

CORPORATE GRANT SCHEMES

(Platinum Jubilee Grants scheme – Community and Voluntary Sector Applications)

REPORT OF: HEAD OF CORPORATE RESOURCES

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Wards Affected: All

Key Decision: No

Purpose of the report

1. The purpose of this report is to present to the Cabinet Grants Panel thirty-eight applications received from Community and Voluntary Sector organisations, in response to the Mid Sussex one off Platinum Jubilee Community Grant scheme. The report also provides a summary of the grants awarded during 2020-2021.

Recommendations

2. Members of the Cabinet Grants Panel are requested to consider and decide upon:
 - a. The recommendation for each of the Platinum Jubilee applications detailed, summaries of which are attached in Appendix A*
 - b. The recommendation for the Citizens Advice bid to the Community Grant budget, a summary of which is attached in Appendix B*

Members are also asked to:

- c. Note that the End of Year grant report 2020/21 and 2021/22 will be presented at the October grants panel.*

Summary

3. A summary of the applications to be considered and the recommendations from the Community Grants Assessment Group on the level of financial assistance to be awarded to each organisation are detailed as follows:

4. Applications recommended for Award

Table 1: Small Neighbourhood Groups

Organisation	Grant Purpose	Award Requested	Award Suggested
Ansty Village Centre Trust	A celebration on the Ansty Village Recreation ground with food and entertainment. The event will be one of a series of events to mark the launch of the Centre.	£845	£845
Ardingly Connected Together	Contribution towards a whole programme of events including lighting of beacon, barbecue, music, firework display and street party.	£750	£450
Befriended	Street party at Court Bushes Community Hub in Hurstpierpoint including a Tea Dance.	£2,500	£500
Bentswood Community Partnership	Community celebration on Barn Cottage Green including picnic, dancing, face painting and an evening barbecue and bar.	£1,025	£500
Bolney Village Community Partnership	Afternoon picnic followed by evening barbeque on Tim Farmer Recreation ground and Woodside Community Centre.	£200	£200
Bolney Village Society	Jubilee party on Batchelor's Field including barn dance, giant Jubilee cake and races and games.	£2,008	£1,000
Burgess Hill Bonfire Society	Jubilee Jest event – a comedy event including hire of venue and kitchen, bar, stage MC, comedians, sound system and lighting.	£1,151	£151

Burgess Hill Cricket Club	Celebration at St John's Park including treasure hunt, games, and cream teas.	£650	£500
Copthorne Platinum Jubilee Group	Celebration on the Village Green including best dressed street, dog show, games and children's street party.	£4,395	£1,000
Coro Nuovo	Jubilee concert at St Andrew's Church with choral music.	£900	£400
Costells Wood Residents Association	Celebration on Costells Edge including bouncy castle, best dressed house, fancy dress.	£225	£225
Crawley Down Community Centre Association	Part of a four-day celebration, a day of celebration at the Haven Centre with Barbeque, fairground rides, food, beer fest, games and dog show.	£1,465	£1,000
Dumbrills Close Residents Association	Barbeque for residents of Dumbrills Close with live music, bouncy castle, pig roast on the village green.	£310	£310
East Grinstead Parkrun	A parkrun at East Court, East Grinstead with everyone dressed in red, white, and blue followed by a picnic.	£105	£105
Friends of Northlands Wood School	Jubilee themed May Spring Fayre with refreshments and family entertainment.	£100	£100
Friends of Twineham School	Jubilee garden tea party at the school for the local community with stalls, dog show, food and games.	£450	£450
Handcross Community Events	Street party with live music and an opportunity for local businesses to sell food.	£500	£500

Mid Sussex Older People's Association	Afternoon tea at the King Edward Hall in Lindfield with violinist and refreshments.	£695	£695
Sayers Common Village Hall	Street party with picnic, live music, and children's activities	£2,775	£1,000
Staplefield Association	Construct a beacon brazier and host a beacon lighting event.	£1,513	£1,513
The Brook Street Society	Garden party for residents	£1,000	£500
The Lindfield Club	Tea party at King Edward Hall on Sunday for those people who live in streets where there are no street parties.	£500	£500
Warninglid Residents Association	Street party on the Warninglid Recreation Ground.	£750	£750
Worlds End Association	'Picnic in the Park' on the World Ends Recreation Ground with a band and refreshments.	£954	£954
Balcombe Club	Free to all villagers' party in the Victory Hall, Balcombe	£1,000	£500
Lindfield Dramatic Club	Platinum Pageant with Kings & Queens through the ages. Afternoon and evening performance with tea and cakes and bar.	£450	£450
Haywards Heath Cricket Club	Joint celebration of 125 years of Cricket Club and Platinum Jubilee – cricket games and picnic at Clair Park.	£625	£500
	TOTAL	£27,841	£15,598

