APPENDIX B

Community And Economic Development Grants Scheme * new application

Name Of Organisation : East Grinstead Museum

Purpose For Which Grant Is : Villages at War Project

Sought

Total Project Cost : £2,900

Amount Of Grant Sought : £2,900

Previous Grants : £250 – Silver Sunday (2017)

Background Information

East Grinstead Museum is centrally located within the town of East Grinstead in a purpose-built building that is accessible with modern permanent displays, research room and facilities for visitors. The Museum collects, safeguards and interprets artefacts, archives and photographs of the market town and surrounding villages for the interest, enjoyment and education of the local community and visitors.

The Villages at War project will enable the Museum to recruit a Project Manager for 10 days to work with the five local villages of Crawley Down, West Hoathly, Ashurst Wood, Turner's Hill and Felbridge. They will investigate the impact of the First World War on East Grinstead and these villages through using the Museum's collections and through stories and photographs supplied by local residents.

There will be 5 half-day drop-in sessions at each village where people will be invited to attend and share their own WW1 family histories as well as learning about other WW1 stories. From these sessions and ongoing liaison with village contacts, the Project Manager will create a series of five pop-up exhibitions. These will be displayed at the Museum before each pop-up will be presented to the appropriate village for display in their vicinity, whether the village hall, church or local school.

A further pop-up exhibition will share the stories of people and places affected by the horrors of the First World War in East Grinstead, and be displayed alongside their up-coming exhibition 'Art at War'.

Head of Corporate Resources Comments

Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the period ending 31st May 2017 which show a deficit of £5,520.

Total income was £141,343; mainly generated from Donations and Gift Aid (£73,586), Grants (£57,668), Fundraising (£4,971), Trading (£3,829), Other income (£1,000) and Interest (£289).

Total expenditure was £146,863; consisting of Supplies and Services (£131,701), Staff Related (£9,608) and Premises Related (£5,554).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £126,928, comprising of Cash £126,928.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's Evaluation of the Project

This is a project that will coincide with the Centenary of the end of WW1 and will give an opportunity to involve local people in providing a social history of the war. It will bring communities together and provide educational opportunities and the potential to attract visitors from outside the town and villages. The museum has received letters of support from each of the villages, mostly via local history groups, and from these they will begin to develop local relationships.

One of the villages, Felbridge, falls outside Mid Sussex so it is felt that only four of the five villages can be supported with MSDC funding.

Overall Score: 9

The Project Meets the Following Corporate Objectives

Strong and Resilient Communities – Community events in the villages will provide opportunities for local people to commemorate a national anniversary together, provide educational opportunities and also help to tackle social isolation. Participation with local people will give them a sense of ownership and pride in the project.

Sustainable Economic Growth – Increased visitor numbers to the town and villages will offer economic opportunities to local shops and businesses.

Recommendation

That the sum of £2,320 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed to deliver the Villages at War project in the four villages of Ashurst Wood, Crawley Down, Turners Hill and West Hoathly.

Name Of Organisation : Family Support Work

Purpose For Which Grant Is : Sessional playworker for drop in

Sought sessions for vulnerable families

Total Project Cost : £5,928

Amount of Grant Sought : £1,728

Previous Grants : £1,972 – Informal Support group (2016)

Background Information

Family Support Work help disadvantaged and vulnerable families who struggle with complex and interrelated issues, including financial hardship, social isolation, children with behavioural difficulties, domestic abuse or substance misuse. Support Practitioners provide intensive support to families, helping them to identify and tackle both long-standing and emerging problems; and to build their skill and resilience in order to avoid crisis (e.g. removal of children, school exclusion, homelessness).

A need was identified to support vulnerable families in Haywards Heath and a pilot has been running which offers a fortnightly drop in support service in the Bentswood area. Around half of the supported families are single mothers and a high proportion suffer with depression or anxiety and almost all are isolated. The service is managed by a support practitioner and two volunteers. Demand for the service is growing and is currently oversubscribed and there is a need to introduce a sessional playworker to support the practitioner. The play worker will support and manage activities for children and young people, which will enable the practitioner to focus solely on the support for the parents.

Head Of Corporate Resources Comments

Independently audited accounts have been submitted for the period ending 31st March 2017 which show a deficit of £850,620.

Total income was £331,957; mainly generated from Donations and Legacies (£162,217), Grants (£113,701), Fundraising (£52,613) and Interest (£3,426).

