

Report to:	Grants Advisory Committee	30 September 2022
Lead Cabinet Member:	Councillor John Williams Lead Cabinet Member for Finance	
Lead Officer:	Gareth Bell	

Community Chest Grant: Funding Applications

Executive Summary

1. To consider new applications received between 10 August 2022 and 12 September 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. The total amount of funding available for Community Chest Grants in 2022/23 has been amended from **£61,768.83** to **£48,225.31**. The former was calculated by adding the £58,000 annual fund for 2022/23 to the remaining £3,768.83 rolled over from the 2021/22 financial year.
8. However, to account for the fact that applications received in March are funded at the April Grant's Advisory Committee meeting, and that the period when the annual allocation is spent actually runs from the end April to end April, this adjustment means that the Community Chest Grant budget was fully spent in 2021/22. The actual budget for 2022/23 of **£48,225.31** has been re-calculated as £58,000 (annual allocation) minus £9,774.69 (- £9,774.69 being the balance after the applications received in March were funded in April). All other figures, including the remaining budgets within the summary tables provided since April 2022 have not been affected by this change. The table at the bottom of both this report and Appendix B has also been amended to reflect the true sum available of **£48,225.31**.

9. 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**.

10. A summary of the applications can be found at Appendix A (copies of the applications forms are available from the Communities Team upon request).

11. 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.

Type (total fund for the period)	Date fund expires	Total budget at last month	Applications received this month	Total applied for this month	Remaining budget if all projects funded this month
Community Chest (£48,225.31)*	31 March 2023	£25,867.95	6	£10,298.60	£15,569.35
Biodiversity (£20,000) **	31 March 2023	£19,045.01	1	£2,000.00	£17,045.01
Community-Led Plans (£48,000)	October 2023	£48,000	0	0	£48,000
Total	-	£92,912.96	7	£12,298.60	£80,614.36

* £58,000 (annual allocation) minus £9,774.69 (- £9,774.69 being the balance after the applications received in March were funded in April).

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

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

Appendices

Appendix A: Applications Summary

Appendix B: Guidance notes for Community Chest

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