

Agenda Item 7

For ratification – Community Grants

Author: Laura Flaherty, Executive Assistant to the Town Clerk and Mayor

Summary

The Grants Advisory Panel (GAP) met on 4 October 2022 to consider eleven applications for the second round of the Community Grants for 2022/23. Nine applications were proposed for approval. The Town Clerk approved them, and it is recommended that Council ratifies this decision. The nine applications are in table 1 below.

1. Community grants

There was £45,813 remaining in the budget. It was agreed to allocate around half of this to allow a third round in 2023. All applications are assessed by the GAP Cllrs using a scoring system. They then meet to discuss the applications in detail and, informed by the scoring matrix, agree recommendations. The Town Clerk has approved these decisions and therefore, the table below, is for ratification. A third round for applications will close on 20th February 2023 at 5pm.

Table 1. Community grants £300 - £3,000 - for ratification

| | Applicant | Project | Amount requested | Amount agreed |
|----|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| 10 | Frome Park Bowls Club | Replacement of folding chairs | £1,500.00 | £500.00 |
| 11 | Foodage 4 Thought | Cooking nutrition and wellbeing | £3,000.00 | £3,000.00 |
| 12 | Merlin Theatre | LED lighting upgrade | £3,000.00 | £3,000.00 |
| 14 | Frome and Mendip Explorer Scout Unit | Camping equipment provision | £2,009.97 | £2,009.97 |
| 15 | Frome Town Women's Football Club | F4: Frome Female Football Futures | £2,690.00 | £2,690.00 |
| 16 | Evolve Music | Sound Lab | £3,000 | £3,000 |
| 17 | Photo Frome | Festival of Photography 2023 | £3,000.00 | £1,500.00 |
| 18 | Frome Shed | A warm space during economic and energy crisis | £1,200.00 | £1,200.00 |
| 19 | The Equivalent Project CIC | Equine facilitated learning | £2,880.00 | £2,880.00 |
| | TOTAL | | £22,279.97 | £19,779.97 |

Table 2. Unsuccessful Community grants £300 - £3,000 - for ratification

| No | Applicant | Project | Amount requested | Recommendations |
|----|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|---|
| 09 | Music for Miniatures | Concerts in Frome | £2,000 | The benefit to disadvantaged families was sufficiently evidenced. |
| 13 | Rare Species | Mojo Moves | £3,000 | GAP felt the application could have been used to subsidise access to the classes rather than to pay for salaries. |
| | TOTAL | | £5,000 | |

At the time of writing there have been no further Mayor's grant applications for 2022/23.

Recommendations

1. Ratify the awards for community grants in table 1
2. Ratify the decision not to award to substantial grants in table 2
3. Delegate authority to the Community Development Manager to ensure the recommended conditions are met and review the impacts of this funding as appropriate