Total expenditure was £1,182,577; consisting of Supplies and Services (£322,258), Staff Related (£235,367), Transport related (£23,674), Premises Related (£2,020), Loss on disposal of Property (£197,164) and Loss on revaluation of fixed asset (£402,094).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £2,032,745, comprising of Tangible assets £940,158, Cash £1,180,632, Debtors £28,895 and Creditors (£116,940).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's Evaluation Of The Project

This is a strong application which demonstrates a real need in one of the most disadvantaged areas of Mid Sussex and the service was originally identified by the families themselves. It will help the most vulnerable families build their resilience and manage some of the complex issues they face and also help to reduce isolation in the community. Match funding has been secured by a number of Trusts to the value of £2,500 for the project and Family Support Work intend to raise the remainder through their own fundraising activities.

Overall Score: 11

The Project Meets the Following Corporate Objectives

Strong and Resilient Communities – Practical support is provided to the most vulnerable to help them stand on their own two feet and the social interaction between mothers and between children at the sessions help to build up relationships within the community and reduce social isolation.

Recommendation

That the sum of £1,728 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed to fund the sessional playworker to support the drop in sessions for vulnerable families.

Name Of Organisation : Friends of Burgess Hill Green Circle

Network

Purpose For Which Grant Is

Sought

Hand washing facility

Total Project Cost : £ 467

Amount Of Grant Sought : £ 467

Previous Grants : £1,551 – Wild about Mid Sussex (2017)

£1,292 – Wild about Mid Sussex (2017) £1,294 – Equipment for wildlife themed

activities (2016)

Background Information

The Friends of Burgess Hill Green Circle Network carry out conservation work in and around Burgess Hill, as well as providing informative and educational activities concerning wildlife and wildlife habitats throughout each year. All activities are free apart from indoor talks, for which a small admission charge of £2 - £3 is made to cover the costs of hall and speaker, though these are free to under-16s. This year's Children's Safari attracted some 300 people. The group organises the free annual "Wild About Mid Sussex" event, which was attended by around 3000 people in 2018.

Their outdoor events include the opportunity for the public to handle live animals and the group are requesting a grant to purchase a heavy duty portable sink to provide an adequate hand washing facility and meet with current health and safety requirements. In the past they have borrowed one although it is not guaranteed that this will be available for all future events.

Head Of Corporate Resources Comments

Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the period ending 31st March 2018 which show a deficit of £2,089.

Total income was £5,233; mainly generated from Grants (£2,292), Donations (£1,100), Subscriptions (£973), Fundraising (£572), Fees (£173) and Miscellaneous Sales (£123).

Total expenditure was £7,322; consisting of Supplies and Services (£7,322). Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £2,581, comprising of Cash £2,581.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's Evaluation Of The Project

MSDC's Environmental Health colleagues have confirmed that this item would be required at these types of events and confirmation has been provided from the retailer that the sink quoted is suitable for children and adults alike. The events will encourage people to appreciate local open spaces and their resident wildlife and promote the need of conserving natural habitats.

Overall score: 6

The Project Meets The Following Corporate Objectives

Effective and Responsive Services – By providing educational events for local people, and particularly children, on the preservation and conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitats and in doing so, providing adequate facilities to ensure the event meets health and safety requirements.

Recommendation

That the sum of £467 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed towards the purchase of a portable sink for outdoor events.

Name Of Organisation : Haywards Heath Town Team

:

Purpose For Which Grant Is

Sought

Mid Sussex STEM Challenge

Total Project Cost : £ 3,500

Amount Of Grant Sought : £ 3,500

Previous Grants : £5,000 – Mid Sussex Science Week (2017)

£5,000 - 175th Railway Anniversay (2015)

£500 – Village Fete (2014)

£2,500 - Mid Sussex Science Week (2014) £2,500 - Website Improvements (2014)

Background Information

Haywards Heath Town Team CIC is a not-for-profit community organisation that seeks to develop and promote the benefits and growth of Haywards Heath for its residents and business communities. It organises events throughout the year for the enjoyment of all ages while promoting a sustainable and healthy lifestyle. The development and growth of the local economy is also a primary objective of this organisation.

The project will build upon the success of last year's STEM challenge. The aim is to bring together local schools and businesses to encourage interest in the STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) to inspire school leavers to enter the employment market in the engineering and technology industries. This year's project will enable teams in six schools in the south of the District to plan and build a working drone, which will be put through a series of tests at a finals event to be held at the South of England Showground in March 2019.

