

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL DECISION
REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 8

meeting date: 26 MARCH 2013
title: VOLUNTARY GRANT APPLICATIONS 2013/14
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: TRUDY HOLDERNESS

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To consider the allocation of voluntary sector grants as proposed by a sub-group of this committee, in accordance with the approved scheme.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council has a number of grant schemes in operation such as recreation grants, culture grants and sports grants, administered by Community Committee. The voluntary organisations grant scheme is administered by Policy and Finance Committee and you agreed that a sub-group of this Committee would consider the applications received and make recommendations regarding the allocation of funds to voluntary organisations on an annual basis.

3 APPLICATION PROCESS

- 3.1 In November 2012, current recipients and any other voluntary group who had indicated an interest in a voluntary grant were sent an application form, to be returned by 31 December 2012. On the request of the budget working group this deadline was extended to the end of February 2013, an invitation to apply was placed on the Council's website and an email sent to all ward Councillors in a bid to more widely advertise the availability of these grants.

- 3.2 Applicants must clearly demonstrate that the purpose of the grant sought is to provide services or facilities that will meet the needs of communities in the Ribble Valley or directly benefit our residents. The scheme will not normally fund the following:

- ❖ Capital projects on which work has already started or in aid of expenditure already committed or paid.
- ❖ Commercial organisations / businesses
- ❖ Any activity designed to promote political party politics or influence government policies
- ❖ Applications from the County Council or other government agencies
- ❖ Applications from religious organisations unless there is a clear broad community benefit.
- ❖ Schemes that can be funded by the Councils' other grant aid schemes.

- 3.3 Applicants can only be accepted from parish/town councils and properly constituted organisations operating on a non-profit making basis. A valid constitution or memorandum of articles or association, which clearly indicates the voluntary or charitable status of the organisation, should accompany all applications.

- 3.4 Applications for grants over £10,000 are required to supply a 3–year financial plan and for grants over £1,000 a copy of the organisations' latest audited accounts. Capital projects are limited to 50% of the approved costs to a maximum of £5000.
- 3.5 On 14 March 2013 Councillors M Ranson, R Sherras and M Robinson met to consider the applications received. Councillor S Hore sent his apologies. Councillor M Robinson replaced Councillor A Knox on the sub-group and declared an interest in the Citizen Advice Bureau and Little Green Bus applications, Councillor Sherras declared an interest in the Gisburn Festival Hall application.

4 ISSUES

- 4.1 The Voluntary Sector Grant Pot available for 2013/14 is £99,090, which is a 2.5% increase on the previous year's budget.
- 4.2 The Council received 17 applications requesting support of £164,172. The sub group considered each application in detail. 10 of the applications were from previous applicants receiving funding in the past year, 3 applications were received from an organisation that had not received funding, and there were 4 new applicants.
- 4.3 The applications as submitted therefore exceeded the funding available by £65,000. However the Director of Resources informed members that this Council had received an extra grant for next year in recognition of the particular difficulties we face in providing services in rural areas. This grant known as Efficiency Support for Services in Sparse Areas (ESSSA) is for £9,901. The Director of Resources suggested that some of the grant applications could be supported from this extra funding because of the nature of their request and it was important in her view to demonstrate that the funding was spent on delivering services to our rural residents.
- 4.4 After careful consideration of all grant applications received, the sub group recommends the grant allocations as shown:

Annex 1 voluntary organisation grants totalling	£89,250
Annex 2 ESSSA funded grants totalling	£9,500
	£98,750

- 4.5 The Working Group further recommended to make the total amount allocated for 2013/14 £100,000 by making a further grant for £1,250 to the Citizens Advice Bureau, increasing their grant to £61,250. This would result in total grants approved as follows:

Annex 1 voluntary organisation grants totalling	£89,250
Extra voluntary grant to CAB	£1,250
Total voluntary grants recommended	£90,500
Annex 2 ESSSA funded grants totalling	£9,500
	£100,000

- 4.6 If Committee accept these recommendations, the Voluntary Grants allocations compare with the budget as follows:

Voluntary Grants budget available	£99,090
Recommended allocations	£90,500
Amount remaining	£8,590

- 4.7 The balance remaining offers the Council flexibility to support any further grant requests which may be received during the course of 2013/14.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 Approve the allocation of grants as proposed by the voluntary grant sub-group as set out in the report, totalling £100,000.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT
PF27-13/TH/AC
14 MARCH 2013

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

Background papers:

Voluntary Organisation application forms and supporting documentation – 2013/14

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDED ALLOCATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION GRANTS 2013/14

Organisation Name	Purpose of the Grant Request	2010/11 Grant Approved £	2011/12 Grant Approved £	2012/13 Grant approved £	Grant Requested for 2013/14 £	Grant Recommended for 2013/14 £	Notes
Goosnargh and Longridge Agricultural Society	<p>We want to expand our horticultural section to enable us to deliver a stronger message about growing your own produce and buying local. We would really like to expand this section to provide more hands on activities and educational activities for local children.</p> <p>We would be promoting the activities, mainly based around growing and awareness of buying local, in the local schools to try and attract Ribble Valley residents and children</p>	£250	£250	£250	£250	£250	
Hodder Valley Agricultural and Horticultural Society Ltd	To help put on the show for 2013	£250	£250	£250	£500	£250	
Chipping Show Ltd	To help put on the show for 2013	£250	£250	£250	£250	£250	

