

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.8

meeting date: 10 JANUARY 2017
title: ARTS DEVELOPMENT FUNDING SUPPORT GRANTS
submitted by: JOHN HEAP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
principal author: KATHERINE RODGERS, ARTS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To present the recommendations of the working group in relation to the allocation of a revised Arts Development Support Grant.
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:
 - Community Objectives: To make people's lives safer and healthier, specifically to increase opportunities for people to access cultural activities.
 - Corporate Priorities: To be a well-managed Council providing efficient and responsive services based on identified customer need.
 - Other Considerations: None

2. BACKGROUND

The purpose of Arts Development Support Grants is for RVBC to invest in the development of organisations and their projects, enhancing the arts provision within the Ribble Valley to then support and promote the future culture, health, and wellbeing of its community.

3. ISSUES

- 3.1 This is the first year that the Arts Development Grant allocation has been processed in the similar way to the Recreation and Culture Grants.
- 3.2 The application process has been developed in a way that encourages organisations to develop their projects to be sustainable and efficient for the future, supporting both new and existing arts providers to develop to their full potential.
- 3.3 Each application was checked that it met the funding criteria in August 2016, and then scored on its merits: clear measurable achievements important to Ribble Valley's development, evidence of need, supporting diversity, sustainability, high quality experience, promotion planning, numbers of people to benefit, percentage return on RVBC contribution and partners involved.
- 3.4 Although the scale of the grants awarded is relatively low in monetary value, the creditability of a group receiving this support from a borough council unlocks their access to funding from other sources. This, in turn, draws external money into the borough, giving the council a high return on the initial small investment.

- 3.5 Applications that were strong but required development were supported by the Arts Development Officer to improve their project. One of these applications has been developed and resubmitted. This application has been reviewed by the working group and the Chair of Community Services Committee.
- 3.6 The next deadline for applications is 20 January 2017 to commit the Arts Development 2017/18 budget. The scheme will be promoted to ensure a broad range of applications.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT

The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – sums available for distribution:
Arts Development £1000
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – Grant money is paid out following a satisfactory evaluation of the project, and production of receipted invoices, unless agreed otherwise.
- Political – An officer and councillor working group will propose the allocation of grants to be awarded.
- Reputation – The grant programme is very well received in the communities of the Ribble Valley, and gives the Council an opportunity to support a varied range and scale of organisations and individuals, who otherwise might not be able to access public funds.

5. RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

Endorses the recommendation of the working group outlined in the appendix to this report.

KATHERINE RODGERS
ARTS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

JOHN HEAP
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

For further information, please contact Mark Beveridge 01200 414479
or Katherine Rodgers 01200 414556

Community Services Committee 10.1.17/KR/IW

ARTS DEVELOPMENT FUNDING SUPPORT – GRANT PROPOSALS 2016/2017

ORGANISATION	PROJECT	COST	GRANT REQUEST	PREVIOUS REC. & CULT. GRANTS	PROPOSAL
Spring into Phab	<p style="text-align: center;">Spring Into Phab Arts</p> <p>“Spring into Phab Arts is aimed at participants aged 8-30 years old, with and without learning disabilities. It will provide opportunities for people who would not normally have the chance to participate in an inclusive art project, to experience different art forms. The project will involve an 8 week photography project to enable participants to experience arts activity in a safe, enjoyable environment. The artistic activity will give the young people taking part a tangible way of exploring and expressing their thoughts and feelings about topics important to them. The artistic creations will be exhibited in the wider community, in the form of exhibitions in local galleries/libraries and performances where appropriate. Participants will work with each other and professional artists to develop their confidence, skills and experience in photography. Participants and artists will enhance their understanding of inclusion and the barriers people with learning disabilities face, and the exhibited work will open a dialogue around inclusion in the wider community. Workshops will run on Monday evenings for 1.5-2 hours, over 8 weeks and exhibitions/performances will take place in addition to the workshops.”</p>	£3,304	£1000	2016/17 0	£1000