details of the venues are not available at present.

The Science Festival organisers have met previously with the Better Young Lives Co-ordinator and the Community Development Officer at the Council regarding a Widening Participation Programme that they are already running (funded by Sussex University) which will offer out of school science sessions to youngsters. Officers agreed to provide details of groups in Mid Sussex that might benefit from involvement in this project and they were supportive of the Pocket Science Festival. The organisation has been invited to attend all three Mid Sussex Play Days which will provide an opportunity to promote the event(s).

Head of Finance Comments

- Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2016 which show a surplus of £17,553.
- Total income was £49,807; mainly generated from Ticket Sales and other income (£27,912) and Sponsorship, grants and donations (£21,895).
- Total expenditure was £32,254; consisting of Supplies and Services (£32,254).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £23,784, comprising of Tangible assets £435, Debtors £16,508, Cash £28,149 and Creditors (£21,308).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

Innovative activities for young people are limited and this project will families an opportunity to enjoy an affordable event during the school summer holidays (charge £3). The Assessment Group considers this to be an interesting project but was not convinced there will be sufficient time to organise and promote five events. It therefore recommends a reduced grant to support one Mid Sussex event this summer which will be a pilot to assess local interest and demand.

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – The applicant believes there is nothing more exciting, mystifying, reassuring, puzzling, devastating, dangerous, useful or challenging in the world than science. However many young people do not become inspired by science at school. By engaging with science informally, in a hands-on way that allows children and parents to experiment, learn from their mistakes and create the Brighton Science Festival hopes to kindle an enthusiasm for science, technology, engineering and maths, equipping them with vital skills for later life.

Overall Score: 5

Recommendation

£1,000

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Name of Organisation | : | The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) |
| Purpose for which Grant is Sought | : | Green Gym project |
| Total Project Cost | : | £5,000 |
| Amount of Grant Sought | : | £5,000 |
| Previous Grants | : | None |

Background information

This application is from the local office of a national charity, which receives no financial support from head office, all their fundraising is done at a local level. TCV was established in 1959 to conserve the environment for the benefit of the public through education, the provision of training and development of practical skills.

The Sussex office of TCV runs various projects mostly linked to outdoor activity and health. They have funding from the East Sussex County Council Public Health Team to co-ordinate the Health Walk Scheme across East Sussex. The Council currently pays TCV to offer support and train environmental community groups in the District.

The Green Gym project is a proven model tested across the UK for nearly 20 years. As well as improving physical health and mental wellbeing it teaches participants new skills that can help improve their job prospects, provides regular exercise that helps keeps older people independent for longer and offers sociable activity that helps participants to make new friends and break social isolation.

The applicant proposes to run a weekly Green Gym in and around Haywards Heath, Lindfield and Cuckfield for 15 weeks between Jul-Nov 2017. Green Gym sessions last for about three hours and are led by staff. Tasks will include footpath repairs (Blunts Wood & Paiges Meadow LNR), pond management (Ashenground and Bolnore Woods LNR) and tree planting (Scrase Valley LNR). The project will be promoted through local GPs, the Clinical Commissioning Group and the wider local health services and opportunities will be offered to 36 participants.

Head of Finance Comments

- Audited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2016 which show a deficit of £1,742k.
- Total income was £12,811k; mainly generated from Charitable activities (£11,960k), Other Trading activities (£340k), Donations, Legacies &

Membership fees (£155k), Investments (£123k), Other income (£119k) and Corporation tax (£114k).

- Total expenditure was £14,553k; consisting of Staff related (£8,984k) and Supplies and Services (£5,569k).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £3,482k, comprising of Tangible assets £1,859k, Debtors £2,491k, Cash £2,071k and Creditors (£2,939k).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

The Assessment Group feels that this project to deliver a Green Gym programme in Mid Sussex for people who need to increase their fitness is an excellent proposal. It provides an opportunity for people to work outdoors and learn new skills in a safe and supportive environment. It will also improve the environment through conservation work in local nature reserves.

Overall Score: 8

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Environment – part of the project is designed to carry out practical conservation work to help improve local nature reserves and improve the state of the local environment for all the local residents.

Better Lives – the Government recommended amount of physical activity to maintain a healthy lifestyle is 150 minutes per week, Green Gym provides 180 minutes and will improve fitness. The project aims to increase general wellbeing and develop skills.