Table 2: Registered Charities

Organisation	Grant Purpose	Award Requested	Award Suggested
Age UK West Sussex Brighton & Hove	Celebrations at Lamb House, Haywards Heath, including afternoon tea with harpist and Jubilee community party.	£770	£350
Girlguiding Perrymount District HH	Celebrations with girl guides, including magic show and drumming lessons.	£350	£270
Kangaroos Mid Sussex	Jubilee Picnic in the Park for families with disabled children at the Worlds End Park in Burgess Hill.	£1,000	£1,000
The Royal Sussex Regiment Association Mid Sussex Branch	Screening of Trooping of the Colours followed by afternoon tea for members and friends of the Regiment.	£500	£500
	TOTAL	£2,620	£2,120

Table 3: Parish Councils

Organisation	Grant Purpose	Award Requested	Award Suggested
Ansty & Staplefield Parish Council	Jubilee party for residents of Beeches at Rocky Lane with a barbeque, bouncy castle, music and games.	£500	£500

Ashurst Wood Village Council	Party in John Pears Field and beacon lighting ceremony in partnership with a choir based in East Grinstead, Dunstan's Community café, youth club and Sussex Community Support.	£3,500	£1,000
Balcombe Parish Council	Picnic in the park including fancy dress, The Women's Institute, best dressed street and live music.	£1,000	£500
Horsted Keynes Parish Council	Weekend of events in partnership with local organisations and clubs within the village including a big village lunch on the green.	£875	£450
Poynings Parish Council	Family picnic with beacon lighting. Picnic held at the Village Hall owned by the local church who are co-sponsoring the event.	£1,800	£1,000
West Hoathly Parish Council	Village celebration with music, children's entertainment, and live music for beacon lighting.	£2,500	£1,000
	TOTAL	£10,175	£4,450
	GRAND TOTAL		

5. Applications Considered but NO GRANT Recommended

Organisation	Grant Purpose	Award Requested
Cuckfield Parish Council	Street party on Cuckfield high street with entertainment and live music	£1,000

Burgess Hill Town Council & Burgess Hill Bonfire Society	Celebration in St John's Park to include stage with musical entertainment, piper performance and beacon lighting.	£1,855
East Grinstead Town Council	Community picnic and beacon lighting.	£3,450
Haywards Heath Town Council	Picnic in Victoria Park, Haywards Heath with live bands and refreshments.	£1,760
East Grinstead Society	Renovate Victorian Jubilee Drinking Water fountain	£4,000
	TOTAL	£12,065

Community Grant bid

Organisation	Grant Purpose	Award Requested	Award Suggested
Citizens Advice in West Sussex (North, South, East)	Engagement project with Ukrainian refugees in Mid Sussex to provide information and connect them with the local communities.	£5,000	£5,000
	TOTAL	£5,000	£5,000

Background

6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. As part of the Councils participation in the Jubilee celebrations, the amount of £25,000 has been 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. A simplified version of the Community Grant Funding application form was issued, as has previously been the case with one-off grant funds. This helped streamline the application process and remove those aspects of the application process which will not be required for this fund.
11. Parish and Town Councils were allowed to apply in partnership with other groups or organisations but were exempt from applying as a single organisation.
12. Funded events will be promoted through the Council's dedicated Platinum Jubilee webpage and registered on the official Platinum Jubilee website.
13. 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.

