

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
GRANTS BOARD – 9 FEBRUARY 2022
REPORT OF THE HEAD OF COMMUNITY AND HOUSING STRATEGY

2021/22 SMALL COMMUNITY GRANTS – ROUND TWO

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 There is £50,000 in total available during the financial year 2021/22 to be awarded through the grants process.
- 1.2 This is the second round of funding for the Small Community Grants.
- 1.3 A first round of funding took place in July 2021 when the Grants Board awarded a total of £14,202. Leaving a total of £35,798 available to be distributed during round two of the Small Community Grants fund.
- 1.4 In total £13,476.80 has been applied for in this round of funding for the Small Community Grant Applications.

2 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 Grants Board to agree which applications for small community grants meet the council's priorities and criteria and how much they should each receive.

3 Explanation

- 3.1 There are eight applications totalling £13,476.80 for small community grants to be reviewed:

Small Grants	Amount
The Platypus Swimming Club for the Handicapped	£1,775.00
SPACE- Parent Support Group	£1,800.00
17th WGC Ranger Unit - Girl Guiding	£401.80
Welwyn Rugby Football Club	£2,000.00
Birchwood Trust	£2,000.00
Hertfordshire LTA (Tennis Centres) Ltd	£2,000.00
Bushin MMA Club	£1,500.00
Welwyn Wheelers	£2,000.00
Total	£13,476.80
Budget	£35,798.00

3.2 Applications for the small community grants must comply with the following criteria:

- Come from an organisation that is incorporated or an unincorporated charity or a voluntary/community/not-for-profit group.
- At least 50 per cent of the organisation's members/clients/users must live or work in the borough of Welwyn Hatfield (or their target market for this project meets this criteria). The organisation must be able to provide monitoring information on its membership/users.
- The organisation must be committed to Equal Opportunities and have an Equalities Policy in place (where applicable). However, organisations may target some or all of its activities at specific groups, where the intention is to address discrimination or disadvantage.
- The organisation must be sustainable and able to show budgetary information. They also must be able to provide recent audited/independently examined accounts or projected income/expenditure figures (in the case of organisations that are less than a year old) to demonstrate its need for financial assistance.
- The project/event for which funding is requested must be planned for the future as funding will not be given for events/projects that have already taken place at the time when the application form is received by Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council.
- Detail costs for the project will be required and it should be noted the Council will not normally totally fund a project as applicants are expected to raise some of the costs themselves.

Implications

4 Legal Implication(s)

4.1 There are no direct legal implications connected with this report.

5 Financial Implication(s)

5.1 The 2021/22 total budget for small Community Grants is £50,000.

5.2 In total £13,476.80 has been applied for in this round of small community grant funding from eight applications.

6 Risk Management Implications

6.1 There is a risk related to providing grants to voluntary organisations in that there is the possibility that the organisation could go into administration and as such the funding would be lost. There is also the possibility that organisations do not spend the grant provided on the agreed projects or costs as per their applications.

6.2 The risks are mitigated as much as possible through the application process, where information is provided about the organisation, its governance and financial structures and the reason it has applied for funding.

6.3 Risk Score Likelihood Low; Impact Low to Medium. Overall risk score Low

7 Security & Terrorism Implication(s)

7.1 In complying with the Prevent duty Local Authorities need to ensure that publicly owned resources do not provide a platform for extremists and are not used to disseminate extremist views.

8 Procurement Implication(s)

8.1 There are no procurement implications.

9 Climate Change Implication(s)

9.1 There are no climate change implications.

10 Human Resources Implication(s)

10.1 There are none arising from this report.

11 Health and Wellbeing Implication(s)

11.1 Providing grants to community organisations for the benefit of Welwyn Hatfield residents assists the council in meeting its objectives to improve the health and wellbeing of the borough.

12 Communications Plan

12.1 All successful organisations are required to actively promote the Council when market their event or project.

12.2 The Council will also put out a press release detailing the successful applicants and highlighting some of the projects/initiatives that the Council is supporting through this round of Grants.

13 Link to Corporate Priorities

13.1 The subject of this report is linked to several of the council's recently adopted priorities especially around a sense of community where people feel safe.

14 Equality and Diversity

14.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was not completed because this report does not propose changes to existing service-related policies or the development of new service-related policies.

Name of author	Bianca Moreira
Title	Community Partnerships Manager
Date	17 January 2022