The school teams will be supported throughout by eight mentors from the local business community who are giving up their time one afternoon a week to work with the students.

Head Of Corporate Resources Comments

Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the period ending 31st October 2017 which show a deficit of £5,344.

Total income was £20,982; mainly generated from; Sponsorship (£11,200), Other income (£5,032) and Grants (£4,750).

Total expenditure was £26,326; consisting of Supplies and Services (£15,326) and Third party donation (£11,000).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £17,094, comprising of Cash £17,094.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's Evaluation Of The Project

This is a worthwhile project to increase interest and enthusiasm in STEM related initiatives and previous STEM/Science week events have proved to be successful. In-kind funding has been secured of approximately £2,500 through the eight mentors who will be working with the school teams over the coming months, plus an in kind contribution from the South of England Showground who have provided the venue for the finals at a 50% rate. A small grant application to Haywards Heath Town Council is pending.

Overall score: 5

The Project Meets The Following Corporate Objectives

Sustainable Economic Growth – The project will enable young people to take an interest in science/technology/engineering with a view to them exploring a career in these industries.

Strong and Resilient Communities – As well as involving young people to work on a science related project and developing their understanding of the importance of science in everyday life, this will also develop and strengthen links between the education sector and local businesses.

Recommendation

That the sum of £3,500 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed for the Mid Sussex STEM Challenge.

Name Of Organisation : High Street Traders Association

Purpose For Which Grant Is :

Sought

The Big Reveal 2018

Total Project Cost : £ 4,921

Amount Of Grant Sought : £ 4,921

Previous Grants : None

Background Information

The High Street Traders Association organise events on East Grinstead High Street to promote the town with the main focus on community. The Association have been involved with various events over the years including 'Twas the Sunday Before Christmas', 'Spring Sunday', 'Bus Running Day' and more recently 'The Big Reveal'. The Association is made up from Traders from the High Street who regularly meet to discuss how best to serve the town.

They plan to run the "Big Reveal" event again in November where each trader unveils their Christmas window display to the public who vote on the winner. This year they want to enhance the event and use the grant to purchase an additional 4 snow machines (they already have 4), street performers and a magician, an animatronic polar bear and reindeer and/or horse drawn carriages. They also want to purchase jumpers for each trader taking part.

Head Of Corporate Resources Comments

Despite several requests, accounts were not provided by the applicant.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's Evaluation Of The Project

This is a popular event and last year 46 businesses took part and the event attracted close to 2,000 people. The event is supported by EGTC and MSDC have also agreed to waive car parking fees during the afternoon in the short stay car parks to encourage attendance. However, the application states that "the event will take place regardless so the grant is not essential" which brings into question the need for MSDC to contribute towards this. Despite requests, neither accounts nor a constitution has been provided so the assessment group cannot comment on the legal status of the organisation in relation to eligibility or their financial state. The need for MSDC to fund clothing for the traders and additional snow machines is also questionable.

Overall score: 4

The Project Meets The Following Corporate Objectives

Sustainable Economic Growth – Although this is not outlined in the application, the event will bring a boost to local businesses with the increased footfall. However, as the event is happening anyway, it is not clear what additional value an MSDC grant will bring.

Recommendation

That a Community and Economic Development Grant is not awarded for this event.

Name Of Organisation : Kangaroos Mid Sussex

Purpose For Which Grant Is : Breakaway club for children/young

Sought people with learning disabilities

Total Project Cost : £88,000

Amount Of Grant Sought : £ 5,000

Previous Grants : £5,000 – Breakaway (2017)

£5,000 - BreakAway (2016) £500 - PALS Overnights (2016)

£4,000 - PALS (2015) £3,443 - PALS (2014) £2,000 - PALS (2013)

Background Information

Kangaroos is a registered charity which has been based in Mid Sussex since 1994 providing a range of fun, inclusive social and leisure activities for children and young adults who have learning disabilities as well as additional physical, sensory, medical and behavioural difficulties. Activities and social opportunities are provided which fulfil emotional, social, cognitive and physical needs. Disabled young people spend a much higher proportion of their time with their parents or carers, have fewer opportunities to socialise outside of school or college and maintain friendships in the same way that their peers would do. Kangaroos provides opportunities to address this by offering age related clubs with tailored activities for over 230 children and young people, after school, in the evening, weekends and school holidays.

Clubs run throughout the year offering in-house activities and trips out tailored to the needs and choices of members, creating a safe and structured environment where they can play, socialise, interact and thrive, whilst supported by experienced, qualified staff and young volunteers, providing 1:1 and 2:1 support as required.