Recommendation

£2,500

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

| | | |
|--|---|----------------------------|
| Name of Organisation | : | Know Dementia |
| Purpose for which Grant is Sought | : | Memory Moments café |
| Total Project Cost | : | £1,774 |
| Amount of Grant Sought | : | £1,774 |
| Previous Grants | : | None |

Background information

Know Dementia is a Sussex based charity providing advice and support to people living with dementia and their family members and or carers. The charity also builds links with the local community to enable a better understanding of the disease.

The support the charity provides, enables people living with dementia and their family members and / or carers to have quality time together. It allows participants to engage in meaningful activities, nurture existing and build new relationships with others in a similar situation. The charity currently operates seven Memory Moment cafes, two Sporting Moment sessions and three Musical Moment choirs, all in Sussex.

A grant would be used to open a Memory Moments café in Haywards Heath. Initially the café will take place once a month and the session will last for two hours. The café will offer informal relaxed sessions in a carefully selected venue in a non-judgmental environment. Meaningful activities will take place at each session such as singing, live entertainment, dancing, quizzes, table top games, arts and crafts and even visiting animals. Hot drinks and light refreshments will be served and visitors will be asked to make a £1 donation.

The Memory Moment cafés create networks where families provide support for each other and the activities provide emotional, physical and mental stimulation. There are currently over 850,000 people living with dementia in the UK.

Head of Finance Comments

- Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2016 which show a surplus of £30,212.
- Total income was £69,548; mainly generated from Grants (£40,192), Donations (£18,070), Income (£10,576) and Other Income (£710).
- Total expenditure was £39,336; consisting of Supplies and Services (£39,336).
- No balance sheet was provided.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

The application submitted does not reflect the full cost of the project, as items such as staff; training; expenses; and insurance and listed but not been included. A grant would cover room hire, entertainments, refreshments and advertising and the costs appear realistic and good value for money. and the Assessment Group considers this an important new initiative and is keen to support the project.

Overall Score: 10

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – the project will better the lives of the people with dementia and their families through improved wellbeing due to reduced isolation and loneliness. Through meeting others in the same situation they can build new relationships and acquire better support, thus together with the opportunities for volunteering this helps towards building stronger safer communities.

Better Services – the project will improve advice and support for people with dementia and their families and carers.

Recommendation

£1,774

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Name of Organisation | : | Lindfield Arts Festival |
| Purpose for which Grant is Sought | : | Creative workshops |
| Total Project Cost | : | £21,450 |
| Amount of Grant Sought | : | £2,500 |
| Previous Grants | : | 2016 - £1,200 2015 - £2,000 2014 - £2,000 2013 - £2,000 2011 - £2,500 |

Background information

Lindfield Arts Festival runs an annual community event which provides and delivers a varied, exciting arts event for the local Mid Sussex community, with the emphasis on inclusive activities for all; particularly those with special educational needs.

The festival offers local amateur and professional artists; actors; musicians; craftsmen; and creative leaders the opportunity to showcase and share their talents over a weekend in September.

The aims include supporting local and regional artists and craft workers by providing an opportunity to exhibit and market their work as well as promoting the village of Lindfield and the services and resources it offers to visitors.

Lindfield Arts Festival has engaged Circus Brighton and Can Control, graffiti artist as two specific activities to participate in the Festival. They have invited schools, charities and groups with special needs including those with mild to moderate learning difficulties to workshops to learn creative skills. These activities are planned throughout the day, under supervision and instruction from professional staff.

Lindfield Arts Festival will also offer creative workshops to the community to learn and develop creative skills. "Dolly" is a Bedford Bambi Campervan that has been converted into a travelling craft room. There will be a range of crafting topics from crochet to decoupage demonstrated and workshops will be offered.

The Lindfield Arts Festival committee has been proactively fundraising and has applied to nine other organisations to covers the costs of the Arts Festival weekend, in addition to this application. The total project budget includes, venue hire, insurance, workshop costs, marketing and a 'Last Night of the Proms' style event on the Common.

Head of Finance Comments

- Draft accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st January 2017 which show a deficit of £1,936.
- Total income was £7,438; mainly generated from Grants (£3,450), Income from Charitable activity (£1,889), Sponsorship (£1,100), Friends (£775) and Donations (£224).
- Total expenditure was £9,374; consisting of Supplies and Services (£9,374).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £15,538, comprising of Cash £15,538.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

Lindfield Arts Festival is an inclusive community event which has been running since 2010. The committee delivers a varied programme throughout the village makes a positive contribution to the local community and economy. The Assessment Group feel that the project meets the criteria for funding and that it will be of benefit to the residents of Lindfield and the surrounding area.

