

## CABINET MEMBER REPORT – PLATINUM JUBILEE COMMUNITY GRANTS

REPORT OF: PETER STUART  
Contact Officer: Emma Sheridan, BUL Community Services Policy & Performance  
Wards Affected: All  
Key Decision: No

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### Purpose of Report

1. This report provides details of the forthcoming Platinum Jubilee and asks the Cabinet Member to approve a one-off Community Grants project to support local community Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

### Summary

2. This coming year will see Platinum Jubilee celebrations throughout the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and around the world as communities and people come together to celebrate The Queen's historic reign.
3. As part of the Councils participation in the Jubilee celebrations it has been suggested by a number of Council Members and partners, that a community grants programme would be an appropriate initiative.

### Recommendations

4. **That, as part of the Councils participation in the Jubilee celebrations, a specific grant fund should be established, from within the Councils Community Grant Programme as outlined in this report, to facilitate and enable community celebrations within the District.**
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### Background

5. Her Majesty, The Queen, is the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee with seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne on 6th February 1952 at 25 years old.
6. This year, 2022, will see year-long Platinum Jubilee celebrations throughout the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and around the world as communities and people come together to celebrate The Queen's historic reign. Throughout the year, Her Majesty and members of the Royal Family will travel around the country to undertake a variety of engagements to mark this historic occasion culminating with the focal point of the Platinum Jubilee Weekend in June.
7. An extended bank holiday, from Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June, will provide an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom to come together to celebrate the historic milestone. Across the four days the celebrations will include public events and community activities, as well as national moments of reflections on The Queen's 70 years of service.

## **Establishment of a Jubilee Community Grants Fund**

8. As part of the Councils participation in the Jubilee celebrations, it is proposed that a specific grant fund is established, from within the Councils Community Grant Programme, to facilitate and enable community celebrations across the District.
9. It is proposed that the amount of £25,000 be set aside, from within the Community Grants Programme budget for 2022, to provide a dedicated fund for community groups to apply on a one-off basis to run events that celebrate and mark the Platinum Jubilee in Mid Sussex.
10. It is proposed that the fund be made available to non-profit making community/voluntary organisations to help with the costs of appropriate related activities primarily on or around The Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend and that applications will be required to demonstrate appropriate community benefit and/or community input.
11. It is proposed that Parish and Town Councils may apply in partnership with other groups or organisations but are exempt from applying as a single organisation. Parish and Town Councils will be encouraged to disseminate details of the fund and liaise with other interested groups or organisations within their communities.
12. In the event of the fund being over-subscribed, it is proposed that funding applications from communities previously under-presented in Community Grants awards, will be prioritised.
13. Whilst it is not proposed to set a specific funding cap for individual applications, in the event of the fund being oversubscribed the Council will seek to maximise funding to support as wide and diverse a range of events, activities and communities as possible within the available fund.
14. It is proposed to make use of a simplified version of the Community Grant Funding application form, as has previously been the case with one-off grant funds. This will streamline the application process and remove those aspects of the application process which will not be required for this fund.
15. If agreed, the Council will promote the fund through the Voluntary Sector Network and invite applications to be submitted by 21 February 2022.
16. A condition of funding will be that funded events are promoted through the Council's dedicated Platinum Jubilee webpage and registered on the official Platinum Jubilee website.
17. In line with the established criteria of the Community Grants Programme:
  - (a) Funding applications cannot be retrospective, and no organisation should commit themselves to any spending before any final decision is made.
  - (b) Applications demonstrating match funding by other funds will be given greater weight.
  - (c) All community events funded must acknowledge Mid Sussex District Council's contribution and are encouraged to do so on any publicity material, or social media used to promote the event or funded activity.

### **Recommended Next Steps**

18. That following the call-in period the grant fund as outlined in this report be opened to applications and promoted by the Council and its community partners.
19. That an application deadline of 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022 be established.
20. That grant applications received for this one-off fund be brought before a meeting of the Cabinet grants Panel on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 for decision.