



**REPORT TO:** Grants Advisory Committee

26 February 2020

**LEAD CABINET MEMBER:** Councillor John Williams Lead Cabinet Member for Finance

**LEAD OFFICER:** Jay Clarke

## Community Chest Grant: Funding Applications

### Executive Summary

1. To consider new applications received between 21st January 2021 and 12 Feb 2021 to the Community Chest funding scheme during 2020/21. There are no deferrals to consider.
2. To consider temporary revisions to 'Guidance notes for Community Chest' to allow for Covid related recovery specific Community Chest Grants to be awarded in March 2021 (and possibly April 2021 depending on remaining funding)

### Key Decision

3. Is this a Key Decision? – No.

### Recommendations

4. It is recommended that the Grants Advisory Committee considers all applications for funding that are set out in Appendix A to this report and makes a recommendation to the Lead Cabinet Member regarding the level of funding (£0 - £1,000) to be awarded for each or defer a decision, if further information is required, or reject an application if it doesn't comply with the grants' criteria.
5. It is recommended that the Grants Advisory Committee consider and accept, amend or reject the following text to be temporarily inserted into the 'Guidance notes for Community Chest', usually referred to as Appendix B. This will allow a one-off Community Chest – Covid specific round of grants to be publicised as such and decided at the end of March 2021 Committee meeting along with usual applications.

#### *Covid Relief Community Chest Grants*

*The Grants Advisory Committee have agreed to relax the eligible body requirements for the March (and possibly April) 2021 funding rounds (depending on remaining funding). This is to allow any group or Parish Council to apply. The Committee can award a maximum grant allocation of up to £2000 specifically in the case of applications designed to mitigate the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic. This is a temporary change to*

*Community Chest Guidance, for applications brought before March 2021 (and possibly April 2021) depending on remaining funding.*

*E.G. a parish council which would usually be ineligible for funding can apply for Covid specific funding, a group could apply for up to £2000, or if a particularly worthwhile project requested part funding, the Grants Advisory Committee may fund the project at a higher level than requested if it feels appropriate to do so.*

*This is a temporary change in guidance and any applications reviewed under this rule are done so entirely at the discretion of the Grants Advisory Committee. No guarantee of funding is made for Covid related Community Chest Applications.*

## Reasons for Recommendations

6. The Grants Advisory Committee's role is to consider and make recommendations to the Lead Cabinet Member responsible for grants, or Cabinet as appropriate, including, but not limited to:
  - a) Review of the Council's grants schemes to ensure they reflect Council priorities.
  - b) Design of any new or revised grants schemes, including consideration of criteria and guidance applicable in respect of each scheme.
  - c) Consideration of applications made under the Council's grants schemes.

## Details

7. The Community Chest is grant funding available to voluntary and community sector groups, charities and public sector bodies wishing to further improve quality of life in South Cambridgeshire Applicants may apply for up to £1,000 and the community activity or project must deliver one or more of the following:
  - Improvements to community buildings and spaces (i.e. village halls / pavilions / play areas etc)
  - Repairs to historic buildings / monuments / memorials
  - Equipment / capital purchase
  - Materials
  - Start-up costs (may include training of staff / volunteers, hall hire and other revenue costs).
8. Guidance notes and eligibility criteria can be found at Appendix B.
9. Total amount of funding made available for 2020/21 is £58,140.00.
10. There are **4** new applications totalling **£3,564** for consideration. The amount of funding remaining for allocation is **£44,639.75** A summary of the applications can be found at Appendix A (copies of the applications forms are available from the Sustainable Communities and Wellbeing Team upon request).

## Options

11. The Grants Advisory Committee may consider all applications for funding that are set out in Appendix A of this report and recommend to the Lead Cabinet Member to:

12.

- a. award the amount of funding requested,
- b. award an alternative amount of funding, including zero funding,
- c. defer a decision, if further information is required from grant applicants, or
- d. reject an application stating the reason for this.

## **Implications**

13. There are no significant implications

## **Risks/Opportunities**

14. Applicants are required to provide supporting documents including copies of their constitution, financial accounts and quotes where applicable. Applicants must agree to the grant conditions before funds are released.

## **Consultation responses**

15. Local members have been consulted on applications that directly affect their local area.

## **Effect on Council Priority Areas**

16. The corporate aims are referenced in the criteria and guidance notes for the Community Chest.

## **Background Papers**

Grants Advisory Committee Meetings

<https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CIId=1096&Year=0>

## **Appendices**

Appendix A: Applications Summary

Appendix B: Guidance notes for Community Chest

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