If successful, the grant will help to fund their BreakAway Saturday and Holiday Club aimed at young people aged from 12 to 18 with learning disabilities. Last year they provided 522 hours of tailored, stimulating, out of school activities. with inhouse activities such as cookery, crafts, music and games. In addition trips chosen by the young people included Groombridge Place, Hastings Sea Life Centre, Theatre visits and a two night overnight stay at Lodge Hill Outdoor Centre.

All clubs are run by experienced, fully qualified Delivery Managers together with sessional support staff and young volunteers. All staff undergo DBS checks and

every trip and in house event is fully risk assessed. Staff are experienced with training in safeguarding and other relevant training relating to working with young people with learning disabilities.

Head Of Corporate Resources Comments

Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the period ending 31st March 2017 which show a surplus of £10,221.

Total income was £402,582; mainly generated from Contracts (£154,739), Activities & Memberships (£98,680), Grants (£96,333), Donations and Legacies (£52,802) and Investment Income (£28).

Total expenditure was £392,361; consisting of Staff Related (£240,574) & Supplies and Services (£151,787).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £102,913, comprising of Tangible assets £7,427, Cash £100,669 & Creditors (£5,183).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's Evaluation Of The Project

Kangaroos provides an invaluable service for children and young people with disabilities. Staff and volunteers are well trained and the BreakAway Club provides a safe and supportive environment for children and young people to take part in activities and trips which is good for their personal development and wellbeing. The project meets the assessment criteria and is recommended for funding.

Overall score: 11

The Project Meets The Following Corporate Objectives

Effective and Responsive Services – Kangaroos is a user led organisation and as well as consulting regularly with their parents, they also involve their children and young adults at every stage of their planning. They hold a regular youth forum for their young adults and an informal forum for their teenage groups. They also have suggestion boxes at all of their projects.

Strong and Resilient Communities – Kangaroos enables children and young adults with disabilities to have a social life with their peers, giving them opportunities to enjoy a wide range of activities. The BreakAway Club allows young people to make new friends and take part in activities that other children take for granted. Kangaroos provides families with the opportunity to meet, network, share and support each other, which may be missing from their daily life as most disabled children use taxis and buses to transport them to school, parents and carers may not have the usual 'school gate' networks for support.

Recommendation

That a sum of £5,000 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed towards Kangaroos' Breakaway Club.

Name Of Organisation : Parochial Church Council of St Mary

:

Magdalene Church, Bolney

Purpose For Which Grant Is

Sought

Installation of a hand rail

Total Project Cost : £ 6,405

Amount Of Grant Sought : £ 6,405

Previous Grants : None

Background Information

The PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of the church and the care and maintenance of the church fabric and its contents and upkeep of the churchyard. It is an exempt charity and affiliated to the Diocese of Chichester. The Church is a Grade 1 listed building and is open daily to everyone.

Currently the footpath, which is also a public right of way, is a safety hazard in wet or icy conditions for the less-able bodied and there has been a number of requests over the years to improve accessibility by provision of supporting handrails. If successful the grant will contribute towards the installation of handrails to three flights of external stone steps on path from The Street via lychgate to improve accessibility to all users of the church and churchyard. The land is owned by the Diocese of Chichester.

Head Of Corporate Resources Comments

Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the period ending 31st December 2017 which show a surplus of £16,650.

Total income was £81,265; mainly generated from Donations and Gift Aid (£49,225), Insurance Claim (£14,133), Fundraising (£9,395), Grants (£3,130), Fees (£2,877), Other Activities (£2,494) and Interest (£11).

Total expenditure was £64,615; consisting of Supplies and Services (£40,490), Premises Related (£24,027) and Third Party Donation (£98).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £21,090, comprising of, Cash £42,785, Creditors (£1,995) and Creditors due after more than 1 year (£19,700).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's Evaluation Of The Project

Although this is a capital project which would be eligible for a Facility Grant, there are no available Section 106 funds available for Community Buildings in Bolney. The Assessment Group considers this project useful to improve access for all users. Planning permission was approved for this on 18 September. The applicant has asked for more than the maximum allowed for a Community and

Economic Development Grant in the application, although following further conversations, they have confirmed that they will fund any shortfall from their general funds and through voluntary contributions.

Overall score: 5

The Project Meets The Following Corporate Objectives

Effective and Responsive Services – The installation will meet local concerns to improve the safety of the path for all users and also provide greater access for the less abled visitors.

