

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 12

meeting date: 28 MARCH 2017
title: VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION GRANT APPLICATIONS 2017/18
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: TRUDY HOLDERNESS

1. PURPOSE

1.1 To approve the allocation of voluntary organisation grants for 2017/18.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Council has a number of grant schemes in operation including recreation grants, culture grants and sports grants which are administered by Community Committee. The voluntary organisation grant scheme is administered by this Committee.

2.2 A member working group considers the applications received and makes recommendations to this Committee regarding the allocation of funds to voluntary organisations on an annual basis.

2.3 The working group traditionally consists of 3 conservative members and 1 liberal democrat member of this committee.

3. APPLICATION PROCESS

3.1 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.

3.2 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.

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 organisation's latest audited accounts. Capital projects are limited to 50% of the approved costs to a maximum of £5,000.

4. 2017/18 GRANTS

4.1 20 applications requesting total support of £173,217 have been received. A summary of all applications is set out in Annex 1.

4.2 The voluntary organisation grant budget for 2017/18 is £106,990.

5. VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION GRANTS WORKING GROUP

5.1 The working group met on 13 March 2007. The minutes of the meeting are attached at Annex 2.

5.2 After considering the applications the group made the following specific suggestions:

- ❖ Ribble Valley Shop-mobility application be allocated a one off increase in its allocation due to its move to new premises to help provide a ramp and disabled toilet facilities.
- ❖ Chipping Area Internet should be supported as a pilot scheme.

5.3 The group recommended the allocation of voluntary organisation grants as set out in Annex 2 totalling £108,200.

5.4 The Working Group recognised that the total grants recommended were higher than the available budget by £1,210

5.5 This shortfall could be met from the Rural Services Delivery Funding received from central government in 2016/17.

6. RECOMMENDATION

6.1 Approve the allocation of grants as proposed by the voluntary organisation grant working group as set out in Annex 2, totalling £108,200.

ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

PF18-17/SM/AC
17 MARCH 2017

ANNEX 1

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION GRANT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED 2017/18

Organisation Name	Brief description of Organisation	Grant Requested for 2017/18	Purpose of Grant request
Carers Link Lancashire	Provides help, support and training to those who care for people who are ill, disabled or elderly	£4,000	To assist the organisation in providing register carers with support, but will also assist them to identify hidden carers
Chipping Show	To promote agriculture, horticulture and tourism.	£500	To assist with the cost of putting on the show and help keep it going
Clitheroe Community Bonfire and Firework Display	To safely plan and stage the Clitheroe Community Bonfire and Fireworks display each November and ensure all proceeds are donated to local charities	£1,000	To assist towards the cost of the firework display which is in excess of £5,000
Crossroads Care - Ribble Valley	Charity which provides Carer Support Workers to care for people in their own homes to give their carers a break	£15,000	To assist with the high travel costs the charity incurs as its staff have to travel around the Ribble Valley to reach clients
Goosnargh & Longridge Agricultural Show	To promote rural and farming life	£350	A contribution towards the horticulture marquee
Hodder Valley Agricultural & Horticultural Society	To improve the standard of animal husbandry and horticultural practices and to foster and encourage interest amongst young people	£750	To assist with the financing of the show and sponsorship of agricultural and horticultural classes
Home Start Pendle and Ribble Valley	Charity which supports vulnerable families with at least one child under 13.	£3,000	To support the infrastructure of the organisation and allow it to continue in the area
Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition	Annual competition to encourage a high standard of care and maintenance in Lancashire villages and hamlets	£1,000	Help fund purchase of a projector and screen, also to assist with website costs and running costs of the competition and awards ceremony
Little Green Bus	The Charity's main activity is the provision of community transport services for mainly elderly and vulnerable people	£8,000	The grant is to support the running costs of the volunteer car scheme.

ANNEX 1

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION GRANT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED 2017/18