Overall Score: 9

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Environment – the annual Lindfield Arts Festival brings together the local communities to watch, participate in and learn and develop. The festival showcases local talent and offers opportunity for local businesses to engage as supporters, and for schools and special groups to have the chance to try new and different activities during the festival.

Better Lives – the project helps social inclusion by enabling all residents in Mid Sussex to have an equal opportunity to participate fully in their community and promote opportunities to engage in society.

Better Services – the festival presents an opportunity to develop engagement with the local business community.

Recommendation

£2,500

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Name of Organisation | : | Mid Sussex Remembrance, Education and Development (RED) |
| Purpose for which Grant is Sought | : | Military history events for children |
| Total Project Cost | : | £5,000 |
| Amount of Grant Sought | : | £5,000 |
| Previous Grants | : | None |

Background information

Mid Sussex RED is a newly formed unincorporated association which was set up in 2016 to aid remembrance through educational events, talks and activities. The group currently has a small voluntary management team and eighteen volunteers who assist organisations such as the Royal British Legion, Army Cadets and Royal Air Force Cadets with their Remembrance activities throughout the year.

The Mid Sussex RED community group's aims for the next five years are to organise a series of military based events in remembrance of the millions who lost their lives due to military conflict. The events will be free of charge for under 18's (donations accepted) and will provide military history education to schoolchildren and adults, with a focus on the 7-18 year age group.

The budget consists of hall hire (£3,600), display and advertising materials (£500) and some equipment costs. The group wants to purchase a portable projector for presentations (£300), a portable projector screen (£175), a portable projector / laptop stand for presentations (£50) and a display stand system (£375).

The applicant aims to deliver closed events (for schoolchildren and staff) at Clair Hall, Martletts Hall, Chequer Mead and a venue in Hurstpierpoint or Hassocks during the Autumn term. They also intend to deliver three or four open events which will offer presentations, exhibitions and a mini museum regarding Mid Sussex people and places involvement in military history. These events will focus on national curriculum topics such as The Blitz, Battle of Britain and Evacuee Stories.

MS RED has applied to a number of other funders (town and parish councils, community foundations, trusts and sponsors) for contributions toward the costs and has secured £ 665 in match funding to date.

Head of Finance Comments

- Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the tax year 2016-17 which show a surplus of £39.
- Total income was £662; mainly generated from Sponsorship (£250), Subscriptions (£135), Donations (£135), Ticket Sales (£72) and Other Income (£70).
- Total expenditure was £623; consisting of Supplies and Services (£623).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net liabilities of £68, comprising of Cash £39 and Creditors (£107).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

Mid Sussex RED is a newly formed group which is clearly ambitious and enthusiastic about their subject. The events they are planning, particularly for children, will be educational, informative, thought provoking and of interest to local people. The Assessment Groups feels that a grant toward this project will provide some seed funding for equipment and some support toward the venue hire costs.

Overall Score: 6

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Environment – Mid Sussex RED believes their events will enable the development of knowledge regarding our distinctive towns and villages.

Better Lives – via their events the education of Mid Sussex schoolchildren will have been enhanced beyond the requirements of the national curriculum. They aim to connect local groups, residents, schoolchildren, adults and elderly people together by learning about their shared military history.

Recommendation

£2,500 (subject to receipt of Equal Opportunities and Safe Guarding Policies)

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Name of Organisation | : | Nature Nurture - Community Forest School |
| Purpose for which Grant is Sought | : | Summer sessions for families |
| Total Project Cost | : | £3,040 |
| Amount of Grant Sought | : | £2,400 |
| Previous Grants | : | 2015 - £1,000 (Small Revenue Grant) For kit and training costs |

Background information

Nature Nurture was originally formed following involvement with a Forest School programme commissioned by Mid Sussex Children and Family Centre in 2013/14. Sussex Wildlife Trust ran a series of taster sessions for families at the weekend which were very popular and got really good feedback. Nature Nurture began delivering the sessions in 2015 and they have grown in strength.

