

# KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL

## REPORT FOR DECISION

Item No:- FC22/15

Committee:-	Finance and Governance Committee
Date:-	22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2022
Author:-	Martin Hammond, Clerk
Report Title:-	Small Grants Applications
Wards Affected:-	All – one application affects All Saints ward

### 1. Purpose of Report

To submit applications from the first round of the small grants programme.

### 2. Recommendations

Members are asked to determine the applications received in accordance with the grants policy

### 3. Information

3.1. The Council agreed, in March 2022, a small grants allocation of £15000 for this financial year and a policy for distribution of the money through an application process.

3.2. The application stage for the first round was launched in early April, with a deadline for applications by the end of May. Five applications were received but one was rejected as it was on behalf of an organisation operating solely in Burton Latimer.

3.3. The four valid applications are set out in the table below.

Applicant	Organisational purpose	£ sought	Project funding requested for	Relevant priorities	Financial overview
Home Start	Family support	£5000	Core running costs – contribution to manager's salary	Community resilience	The total cost of service is £75,000; £40,000 met from own resources, and the remainder from grants and fund raising. The grant requested amounts to 15% of costs.
Friends of Rockingham Rd Park (FORRP)	Protect, enhance, promote and enjoy RRP	£1000	Website hosting, new noticeboard in the park and bulb planting	Community resilience, health and community; Sustainability	These are the only costs, as all work is done by volunteers
Kettering Community Unit (KCU)	Support for people in crisis, with services, mentoring, education and work experience	£4000	Employing a van diver who can deliver food parcels and donated furniture and household goods to people in need	Community resilience	The project cost is £10200 and the grant requested represent 39% of the total cost.
Civic Society	Promoting the heritage of Kettering, civic pride,	£5000	Producing a history of Kettering for primary school age children	Community resilience	The project cost is £8140 and the grant requested represents 61% of the total cost.

3.4. The policy also applies some further tests to the applications as follows:- colour coded to reflect a good match (green), moderate match (amber) or a poor match (red)

Test	Home Start	FORRP	KCU	Civic Society
Does the project target resources to meet identified needs?	Yes – meeting needs from client group	Yes, identifies improvements that can be made	Yes – meeting needs from a vulnerable client group	Yes – responding to approaches from junior schools

Does it maximise leverage and match funding	Yes – small proportion of overall costs	No other costs involved, relies on volunteer effort	Reasonably well	Small amount of other resources deployed
Does it maximise sustainability – social economic and environmental	It helps families experiencing challenges and seeks to support them to manage	Yes, for at least 2 years re the website and longer for the other elements.	It helps individuals from getting further into crisis	It will support an understanding of place and history
Achieve greater accountability and open-ness	Not very relevant in this case	Yes, improves visibility of the FORRP	Not very relevant in this case	Not very relevant in this case.
Is the funding to be provided sustainable?	No, this is for core costs which will need funding in the future from somewhere for it to continue	Yes, one off projects	The application outlines other funding applications which might pick up the costs in the future.	This is a one off project

3.5.A copy of the grants policy is attached as Appendix 1 and the three completed applications forms are attached as Appendices 2-4

#### **4. Consultation and Engagement**

4.1. The policy was the subject of consultation before it was adopted.

4.2. The availability of grants was advertised through the website and social media accounts and to about 30 organisations directly and to a further 100 or so through the offices of the Voluntary Sector Network, which also offered to support those completing an application form.

#### **5. Finance, Legal and Resource Implications**

5.1. There is £15000 in the budget and the three applications add up to £15000 if they were to be all accepted in full. In this case, there would not be doing a second round of grants unless and until it was clear what monies were unspent from the ward initiatives fund by Christmas; a second round could then be conducted in early January.

5.2. The range of grants on offer is between £500 and £5000

5.3. Applicants seeking money for core costs are not guaranteed ongoing funding under the policy.

## 6. Policy Implications

The grants policy identifies the following priorities:-

**Economic development** – supporting sustainable growth; support for the town centre through encouraging and delivering events and markets, or making the town centre safe, attractive, interesting and varied.

**Health and Community**- measures to improve physical and mental health wellbeing, particularly in the light of the impacts of covid 19.

**Armed Forces** – initiatives which support the objectives of the Armed Forces Covenant

**Sustainability** – measures which encourage and supporting sustainable habits and opportunities including widening the scope and opportunities for recycling, and bio-diversity, optimising sustainable methods of travel, and which protect, restore and enhance our local biodiversity

**Community resilience** – measures which support volunteering, community involvement, neighbourhood and community led activities; enable voluntary youth action and the development of services for young people; prevent homelessness, improve social mobility , tackle inequality; and promote social inclusion

**Sporting or artistic excellence** –supporting measures which improve sporting or artistic achievement for local people.

**Twinning activities** which promote international understanding, provide cultural learning opportunities and which engage the wider community including young people and those with limited life experience.

### Background Papers

Applications

Publicity material

Policy