Assessment Process

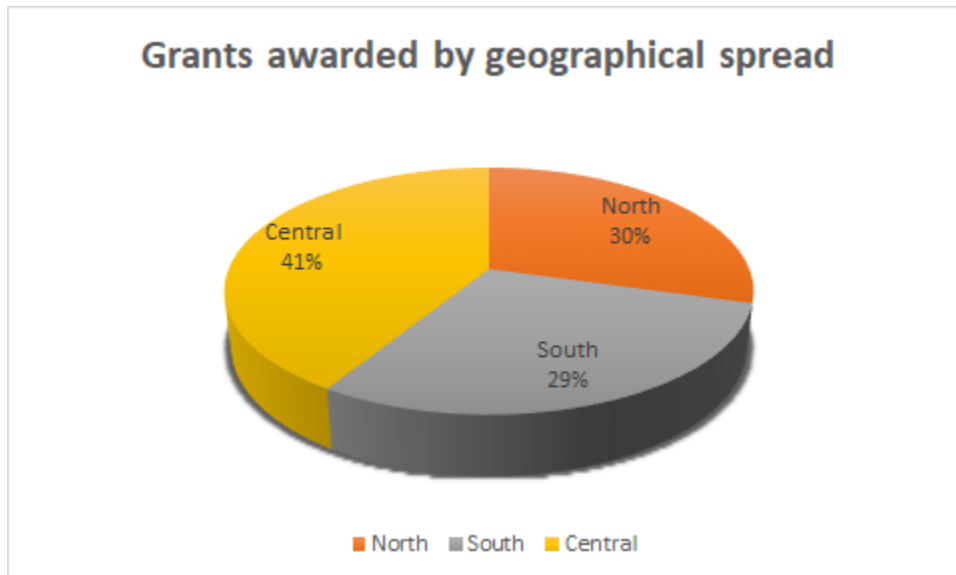
- 14. Applications have been assessed against the Criteria as agreed by Cabinet Member Decision and approved at Cabinet Grants Panel Monday 21 February 2022.
- 15. The Assessment Group reached a consensus as to the merit of each application judged against the agreed criteria and the level of funding that should be recommended to the Panel.
- 16. A due diligence exercise has been undertaken on each applicant organisation to ensure that they have met the grant criteria, in particular that they are a properly constituted voluntary and not for profit organisation and have provided the relevant legal and financial information to support assessment of their application.

Grants Recommended for approval under the Platinum Jubilee Fund

- 17. A total of thirty-one applications were received from small neighbourhood groups and larger registered charities. The Assessment Team have suggested either fully funding or part funding (where the amount is large or includes items that fall outside the criteria) these applications as they have met all the criteria. It is hoped that the range of local events will enable a wide range of communities to take part in celebrations that are easily accessible and free to attend.
- 18. Small neighbourhood group applications represent over 60% of all bids. The planned events range from street parties, celebrations on village greens and local parks incorporating children's entertainment, music, fancy dress, and refreshments. Applicants have requested funding for hire of outdoor staging and equipment including marquees, musicians, food, and decorations. There are also plans to light beacons. Some of the applications requested funding for magic shows but the Assessment Team felt this was not a justifiable spend and did not approve this element of those bids.

19. Four applications have been received from registered charities representing older people, children with disabilities and two uniformed groups for Girlguiding and older veterans. The planned celebrations include afternoon tea, picnic in the park and a screening of the Trooping of the Colours followed by tea and cake.
20. Seven Parish and Village Councils have applied for a contribution towards their celebrations. The criteria stipulated the need to demonstrate partnership working. Six of the seven applications demonstrated this apart from Cuckfield Parish Council which has been recommended not to be funded. The recommended bids include celebrations in public spaces including Rocky Lane for residents of Beeches, party at John Pears Field, picnics in the village greens of Balcombe, Horsted Keynes and events at village halls.
21. All three town councils have applied for a contribution towards their larger planned events including events in St John's Park, Victoria Park and a community picnic and beacon lighting. The bids were very weak on partnership working and the Assessment Team felt that from the information supplied with the applications, the Town Councils would be primarily using the funds to buy in services rather than delivering a community co-designed project. Burgess Hill Town Council have applied jointly with the Bonfire Society but have asked for funds to cover their own costs. The Bonfire Society have also made a separate bid for the same event. East Grinstead Town Council provided little detail in their original bid. When asked EGTC did confirm that the Town Twinning Group would be running the events, however, the bid itself is seeking funds towards wider town council events. Haywards Heath Town Council have only mentioned in their application a dementia group who will be bringing cakes. The Assessment Team consider that Town Councils would have planned for Jubilee events as part of their annual events calendar and no doubt budgeted for these; the MSDC community grant was an opportunity for town councils to initiate and support projects, led and delivered by local groups, however, the bids failed to demonstrate this with the applications received simply being for contributions towards pre-existing plans to offset their own costs. It is therefore the officer recommendation that these applications are not funded from the MSDC Platinum Jubilee Community Fund.
22. An application was received from the East Grinstead Society for a grant towards the drinking water fountain/ Officer consider that this is better suited to the criteria for the Economic and Community Development Grants programme and therefore it will be considered and brought before the panel under that programme.