Organisation Name	Brief description of Organisation	Grant Requested for 2017/18	Purpose of Grant request
Longridge Field Day Events	A voluntary committee that organises an annual spectacular	£500	To renew ageing gazebos which provide cover during the activities on the field for young and old spectators
Ribble Valley Citizens Advice Bureau	The service provides free, confidential and impartial advice to everybody	£97,249	To cover the core running costs of the organisation.
Ribble Valley Shop-mobility and Information Centre	To provide an equipment loan service to people with mobility problems to access shops, health and leisure in Ribble Valley.	£8,000	To help with the running costs of the service. Additional funds needed to fund move to premises on Railway View, to help provide a ramp and disabled toilet facilities.
Whalley Pickwick Festival	To support Whalley Pickwick Festival	£750	To support the running costs
Revitalise Respite Holidays	Revitalise provides essential respite breaks for disabled guests and carers throughout the UK at their three holiday centres.	£500	To provide an two essential breaks for disabled guest and their carer from the Ribble Valley at one of our three UK holiday centres
Ribble Valley Breast Friends	A support group for Ribble Valley residents affected by breast cancer. It is the only group of its kind within a 15 mile radius of Clitheroe	£1,000	To help with the overheads of the group, specifically the rent of room used for meetings and which now included Tai Chi sessions
The Foundation for Ribble Valley Families	To improve the social and emotional wellbeing of the most disadvantaged families in the Ribble Valley	£10,000	To enable the organisation to recruit a part-time Development Officer
Chipping Parish Council	On behalf of Chipping Area Internet (CHAIN)	£9,708	To assist with the purchase of equipment to bring high-speed fibre internet connectivity to all homes, schools and businesses in the Chipping Area

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION GRANT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED 2017/18

Organisation Name	Brief description of Organisation	Grant Requested for 2017/18	Purpose of Grant request
Ribble Valley Talking Newspaper	Since 1978 Ribble Valley talking newspaper has provided a recorded version of the Clitheroe Advertiser and Times for visually impaired residents	£250	To ensure that they can continue to provide a service which keeps listeners informed and in touch with events and news in our local community
Spring into Phab	Spring into Phab is a young person led youth club where young adults with learning disabilities run a multi activity club	£350	To assist with the cost of travel and staff to enable the group to travel to Kettering to perform at the Phab Diamond celebrations
The Sanctuary of Healing	To provide complementary healing generally and specifically in the area of chronic illnesses such as MS and cancer.	£11,310	To enable free initial assessment and treatment. To provide free subsidised room hire for local support groups. To develop a volunteer programme & handbook.
Total requested		£173,217	

**MINUTES OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION GRANTS WORKING GROUP MEETING
HELD ON 13 MARCH 2017 10.30AM**

Present: Councillor S Hirst (Chairman)

Councillors:

T Hill

S Bibby (substituted for Cllr R Thompson)

M Robinson (substituted for Cllr A Knox)

Also in attendance: Director of Resources, Senior Accountant, Accounting Technician

1 Background

- 1.1 The Director of Resources explained to members the purpose of the working group which was to consider the 2017/18 voluntary organisation grant applications received and make recommendations to Policy and Finance Committee.

2 2017/18 Applications

- 2.1 The Director of Resources explained to members the purpose of the working group which was to consider the 2017/18 voluntary organisation grant applications received and make recommendations to Policy and Finance Committee.
- 2.2 The Council had received 20 applications requesting total support of £173,217.
- 2.3 It was explained that the voluntary organisation grant budget for 2017/18 is £106,990.
- 2.4 Cllr Robinson declared an interest in respect of the application received from Little Green Bus.
- 2.5 After considering the applications the group made the following specific suggestions;
- ❖ Ribble Valley Shop-mobility application be allocated a one off increase in its allocation due to its move to new premises to help provide a ramp and disabled toilet facilities.
 - ❖ Chipping Area Internet should be supported as a pilot scheme.
- 2.6 The group recommended the allocation of voluntary organisation grants as attached totalling £108,200.
- 2.7 The Working Group recognised that the total grants recommended were higher than the available budget by £1,210. The Director of Resources suggested how this shortfall could be funded.

3 Recommended Grant Allocations for 2017/18

Organisation Name	Recommended Grant for 2017/18 £
Carers Link Lancashire	£2,000
Chipping Area Internet	£9,700
Chipping Show	£500
Clitheroe Community Bonfire and Fireworks Display	£750
Crossroads Care - Ribble Valley	£15,000
Goosnargh & Longridge Agricultural Show	£500
Hodder Valley Agricultural & Horticultural Society	£500
Home Start - Pendle and Ribble Valley	£3,000
Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition	£500
Little Green Bus	£6,000
Longridge Field Day Events	£500
Revitalise Respite Holidays	0
Ribble Valley Breast Friends	£250
Ribble Valley Citizens Advice Bureau	£60,000
Ribble Valley Shop-mobility and Information Centre	£8,000
Ribble Valley Talking Newspaper	£250
Spring into Phab	0
The Foundation for Ribble Valley Families	0
The Sanctuary of Healing	0
Whalley Pickwick Festival	£750
Total	£108,200