Recommendation

Subject to planning permission being granted, it is recommended that a Community and Economic grant of £5,000 is awarded towards the cost of installing a hand rail.

Name Of Organisation : Revitalise Respite Holidays

Purpose For Which Grant Is : Respite holiday breaks for disabled

Sought people

Total Project Cost : £18,130

Amount Of Grant Sought : £3,540

Previous Grants : £3,540 – respite holiday breaks for

disabled people (2017)

£3,540 – respite holiday breaks for

Disabled people (2016)

Background Information

Revitalise is a national charity which was set up 55 years ago. They are the UK's largest provider of respite breaks for disabled people and their carers which are delivered at three centres in Essex, Southampton and Southport.

All centres are registered with the CQC and cater for those who need 24 hour nurse led care and for all disabilities. Each centre provides all-inclusive accommodation including en-suite wet rooms, along with specialist equipment such as hoists, profiling beds and airflow mattresses.

Each centre offers short breaks in a relaxed, holiday-style environment, with a variety of trips and activities. The breaks include four accessible excursions and a host of activities, including day trips to France or the Isle of Wight. Guests are supported by volunteers who provide companionship and assistance. Disabled people have an opportunity to enjoy a break which may otherwise be out of reach whilst their carers are given a break from their caring responsibilities.

Guests are charged a fee for the breaks which is dependent upon the level of care needed. However, Revitalise try to keep costs as low as possible and fundraise to ensure that it is affordable to all. They also provide additional funding through their hardship fund for those who are unable to afford a break. A grant would help to directly provide 10 breaks for Mid Sussex residents.

Head Of Corporate Resources Comments

Audited accounts have been submitted for the period ending 31st January 2018 which show a surplus of £215K.

Total income was £9,757K; mainly generated from Charitable activities (£6,785K), Donations and Legacies (£1,813K), Other Trading Activities (£869K), Legacies (£141K), Profit on sale of Investment (£75K). Other Income (£60K) and Investment Income (£14K).

Total expenditure was £9,542K consisting of Supplies and Services (£4,866K), Staff Related (£4,416K) & Property Related (£260K).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £7,276K, comprising of Tangible assets £3,585K, Stock £24K, Debtors £450K, Cash £4,546K, Creditors due within 1 year (£1,071K) & Creditors due after more than 1 year (£258K).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's Evaluation Of The Project

The Council has previously awarded grants of up to £3,540 toward the cost of 10 Mid Sussex residents so this is comparable to previous years' contributions and would ensure that those on low incomes and in need of a break would be able to apply for financial assistance. Respite care is essential for disabled people and their carers and Revitalise offers a quality experience which provides all the necessary support and a choice of interesting activities. The grant will be ringfenced and will directly benefit Mid Sussex residents.

Overall Score: 10

The Project Meets The Following Corporate Objectives

Strong and Resilient Communities – Revitalise helps to improve the resilience of disabled people and their carers, providing a necessary break from daily routines. Without this, there is a risk that relationships can be put under strain or break down. Of guests recently surveyed, over 50% said that a break with Revitalise had helped to prevent their relationship from breaking down.

Recommendation

That a sum of £3,540 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed towards 10 respite care breaks for Mid Sussex residents.

Name Of Organisation : Stone Quarry Crew

Purpose For Which Grant Is : Youth Engagement Workshops

Sought

Total Project Cost : £ 5,000

Amount Of Grant Sought : £ 5,000

Previous Grants : None

Background Information

The Stone Quarry Crew was set up in 2016 and run events for all residents to reduce social isolation, build a more cohesive community and break down the effects of antisocial behaviour. The most regular and productive of these activities is the volunteer run Quarry Café which opens every Wednesday during the day providing visitors with a range of affordable drinks, snacks and cakes.

From 3:30pm the Cafe becomes the Quarry Youth Café where the emphasis is on the younger people and various activities take place including games, arts and crafts etc. The Youth Cafe also provides the young people with a free hot chocolate and pizza every week. The Youth Café have an open door policy to anyone from East Grinstead and surrounding area. The Quarry Café is a non-profit activity and any profits that are made are put back into the cafe to cover youth incentive items, arts and craft supplies and to keep prices as low as possible.