23. The pie chart below illustrates the applications recommended for approval by geographical spread using the County Local Committee ward specification and includes projects that are to be delivered across Mid Sussex.



Grants Recommended for approval under the Community Grants Fund

23. Citizens Advice in West Sussex (North, South & East) have applied to fund a project to support the Ukrainian refugees at Mid Sussex via the two Visa schemes. The grant will be used to engage with Ukrainian refugees and their family, friends and/or sponsors to provide information and connect them to wider networks and local support services. Citizens Advice will be building on the success of the Community Champions project to use the local connections made. The Assessment team feel that this is a very timely project and would benefit from being funded at this grants panel to enable the project to establish itself and support Ukrainian refugees that have already arrived and those expected soon. It is recommended that this project is fully funded from the Community Grants fund.

Other Options Considered:

Alternative options considered are:

25. To not fund the applications outlined above from the Platinum Jubilee Grant Fund:

The awards recognise the key role CVS organisations play in enabling communities to come together and build resilience and the monies provided by this Council are 'match funding' in the context of enabling the applicants to lever in substantial monies from other organisations, grant-giving charities, and national schemes or to expand the reach of their activities. The Platinum Jubilee provides an important opportunity for communities to come together, many for the first time since the onset of the Covid19 pandemic and share positive experiences and take part in a once in a lifetime occasion marking the Queen's reign. The impact of COVID19 on the sector and communities in general has been unprecedented in terms of demand, coupled with loss of income and resources to meet these increased demands. This one-off fund will assist organisations and communities to reconnect with each other.

Financial Implications

26. Community Development Grants are funded through a dedicated reserve. The balance held in the Community Development Fund Reserve as of 1 April 2021 was £407,911 which included a £100,000 contribution from General Reserve at Outturn 2020/21. The amount spent in 2021/22 (as of 29 March 2022) was £169,918, which leaves a balance remaining of £237,993.
27. The amounts committed, but not yet paid, as of 29 March 2022 are £157,432. This leaves a balance of £80,561 if all the committed grants are paid.
28. A total amount of £25,000 from the Community Development Grants was set aside by Cabinet Member Decision and later approved by Cabinet Grants Panel on 21 February 2022 to fund Platinum Jubilee community events.
29. The total amount of the Community Development Grants proposed in this Cabinet Grants Panel report is £27,168 (*of which £22,168 will be paid from the dedicated Platinum Jubilee fund and £5,000 from the Community Grants Fund*), which leaves a remaining balance of £32,148 if all the committed grants are paid.
30. Grant applications that have been recommended have had all accounts/financial data assessed and audited by finance with all due diligence undertaken.

Risk Management Implications

31. The main associated risks that may impact upon the successful implementation of the decisions arising from this report would be the inability of the funded

organisations to carry out the services, activities or equipment purchase for which funding had been awarded.

32. Where applications reference physical works to properties, applicants will be required to ensure that the project has all the necessary permissions in place (including planning, building regulations, licensing and from landlords) prior to completion.
33. A Contract is signed at the application stage by organisations seeking funding that details the terms and conditions under which the grant is given, including the return of all monies to the Council should the purpose for which the funds are awarded not materialise.
34. All organisations in receipt of grant funds are requested to complete an End of Grant Report at the end of the funding period and required to submit information relating to the grant including purchase invoices, details of the number of residents benefiting from the grant, annual accounts, how the grant was used etc.
35. It is considered that these measures would mitigate the main risks from materialising and indicate a low risk to the successful outcomes arising from this report.

Equality and customer service implications

36. As part of the assessment process all of the organisations applying for funding from the Council have complied with the required conditions of funding and have the requisite policies and procedures in place including any other relevant legislation.

Legal Implications

37. The Council is not obliged to provide grant funding, but by virtue of section 1 of the Localism Act 2011, it is able to do anything which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion of the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of its area. This includes the incurring of expenditure, giving financial assistance to any person (or organisation) and entering into arrangements or agreements with any person.

Background Papers

37. Grant applications and associated documentation for the Community & Economic Development grants are held in the Community Services, Policy and Performance Business Unit.