Nature Nurture run forest school activities in the Mid Sussex area for families, pre-school and primary aged children. Their aim is to encourage parents and children outside and into the woods to play and learn. A recent National Trust survey showed that the average child plays outside for less than an hour a day and they want to do their bit to try to improve that statistic.

At their sessions children have the opportunity to build dens, learn about nature, hunt for bugs, work with hand tools and natural resources and help build a camp fire in a safe way. They currently run parent / adult and toddler groups, taster sessions for pre-schools, after school clubs, holiday and weekend sessions for families and birthday parties in a few different areas in Mid Sussex: East Grinstead, Turners Hill, and Cuckfield.

Nature Nurture is currently running weekly parent and toddler sessions in East Grinstead and Turners Hill. They charge £7 per session for an after school club running for 1 hour and 45 minutes. For parent and toddler, and family sessions they charge between £6 and £8.50 per session.

They are conscious that the pricing of the sessions makes them unaffordable to many and they want to be able to offer forest school to all children without cost being a prohibitive issue. They are looking to work with the Children and Family Centres and Registered Landlords to deliver sessions for families who are on a reduced income.

This grant would contribute toward the cost of employing sessional workers to run twenty 1.5 – 2 hour week day and weekend sessions for up to 15 families at a time from July – October and cover the cost of publicity materials and expenses.

Head of Finance Comments

- Unaudited draft accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st January 2017 which show a deficit of £800.
- Total income was £15,525; mainly generated from Sessions, Courses & Workshops (£8,525) and Grants (£7,000).
- Total expenditure was £16,325; consisting of Staff related (£10,552) and Supplies and Services (£5,773).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £103, comprising of, Cash £103.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

The assessment group is keen to support Nature Nurture to work with the Children and Families Centre to offer subsidised sessions and encourage low income families to take part in adventurous outdoor activities.

Overall Score: 9

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Environment – the ethos is to encourage and promote outdoor learning and play, and environmental education. Forest School gives children opportunities to play outside, and parents can be reassured that there is a trained leader overseeing things. The more opportunities and experiences children have outdoors, playing in nature the more likely they are to develop knowledge, understanding and an empathy with nature.

Better Lives – there is strong evidence that being outdoors is one of the most powerful correlators of physical activity. Children at Forest Schools will continually be involved in physical activity. Forest Schools develop children's capacity for creativity, problem solving and their emotional and intellectual development. There is also lots of research that backs up the claim that being in nature reduces stress levels, is calming and very good for mental health as well as physical. In an age where there is rising concern about children's activity levels and weight increasing their opportunities for outdoor play is crucial.

Recommendation

£2,400

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

| | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Name of Organisation | : | Rape Crisis Surrey and Sussex |
| Purpose for which Grant is Sought | : | Counselling service |
| Total Project Cost | : | £4,600 |
| Amount of Grant Sought | : | £4,600 |
| Previous Grants | : | None |

Background information

Rape Crisis Surrey and Sussex (RCSAS) aims to improve the lives of women and girls affected by sexual violence and abuse. RCSAS was established in 2014 and is based in Crawley and primarily deliver services in Crawley and Mid Sussex but also across West Sussex, East Surrey and parts of East Sussex. RCSAS was set up by the Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre organisation based in Croydon. RCSAS is a member of Rape Crisis England and Wales and is accredited by the British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy.

RCSAS provide free, independent specialist services that support women and girls aged 13 and upwards, to recover from their experience of rape or sexual abuse and by campaigning to raise awareness of and prevent sexual violence. Since first seeing clients in 2015, they have experienced steadily increasing demand for their services. In total they have worked with over 800 females since they opened and the rate of referrals to all their services increases month by month.

Their work includes trauma counselling; independent sexual violence advocacy; outreach work; BME and FGM outreach; awareness raising; training and prevention; and a helpline.

A grant would fund access to a weekly specialist counselling service for up to twelve months, for women and girls from Mid Sussex that have experienced sexual abuse. This counselling service is one to one therapy. They provide a safe, contained space where clients will be believed and respected without judgement to help them gain a better understanding of difficult thoughts and feelings.

Head of Finance Comments

- Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2016 which show a deficit of £52,261.
- Total income was £168,672; mainly generated from Grants (£167,590) and Donations (£1,082).

