

Cheltenham Borough Council

Community Pride Grants

Delegated decision by Cllr. Steve Jordan, Leader of the Council

Accountable member	Cllr. Steve Jordan, Leader of the Council																																			
Accountable officer	Richard Gibson, Strategy and Engagement Manager																																			
Ward(s) affected	All																																			
Key Decision	No																																			
Executive summary	<p>As part of the 2016-17 budget, agreed by Council on 12 February 2016, £30,000 was set aside for the community pride scheme.</p> <p>In addition, a further £4,000 was added to the pot from the community development budget to create a community building grant fund.</p> <p>Both funds were made available to support neighbourhood-based projects that will build up community pride and enable local groups to be more influential in supporting their communities and improving their neighbourhoods.</p> <p>The bidding round went live on 18 March 2016 with a closing date of Friday 17th June 2016. In total 27 community pride applications and 10 community building applications were received.</p> <p>A panel comprising the Cabinet Member Healthy Lifestyles, Angela Gilbert from Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, Helen Down, and Richard Gibson, from the Commissioning Division met on 14 July to assess the 27 community pride applications and make recommendations to the Leader of the Council.</p>																																			
Recommendations	<p>To allocate community pride grants as follows:</p> <table><tr><th>Organisation</th><th>Project</th><th>amount agreed</th></tr><tr><td>Up Hatherley Parish Council</td><td>Lighting on non-Highway Footpath - Up Hatherley</td><td>£2,000</td></tr><tr><td>Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Branch, Royal National Lifeboat Institution</td><td>Commemoration of the launch of the Cheltenham Lifeboat at Pittville Upper Lake, October 1866</td><td>£875</td></tr><tr><td>Cheltenham Hebrew Congregation</td><td>Judaism: Educational Resources</td><td>£1,110</td></tr><tr><td>Cheltenham West End Partnership</td><td>Cheltenham Together Annual Culture Share event</td><td>£1,500</td></tr><tr><td>Holst Birthplace Museum</td><td>Events Programme with Pop Up Victorian Cafe</td><td>£3,000</td></tr><tr><td>The Rock</td><td>St Peter's & the Moors Community Cafe</td><td>£1,000</td></tr><tr><td>Fairview Community Association (FCA)</td><td>Fairview Community Fireworks Party</td><td>£1,500</td></tr><tr><td>Cheltenham Open Studios (COS)</td><td>COS17</td><td>£2,000</td></tr><tr><td>The Friends of Hatherley Park</td><td>Plant up that space</td><td>£611</td></tr><tr><td>SPRA</td><td>1) St Paul's Local History day, 2) Front garden award, 3) New community noticeboard, 4) Additional litter bins</td><td>£695</td></tr></table>			Organisation	Project	amount agreed	Up Hatherley Parish Council	Lighting on non-Highway Footpath - Up Hatherley	£2,000	Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Branch, Royal National Lifeboat Institution	Commemoration of the launch of the Cheltenham Lifeboat at Pittville Upper Lake, October 1866	£875	Cheltenham Hebrew Congregation	Judaism: Educational Resources	£1,110	Cheltenham West End Partnership	Cheltenham Together Annual Culture Share event	£1,500	Holst Birthplace Museum	Events Programme with Pop Up Victorian Cafe	£3,000	The Rock	St Peter's & the Moors Community Cafe	£1,000	Fairview Community Association (FCA)	Fairview Community Fireworks Party	£1,500	Cheltenham Open Studios (COS)	COS17	£2,000	The Friends of Hatherley Park	Plant up that space	£611	SPRA	1) St Paul's Local History day, 2) Front garden award, 3) New community noticeboard, 4) Additional litter bins	£695
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Prestbury Parish Council	Provision of security gates to the Blacksmith's Lane Allotment Garden	£1,500
African Community Foundation	Black History Month Cheltenham	£2,000
Cheltenham Midsummer Fiesta	Midsummer Fiesta	£2,500
Cheltenham Christian Arts	Cheltenham Christian Arts Festival 2017	£2,500
Charlton Kings Youth & Community Centre	Charlton Kings Youth & Community Centre – Kitchenette for All Users	£1,500
Hesters Way Partnership, with Community Roots, Glos Wildlife Trust and the Conservation Volunteers	Community-based projects in West Cheltenham	£5,000
TOTAL		£29,291.00

To allocate community building grants as follows:

Organisation	Project	Amount agreed
Cheltenham Civic Society	Cheltenham Spa Tercentenary – illustrated booklet	300
Cheltenham Pensioners Forum	18th anniversary buffet lunch	280
Charlton Kings in Bloom	Charlton Kings Meadows Project 2017	300
Pilates by Charlotte	Pre and Post-natal Pilates Group	300
Cheltenham Wombles	Art / Pottery competition – “Keeping Cheltenham Tidy”	300
SPRA	St Paul's Road Area residents association (SPRA) & St Paul's NCG	300
Tenants Garden Competition	Tenants Garden Competition	350
Cheltenham Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration	Cheltenham Holocaust Memorial Day Act of Remembrance 2017	320
Mayor of Cheltenham	Rose Planting to celebrate Twinning Link	240
Cheltenham in Bloom	Enhancing the Planters!	300
TOTAL		2,990

