

3 September 2019

TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS TO SMALLER BODIES 2019/20

Report of the Town Clerk

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present the applications received for smaller grants and for the Sub Committee to consider the applications and make recommendations to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The support for the larger organisations is the subject of a separate report on this agenda. This item concerns the smaller grants only.
- 2.2 The 2019/20 estimates provide for £39,875 for the total grants budget, analysed as to Service Level Agreement bodies (£29,500) and smaller organisations (£10,375).
- 2.3 The list of applications received is set out in the appendix and copies of the application forms are included for members of the Sub Committee. Further supporting information submitted from applicants is available at Mountfield. A copy of the grants criteria is also included in the appendix.
- 2.4 The Sub Committee will be asked to consider each grant separately. Members are reminded that if you are a member of one of the bodies whose grant is being considered, you need to declare an interest and not take part in the consideration of that particular grant. In accordance with Standing Orders, members are able to speak, prior to leaving the room.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the grant applications received from smaller bodies are considered and recommendations on the levels of funding be agreed.

27 August 2019

Will Austin
Town Clerk

Small Grant applications – appendix to ENCL: 3443.

A	Organisation, in order of receipt	Requested	Paid 18/19	Purpose of Application
A1	Melplash Agricultural Society	£500	£425	The Society's Discover Farming Project, is now well established and is playing an important role in educating local young children about the linkages between healthy eating, farming and the environment.
A2	ASD and Social Anxiety Group	£300	-	Funding for the insurance to enable the group to carry out activities outside the Bridport Children's Centre. Money for transport and activities that require a fee like table tennis, rock climbing, horse riding to encourage social confidence.
A3	St Mary's Honorary Ringing Guild	£500	-	Maintenance on tenor clock hammer. Needs engineering re-setting to strike clearly. Very muted & hardly audible. If monies left, will purchase either a bell rope (260) or wood to make stays (100 will make 3 stays).
A4	Home Start West Dorset	£500	£400	To help families increase their skills and confidence to cope with family challenges enabling them to help their children grown and develop in a positive environment. The scheme matches volunteers to individual families to empower the parents to manage difficulties they are facing.
A5	Community Shed	£450	£450	The objective is to establish and run a space where people with common interests can meet as a way of promoting social interaction and increasing wellbeing. The activities adopt the theme of re-use, repair and recycle. We have now a long term base at Mountfield and items are needed for kitting out the space and health and safety items.
A6	Child Contact Centre	£500	-	£250 to update and provide a more age appropriate play environment and equipment for children. £250 to contribute towards running costs, rent, confidential BCCC mobile phone, yearly compulsory training for co-ordinator at the NACCC headquarters, training materials, yearly accreditation certificate and insurance.
A7	Dorset Race Equality Council	£550	-	For the running costs of the project. The Dorset Council Innovation Fund grant covers staff time and transport only, but in order to run the project effectively we are seeking top-up funding to cover the cost of venue hire, refreshments and activities.

A8	Bridport & District CAB	£500	£500	To develop a new website. This will enable us to present local news and advice links alongside Citizens Advice national information database. As we do not have the necessary skills in house, we must employ a website specialist to assist us with our aims. We have given our specifications to such an expert and have a plan in place.
A9	Axe Valley and West Dorset Ring and Ride Service	£1,000	£500	We provide community transport facilities for those with a special need such as the elderly, the disabled and those living in isolated areas where there is no adequate transport. We hope to improve quality of life for your parishioners by enabling them to enter into their community, remain in their homes and keep their independence.
A10	MindFest	£500	£500	The Sunflower Project: supporting mental health 1) Raising awareness through an annual festival. 2) Funding early intervention for people in crisis at home.
A11	Charter Fair	£250	-	The annual Bridport Charter Fair.
A12	Stepping Out Cancer Rehabilitation Community Group	£500	-	The overarching aim of the Stepping Out Cancer Rehabilitation Community Group is to help members with their recovery during and after their cancer diagnosis by the provision of a group exercise and wellbeing Scheme.
A13	Gig Rowing Club	£750	-	We keep three of our boats in the boat yard. These are used most regularly for training. Although the area is covered, the floor is very uneven and regularly gets waterlogged, making it increasingly difficult to get boats out. We would like to cover the floor with concrete / gravel.
A14	Harmony Centre	£500	-	Harmony is moving to a dedicated venue which will provide a hub for mental health support for the people of Bridport and surrounding areas. The grant is part of the project to refurbish the venue so it can be used for drop in support, crisis support and a centre for activities to develop skills and confidence.
A15	Small Things – Creative Arts Workshops	£500	£500	Offers creative workshops for children aged 4 – 12 years. Activities include storytelling, elemental art, yoga, gymnastics, making and art.