- Total expenditure was £220,933; consisting of Staff related (£138,364) and Supplies and Services (£82,569).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £17,679, comprising of Tangible assets £17,679.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

There is no charge for access to RCSAS services and they estimate that 20 females from Mid Sussex will benefit from this award which will cover counsellor fees, room costs, clinical supervision, service user expenses and publicity materials. The Assessment Group feels that this specialist project will benefit to users and would like to support access to services for Mid Sussex residents. We hope that if the organisation will build relationships with local professionals and statutory and voluntary services in Mid Sussex.

Overall Score: 9

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – rape and sexual abuse can have physical, mental, and emotional impacts on women and girls both in the short and long term. Common effects are complex PTSD, agoraphobia, depressions, anxiety and survivors use coping strategies such as self-harm, eating disorders, drug and alcohol abuse. These issues can impact negatively on people's ability to engage in education or training, family relationships, friendships and increase their feelings of social isolation.

The Service is based on an empowerment model, which gives the client back the power and control that her abuse will have ripped away. They work alongside clients to identify value and build their strengths, sense of self and ability to make their own decisions. The specialist counselling service improves the health and wellbeing of their clients and in doing so improves their long term quality of life and feelings of safety.

Recommendation

£4,600

Community and Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Name of Organisation | : | St. George's Millennium Garden Trust |
| Purpose for which Grant is Sought | : | Tree sculptures |
| Total Project Cost | : | £1,000 |
| Amount of Grant Sought | : | £450 |
| Previous Grants | : | None |

Background information

St. George's Millennium Garden Trust is a charitable organisation that manages and maintains a natural green space close to the centre of Hurstpierpoint.

Following the essential felling of a large pine tree, they have created three owls from the stumps. The reaction from local people has been remarkably positive and they have been asked to create some more from sections of the tree which are lying on the ground.

The garden is a much used route from the eastern end of the village to the village centre. The sculptures will increase the 'wow' factor and boost the spirit and sense of wellbeing.

The applicant has submitted an itemised balanced budget that appears realistic and good value for money. They are funding over 50% of the costs themselves and via donations of local people.

Head of Finance Comments

- Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st December 2016 which show a deficit of £2,684.
- Total income was £2,866; mainly generated from Donations (£1,373), Subscriptions (£485), Sale of Plants (£450), Gift Aid (£391) and Interest (£167).
- Total expenditure was £5,550; consisting of Supplies and Services (£5,424) and Premises related (£126).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £20,255, comprising of Tangible assets £5,313, Cash £14,942.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's evaluation of the project

This is an open public space that is well utilised and the previous sculpting that has been undertaken has been very well received. This would enhance further

this open garden and make it more enticing. The assessment group consider this is a desirable project and is keen to support this project.

Overall Score: 8

The project meets the following corporate objectives

Better Lives – this project aims to improve the sense of wellbeing and spirit of the village created by the ‘wow’ factor.

Better Environment – the project will increase pride in the local area and discourage anti-social behaviour. It will also be more desirable for people to take the healthy walking route into the centre of the village.

Recommendation

£450

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 focused 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 and in securing a further £14.9m to help with the infrastructure improvements required to enable Burgess Hill to realise the full benefits of the significant developments taking place in and around the town. 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 floor space.

Funding arrangements for 2017/18 were considered by the Greater Brighton Economic Board at its meeting on 25 April 2017. Total costs for 2017/18 are anticipated to be £250,605. This includes the salaries of a full time Business Manager, a part-time Business Manager and a part-time Project Support Officer, together with other legal, financial and administrative costs. It also includes £110,000 to develop specific plans and strategies. The proposed work plan includes development of an inward investment and export strategy, articulation of the region's transport priorities, a digital infrastructure delivery plan, a water and energy plan, and a skills and employment plan. Underspend of around £94,000 from 2016/17 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 currently ten City Deal partners, including five local authorities, the South Downs National Park Authority and the Coast to Capital Local Economic Partnership, but the Board has agreed to invite Crawley Borough Council and

Gatwick Airport Limited which will bring the number of partners up to twelve. 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 2017/18 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.

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Supporting economic vitality is a key objective of the Mid Sussex Sustainable Communities Strategy. 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."*

Sustainable Economic Growth remains a corporate priority for the Council. Members and officers are currently working with other key stakeholders to undertake a further refresh of the Economic Development Strategy to take account of changes to the wider strategic and policy context and to underpin a revamped action plan.

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 2017-18.