Organisation Name	Purpose of the Grant Request	2010/11 Grant Approved £	2011/12 Grant Approved £	2012/13 Grant approved £	Grant Requested for 2013/14 £	Grant Recommended for 2013/14 £	Notes
Shopmobility and Information Centre	To continue to run this well used service we need funding to help with running costs and a one off payment to buy a trailer that can be used to carry the trampers about the Ribble Valley. We are also looking to operate one day a week at Longridge.	£5,500	£5,000	£5,000	£7,000	£5,000	
East Lancashire Women's Refuge Association	As a contribution to the rest of specialist support services to children and young people living at the refuge, which are designed to help them overcome trauma and come to terms with their experience of violence and abuse	£6,400	£7,000	£2,500	£10,000	£0	Not support at this stage - more information needed about changes to funding arrangements
Carers Link - Hyndburn & Ribble Valley	To contribute towards the costs of developing our new outreach work in the Ribble Valley and supporting new and existing carers. This will include publicity materials, travel expenses and staff time. The grant will benefit carers in the Ribble Valley as well as the people they care for and their families.	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000	£2,000	

Organisation Name	Purpose of the Grant Request	2010/11 Grant Approved £	2011/12 Grant Approved £	2012/13 Grant approved £	Grant Requested for 2013/14 £	Grant Recommended for 2013/14 £	Notes
Home-Start Pendle & Ribble Valley	To continue to provide support to vulnerable families in the area and engage with the family as soon as possible to prevent the escalation of needs thus reducing the impact on statutory services.	£3,160	£3,160	£3,200	£5,400	£3,000	
Hyndburn and Ribble Valley CVS	To provide support; to fund drop ins and outreach, so rurally isolated groups have access to funding streams; to complement the one Lancashire programme to ensure improved access to volunteering; to ensure VCFS groups have access to affordable and essential training for staff and volunteers; to ensure a mechanism for meaningful consultation and engagement.	-	-	-	£9,800	£0	Not Previously supported from this grant stream but assisted via Ribble Valley Strategic Partnership second homes monies
Ribble Valley Citizens Advice Bureau	To cover the core running costs of the organisation such as staff salaries, rent, general running costs, information subscriptions and volunteer expenses	£57,000	£60,000	£60,000	£68,200	£60,000	

Organisation Name	Purpose of the Grant Request	2010/11 Grant Approved £	2011/12 Grant Approved £	2012/13 Grant approved £	Grant Requested for 2013/14 £	Grant Recommended for 2013/14 £	Notes
Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition	To finance the cost (In part) of staging the competition in 2013	£750	£750	-	£1,000	£0	Refer to alternative Ribble Valley funding stream
Crossroad Care - Ribble Valley	To assist the organisation with the high travel costs we incur because we cover such a large rural area. The total mileage for the period April to September 2012 has increase to 45,502 miles in spite of continues zoning of travel. The forecast cost of mileage reimbursement for the whole year is likely to be around £36,400.	£13,500	£13,500	£13,500	£20,000	£13,500	
Relate Lancashire	To provide relationship counselling to approx. 30 families, individuals and/or couples who are residents of the borough. Where domestic violence / abuse is disclosed or identified clients would be signposted to our DVA services.	-	-	-	£9,000	£0	

Organisation Name	Purpose of the Grant Request	2010/11 Grant Approved £	2011/12 Grant Approved £	2012/13 Grant approved £	Grant Requested for 2013/14 £	Grant Recommended for 2013/14 £	Notes
Little Green Bus	To support the volunteer car scheme that has proved highly valuable to individuals and to support the setting up of an assisted shopping scheme identified as a need by the LSP.	-	-	£5,000	£7,500	£5,000	
				£3,720 (Held in reserve for mini bus)			
Vitalise	To cover indirect costs associated with running the service	-	-	-	£272	£0	
Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue	To purchase a multi-purpose vehicle to transport emergency equipment to the scene of an incident, become a communication link and be used to transport injured persons to a safe location.	-	-	-	£3,000	£0	See later - Funding from Efficiency support for services in Sparse Areas Grant
Gisburn Festival Hall	To enable to complete the renovations, by providing for the installation of a full catering kitchen.	-	-	-	£14,000	£0	Funded from Village amenities grants

Organisation Name	Purpose of the Grant Request	2010/11 Grant Approved £	2011/12 Grant Approved £	2012/13 Grant approved £	Grant Requested for 2013/14 £	Grant Recommended for 2013/14 £	Notes
The Grand	To contribute towards the high costs of transporting delegates from schools in Sabden, Dunsop Bridge and slaidburn to workshop style projects aimed at Ribble Valley Primary schools	-	-	-	£5,000	£0	See later - Funding from Efficiency support for services in Sparse Areas Grant
Total					£156,172	£89,250	

**NEW GRANTS PROPOSED TO BE FUNDED FROM EFFICIENCY SUPPORT FOR SERVICES IN SPARSE
AREAS GRANT (ESSA)**

Organisation Name	Purpose of the Grant Request	Grant Recommended for 2013/14 £	Notes
Crossroad Care - Ribble Valley	To assist the organisation with the high travel costs we incur because we cover such a large rural area. The total mileage for the period April to September 2012 has increase to 45,502 miles in spite of continues zoning of travel. The forecast cost of mileage reimbursement for the whole year is likely to be around £36,400.	£1,500	£1,500 additional funding to the grant proposed from Voluntary Grants of £13,500 giving a total of £15,000
Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue	To purchase a multi-purpose vehicle to transport emergency equipment to the scene of an incident, become a communication link and be used to transport injured persons to a safe location.	£3,000	New grant in recognition of services in rural areas
The Grand	To contribute towards the high costs of transporting delegates from schools in Sabden, Dunsop Bridge and Slaidburn to workshop style projects aimed at Ribble Valley Primary schools	£5,000	New grant in recognition of services in rural areas
		£9,500	