A16	Bridport Youth Dance	£750	£500	Bridport Youth Dance runs a vibrant after school dance programme specific boys programme, adult classes, a summer school – summer dance scheme and an annual production. We now have our own studio – steps, which have become an important hub for the young participants of Bridport Youth Dance.
A17	Bridport Boys Dance	£400	£400	Specifically towards a day residency with dancer and choreographer Luke Brown, who will be teaching a workshop to all Boys Dance students and will then develop choreography with the older boys.
A18	The New Elizabethan Singers	£500	-	The choir performs music that no-one else does locally, offering the opportunity for members and audience to enjoy and appreciate performances. Our concerts always operate at a loss. We are hoping to involve the Richard Ely Trust next year, supporting other local and young talent. This request is not for their direct reimbursement, but to help the concert to go ahead.
A19	Hughes Unit Group Supporters (HUGS)	£250	-	To produce leaflets and a website to provide comprehensive and easily accessible information on mental health services in Bridport and the surrounding areas. To purchase a gazebo and fold away banner to promote this information.
A20	Bridport Young Performers (BYP)	£500	-	BYP are putting on Disney's "High School Musical" in December 2019 in the Electric Palace. This performance showcases the skills they have acquired, comprising of acting, singing and dance. This application is to fund the three times weekly rehearsals at the Youth and Community Centre, between September and December 2019.
	BUDGET AVAILABLE - £10,375	£10,200		

GRANTS CRITERIA FOR SMALLER ORGANISATIONS

Having now separated out the organisations that the Bridport Town Council will sponsor over a longer time frame with larger grants, the criteria for awarding grants to the remaining majority of applicants is as follows: -

Criteria 1. Each request for financial assistance should normally be for a specific project, and will be treated on its merits, taking into account how closely it meets this general criteria. Normally a grant in the region of £500 will be considered which is in line with many other local councils. Larger grants may be considered but need to be a special case and thus may be awarded only in exceptional circumstances.

Criteria 2. Organisations that have not taken care to neither complete the application form properly nor have prepared a sound justification should be notified that more information is needed, but if not forthcoming should not normally be considered for a grant. Unless the applicant is a new 'start up' organisation in its first year of activity, a grant should not be given without seeing an applicant's bank statement and accounts information.

Criteria 3. Charities, voluntary bodies, trusts and similar organisations will be favoured, whereas private organisations and individuals should normally not be considered. Where an organiser or other associates of a body (not governed by Charity/Trust law) takes a fee which supplements their income, or where a grant may be used to provide an asset that may in the future be realised by an individual or plc., grants should not be considered.

Criteria 4. Preference should be given to organisations based in Bridport. Organisations based outside Bridport will be considered only if it benefits the people of Bridport and if there is no similar Bridport based organisation involved in the same general activity.

Criteria 5. Grants should normally only be considered where the organisations' volunteers and members can demonstrate that they have made an effort to raise part of the sum required.

Criteria 6. Preference in terms of the amount of a grant to be awarded would normally be given to organisations that benefit larger numbers of Bridport people, pro-rata over the course of a whole year. Nonetheless, this should not preclude lesser amounts being considered for smaller qualifying organisations that deal with fewer Bridport people.

Criteria 7. Preference should normally be given to bodies that are not funded by the principal authorities i.e West Dorset District Council and Dorset County Council.

Grants are awarded subject to the following conditions:

1. The grant can only be used for the purpose stated in the application and the Council reserves the right to reclaim any grant not being used for the specified purpose of the application. Prior approval of the Council is required if any change of purpose of the grant is required.
2. The applicant organisation is responsible for ensuring the grant is used for the purpose for which it is granted.
3. If the applicant organisation disbands for any reason during the period of the grant, the Council may ask for all or part of the monies to be paid back.
4. Recipients of all grants are asked to make a short report on the use of the grant within 12 months of the grant being awarded. The Town Council will contact organisations regarding the timing of the report.
5. Appropriate acknowledgement of the financial support received from the Council may be required on documentation and relevant promotional literature.
6. The primary purpose of the grant must be to benefit Bridport residents.