For the last year, Crawley Town Foundation has been supplying two coaches to run a Youth Engagement Workshop for young people aged 14+. The sessions are run at the Café on a Wednesday afternoon after school. The workshop specifically engages with young people that have been involved in or are in danger of getting involved in antisocial behaviour in the community. The coaches take the role of mentors and are skilled in mental health and have built a strong rapport with the young people. The sessions involve discussions about subjects that the young people raise, whilst playing games, During the time that this session has been running, the local community has seen a very noticeable drop in antisocial behaviour.

With the Council grant, Stone Quarry Crew would be able to run the workshop for at least another year to and plan to expand the number of young people involved by including those aged 12+. Widening the age range will directly influence the numbers of young people that, through lack of engagement, could go on to become involved in antisocial behaviour. The youth membership numbers have grown consistently over the last months.

Head Of Corporate Resources Comments

Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the period ending 31st March 2018 which show a deficit of £5,157.

Total income was £2,470; mainly generated from Café, Fest & Snow income (£1,340), Donations (£630) and Grants (£500).

Total expenditure was £7,627; consisting of Supplies and Services (£7,627).

Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £804, comprising of Cash £1,029 and Creditors (£225).

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's Evaluation Of The Project

This is a good application which addresses a need in one of the most disadvantaged areas in East Grinstead and has made a difference in the past year. It is addressing preventative issues on anti-social behaviour by engaging young people before problems escalate. With the grant they will be reaching more young people over the next year by expanding their work to include those from 12 years old.

Overall score: 9

The Project Meets The Following Corporate Objectives

Effective and Responsive Services - The workshop has proven its effectiveness over the last year and has received positive comments from residents about the noticeable improvements in antisocial or poor behaviour. The workshops are youth led to ensure activities provided meet the need and the young people feel included in the sessions. If the young peoples' needs change, the workshops are designed to adapt to that need to keep a strong engagement with the participants.

Strong and resilient communities – The workshops are helping to develop these individuals by providing them with activities and discussions that are of interest to them and making them feel part of the project, increasing opportunities for them to access further support and helping them to improve their behaviour.

Recommendation

That a sum of £5,000 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed towards the cost of running the youth engagement workshops at the café.

Name Of Organisation : Summerhaven

Purpose For Which Grant Is : Drop in facility for adults with mental

Sought health problems

Total Project Cost : £ 2,310

Amount Of Grant Sought : £ 500

Previous Grants : £1,000 – Mental health drop ins (2017)

£1,000 - Mental health drop ins (2016) £1,000 - Mental health drop ins (2015)

Background Information

Summerhaven provides a drop-in facility for four hours each Sunday afternoon at the Park Centre in Burgess Hill. The facility helps people from Burgess Hill, Haywards Heath and surrounding villages who have mental health problems, to have a safe space and avoid social isolation. A range of activities including the use of computer, art sessions, pool table, DAB radio and kitchen for refreshments is available for members to improve their well-being.

The organisation was set up in 2015 following a meeting of local residents with mental health problems, their families, and Councillors, which identified a need for a local drop-in. Services were previously provided by Summerfold House and Millhaven in Burgess Hill but both closed some years before.

They have requested a small grant which would part fund hire of premises, insurances, art materials, leaflets, training, admin and travel costs. They have secured funding from Sussex Community Foundation (£690) and Burgess Hill Town Council (£500) and expect to raise some earned income through the sale of refreshments.

Head Of Corporate Resources Comments

Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the period ending 31st March 2018 which show a surplus of £640.

Total income was £3,999; mainly generated from Funding (£3,190), Refreshments (£497) and Donations (£312).

Total expenditure was £3,359; consisting of Supplies and Services (£3,359). Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £4,345, comprising of Cash £4,345.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group's Evaluation Of The Project

The project meets a need in the local community and is provided free of charge, run solely by volunteers. The volunteers are trained and DBS checked so there is an element of development which enables them to sustain the ongoing project. There are limited opportunities for people with mental health problems to socialise locally and this project will help to reduce isolation in a safe and supportive environment. The project meets the assessment criteria and is recommended for funding.

Overall score: 7

The Project Meets The Following Corporate Objectives

Effective and Responsive Services – The organisation was set up by local people who identified a gap in provision following the closure of local WSCC facilities and now provides a much needed service which enables residents with mental health problems to have a safe place to go to and avoid social isolation.

Strong and Resilient Communities – The project aims to enable local residents with mental health problems to participate fully in their community and provide opportunities to engage in society and lead full, rewarding lives. The project aims to reduce the anxiety of members and help to improve their personal wellbeing.

Recommendation

That a sum of £500 from the Community and Economic Development Fund be agreed towards the cost of the drop in facility for people with mental health problems.