Financial implications	<p>Funding for the community pride scheme will come from 2016-17 budget as agreed by Council. Funding for the community building grant will come from the community development budget under the community grants budget heading.</p> <p>Contact officer: Myn Cotterill Business Partner Accountant 01242 774958 Myn.Cotterill@cheltenham.gov.uk</p>
Legal implications	<p><i>The payment of these mostly small grants does not generally require much in the way of formal documentation. However, written agreements will be used to document these grants, based on the Community Giving Grant template, with necessary adaptations for the very small grants.</i></p> <p>Contact officer: Solicitor – One Legal</p>

HR implications (including learning and organisational development)	None identified
Key risks	If funding is allocated to an organisation that subsequently goes onto use the funding on a fraudulent basis. This is held on the Commissioning Division Risk Register.
Corporate and community plan Implications	The health inequality grants will both help deliver the council's corporate outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People live in strong, safe and healthy communities
Environmental and climate change implications	None identified

1. Community Pride Grants

- 1.1** 2016 will be the eleventh year of the council's community pride scheme which has allocated just over £430,000 to match-fund over 250 community-based projects that have improved and enhanced the public realm.
- 1.2** The focus of the scheme has remained resolutely on the public environment but more recent rounds have seen an added emphasis on promoting sustainability and on building-up community ownership over the environment.
- 1.3** For 2016-17 round, Cabinet were clear that the funding should once again be made available to support neighbourhood-based projects that will build up community pride and enable local groups to be more influential in supporting their communities and improving their neighbourhoods. This year we had two pots of funding:
- 1.4** Up to £30,000 was made available via community pride grants to match-fund community-led projects, up to the value of £5,000.
- 1.5** Up to £4,000 was also made available via community-building grants to community and voluntary sector groups to run small-scale projects, events and activities to help them support the well-being of their neighbourhood up to the value of £300.
- 1.6** The grant schemes went live from Friday 18 March 2016 and were publicised through Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, media releases and information on the council's website. The closing date was Friday 17th June 2016 which gave applicants an 8 week period to submit applications.
- 1.7** A panel comprising the Cabinet Member Healthy Lifestyles, Angela Gilbert from Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, Helen Down, and Richard Gibson, from the Commissioning Division met on 14 July to assess the 27 community pride applications and make recommendations to the Leader of the Council.

2. Reasons for recommendations

- 2.1** Due to the large numbers of community pride applications received this year, which collectively were requesting just over £87,000 (against a total available of £30,000), the assessment panel carried out an assessment of the applications to assess the degree to which the applications met the criteria of this year's community pride fund:
 - Was the application from a community-based organisation?
 - Was the project of a permanent nature?
 - Was the project accessible at no-cost?
 - Would the project create a lasting legacy?

- Was the project neighbourhood based?
- Would the project meet a defined community need
- What the community pride funding achieve
- How would the applicant measure success
- What was the ratio of funding requested to match funding

- 2.2** The panel identified 16 community pride projects that could definitely answer in the positive for the majority of the criteria and agreed that they should be recommended for approval. The total sum awarded through this process totalled £24,291.
- 2.3** The panel also identified 3 community pride projects that were proposing community-based environmental projects in the West of Cheltenham. The collective request was for £9,474. The panel suggested that a pot of £5,000 be allocated to the three organisations to work collaboratively with Hesters Way Partnership to deliver an over-arching project.
- 2.4** The assessment of the projects is shown in **appendix 2**.
- 2.5** In terms of the community building grants, 10 requests were received and it is recommended that all 10 projects are funded at a total cost of £2,990. These are listed in appendix 3.

3. Alternative options considered

- 3.1** None

4. Consultation and feedback

- 4.1** None

5. Performance management –monitoring and review

- 5.1** Once approved, the council will enter into written agreements with the succesful applicants which are based on the community giving grant template. This specifies that the grant recipient will submit a project monitoring report, summarising the project achievements, outcomes and lessons learnt to the Strategy and Engagement Manager on completion of the project.

Report author	Contact officer: Richard Gibson Strategy and Engagement Manager richard.gibson@cheltenham.gov.uk, 01242 235354
Appendices	1. Risk Assessment 2. Assessment and recommendations of community pride applications 3. Recommendations of community building applications
Background information	

The risk				Original risk score (impact x likelihood)			Managing risk				
Risk ref.	Risk description	Risk Owner	Date raised	Impact 1-5	Likelihood 1-6	Score	Control	Action	Deadline	Responsible officer	Transferred to risk register
CD.2 -	If division does not put proper controls in place for the management of small grants funds, then we run the risk of funds being used inappropriately or even fraudulently	Strategy and Engagement Manager	March 2010	3	2	6	Reduce	implement and monitor small grants protocol	ongoing	Strategy and Engagement Manager	Commissioning Division
Explanatory notes Impact – an assessment of the impact if the risk occurs on a scale of 1-5 (1 being least impact and 5 being major or critical) Likelihood – how likely is it that the risk will occur on a scale of 1-6 (1 being almost impossible, 2 is very low, 3 is low, 4 significant, 5 high and 6 a very high probability) Control - Either: Reduce / Accept / Transfer to 3rd party / Close											