

<b>Report to:</b>	Grants Advisory Committee	26 August 2022
<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor John Williams Lead Cabinet Member for Finance	
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Gareth Bell	

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# Community Chest Grant: Funding Applications

## Executive Summary

1. To consider new applications received between 11 July 2022 and 10 August 2022 to the Community Chest Grant funding scheme.

## Key Decision

2. No

## Recommendations

3. 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 for Finance regarding the level of funding (£0 - £2,000) to be awarded for each, or defers a decision, if further information is required, or rejects an application if it doesn't comply with the grant criteria.

## Reasons for Recommendations

4. 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) Reviewing the Council's grants schemes to ensure they reflect Council priorities.
  - b) Designing any new or revised grants schemes, including consideration of criteria and guidance applicable in respect of each scheme.

c) Considering applications made under the Council's grants schemes.

## Details

5. 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 £2,000 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)
  - Costs involved with the creation of a Community-Led Plan (not the resulting projects)
  - Enhance the natural environment / result in a sustainable increase in local biodiversity

In accordance with the criteria, Parish Councils of any size can apply for biodiversity grants through this fund if they are not already in receipt of a grant from the Council's Zero Carbon Communities grant fund for the current financial year.

Parish Councils are also eligible to apply if they are using funds to deliver community engagement for the creation of a Community-led Plan.

6. Guidance notes and full eligibility criteria can be found at Appendix B.
7. Total amount of funding made available for Community Chest Grants 2022/23 is **£61,768.83**

In addition, there is **£20,000\*\*** ringfenced for 2022/23 for **Biodiversity Grants** and **£48,000** ringfenced (expiring in October 2023) for the creation of **Community-Led Plans**.

8. A summary of the applications can be found at Appendix A (copies of the applications forms are available from the Communities Team upon request).
9. The table below details the budget remaining at the time of this report within each subsection of the Community Chest, as well as the number of applications made, and the total amounts applied for.
10. Alternative existing and available communities funding has been used to cover all Jubilee related grants funded at the meeting of the Grants Advisory Committee on 29 April 2022. This figure of £21,894.72 has not been included in the below table as has no effect on the remaining budget.
11. On 29 April 2022 the Grants Advisory Committee recommended to the Lead Cabinet Member for Finance that Longstowe Parish Council (SFCSKXGK) be approved and funded at the full amount requested of £1,129.08. Since this decision was made, the applicant informed the Council that an application to another grant giving body for the same project had also been successful. The applicant also asked if an alternative project submitted in the same month could be funded instead (this was originally rejected as criteria states that only one application can be made in each financial year).

The alternative project (TCDNZZTJ), for the Platinum Jubilee commemorative planting of an Oak tree, plaque and road verge planting of daffodils was approved by the Lead Cabinet Member for Finance and funded at the full amount requested of £314. This adjustment (+£815.08) has been included in the below table.

<b>Type</b> (total fund for the period)	<b>Date fund expires</b>	<b>Total budget at last month</b>	<b>Applications received this month</b>	<b>Total applied for this month</b>	<b>Remaining budget if all projects funded this month</b>
<b>Community Chest</b> <b>(61,768.83) *</b>	31 March 2023	£32,486.78***	3	£4,850	<b>£27,636.78</b>
<b>Biodiversity</b> <b>(£20,000) **</b>	31 March 2023	£19,045.01	0	0	<b>£19,045.01</b>
<b>Community-Led Plans</b> <b>(£48,000)</b>	October 2023	£48,000	0	0	<b>£48,000</b>
Total	-	£99,531.79	3	£4,850	<b>£94,681.79</b>

\* £58,000 plus remaining £3,768.83 from 2021/2022 financial year

\*\* £10,000 plus remaining £10,000 from 2021/2022 financial year

\*\*\* adjustment due to change in amount funded for Longstowe Parish Council

## Options

9. 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 for Finance to:
  - 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

10. There are no significant implications

## Consultation responses

11. Wherever possible, local members have been consulted on applications that directly affect their local area.

## Alignment with Council Priority Areas

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

## Background Papers

Grants Advisory Committee Meetings

<https://scambsmoderngov.co.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=1096&Year=0>

## Appendices

Appendix A: Applications Summary

Appendix B: Guidance notes for Community Chest

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