

Agenda Item No:

Report to: Charity Committee

Date of Meeting: 12 December 2011

Report Title: Foreshore Trust Small Grants Programme 2011/12

Report By: Sandra Garner
Chair, Foreshore Trust Small Grants Advisory Panel

Purpose of Report

1. To update the Committee on the process that has now been completed in respect of the application process and the shortlisting of potential recipients of the Foreshore Trust Small Grants funding (Round 1) in 2011 - 2012,
2. To make recommendations as to which organisations should be funded and the allocations that will be made to each.

Recommendation(s)

- 1. To approve the Small Grant allocations to the organisations that have successfully completed the selection process as shown in Appendix A.**

Reasons for Recommendations

To comply with and follow through the recommendations made by the Charity Committee at its meetings on 7 June and 7 September 2011.

Background

1. At its meetings held on 13 April and 4 May 2011, the Small Grants Advisory Panel discussed and agreed the proposed criteria for awarding grants, the nature and frequency of a rolling programme, the scope of the charitable purposes that would be considered as eligible for grant applications, the intervention rates that would be considered to be applicable, the scope of the outcomes that the Panel would want to see achieved by the grant funding, and the outline timetable.
2. At a joint meeting of the Charity Committee and the Grant Advisory Panel held on 24 May 2011, proposals under the headings of available resources for grant distribution, costs and accounting arrangements and alignment with existing grant regimes were agreed and put forward for consideration by the full Charity Committee.
3. The progress on discussing and agreeing all of the above items was reported to the Charity Committee at its meeting on 7 June, when the Committee agreed unanimously to note progress with the establishment of the Grants Scheme, and to adopt an amended constitution for the Grant Advisory Panel.
4. The available budget for Round 1 2011 - 2012 was agreed at £50,000 with a maximum of £5,000 per grant award.
5. The Council's External Funding Manager was then invited to attend future meetings of the Grant Advisory Panel, and over a number of weeks and meetings assisted with the publication of the grant criteria, the content and format of the application forms, the methodology for appraising and scoring the received applications, the arrangements for publicising the first round of grants, and the timetable for this first round. This work was assisted in no small part by Hastings Voluntary Action, who gave full access to the Council to their tried and tested experience of administering small grants, sharing documents and tools that they use in similar processes.
6. All of the above components of the Small Grants Programme were discussed and agreed by the Grant Advisory Panel at its meetings on 22 June, 27 July, and 24 August 2011, and were presented by the Chair of the Grants Advisory Panel to the meeting of the Charity Committee on 7 September 2011.
7. The Charity Committee, at its meeting on 7 September 2011, noted the Grant Advisory Panel's recommendations, adopted the draft Grants Criteria, and adopted the grants process subject to detailed finalisation of this and other documentation described in the report which was delegated to the Chief Executive or his nominee in consultation with the Chair.

Progress to date

8. The Council, as Administrator for the Small Grants Programme, advertised the programme in the September 2011 issue of the Hastings Voluntary Action Newsletter (published on 31 August 2011), and in the Hastings Observer on 9 September 2011.

9. The deadline for receipt of applications was set for 28 October 2011.
10. A total of 52 applications were received. The requested amount was £199,185.24 in grant funding.
11. Each of the five members of the Grants Advisory Panel appraised and scored approximately 10 applications each, having previously declared conflicts of interest which would preclude them from appraising applications from particular organisations. On the basis of these allocated scores, the Panel members then put forward recommendations for approval in whole or in part, or rejection.
12. The Grants Advisory Panel met on 22 and 30 November 2011 to jointly review the appraisal process and to score applications, and agreed joint recommendations for funding as shown in Appendices A and B.
13. The Panel approved 17 applications totalling £49,997. It should be noted that there were a number of additional applications of a high standard that the Panel would have liked to fund if sufficient monies had been available. The amount of funding was almost 4 times oversubscribed and it is anticipated that as the Trust becomes more widely known there may well be even more applications in future rounds. It is the view of the Panel that in future we would like to see two allocations of funding in each year of at least £50,000 each.

Policy Implications

14. The requirements to monitor the take up and potential impact of services in terms of equality of opportunity is fully in line with the Foreshore Trust's equalities policy.
15. The Foreshore Trust's Small Grants Programme is a new funding regime that will impact positively on the economic and financial environment in the Borough, and will assist organisations in delivering a range of activities for local people.

Wards Affected

Ashdown, Baird, Braybrooke, Castle, Central St. Leonards, Conquest, Gensing, Hollington, Maze Hill, Old Hastings, Ore, Silverhill, St. Helens, Tressell, West St. Leonards, Wishing Tree

Area(s) Affected

Central Hastings, East Hastings, North St. Leonards, South St. Leonards

Policy Implications

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	Yes
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No
Risk Management	No
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	Yes

Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	No
Local People's Views	Yes

Background Information

Appendix A - Foreshore Trust Small Grants Programme - Round 1 - December 2011 - Successful applications recommended for funding

Appendix B - Foreshore Trust Small Grants Programme - Round 1 - December 2011 - Unsuccessful applications

Officer to Contact

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Appendix A - Foreshore Trust Small Grants Programme - Round 1 - December 2011

Successful applications recommended for funding

Applicant	Project Name	Funding recommended
Age UK East Sussex	Learning for Life	2,992
Association of Carers	Computer Help at Home	1,452
Autism Sussex	Teens Club and Music Rock Club (Young People)	3,524
Culture Shift CIC	Creative Spaces	4,150
Old Hastings Preservation Society, Fishermen's Museum	Stade Guided Walks	835
Focus on Mental Health	Forward Focus	3,213
Fellowship of St. Nicholas	FSN Full of Beans Project	3,735
Hastings & Rother Counselling Service	Couples Counselling	4,125
Hastings & Rother Rainbow Alliance	LGBT History Project	1,062
Halton Baptist Parents and Toddlers	Buying equipment, and coach hire	485
HARC	Volunteer Training for Disadvantaged People	4,150
Hastings Street Pastors	Hastings Street Pastors	4,150
Home Start Hastings & Rother	Supporting Ethnicity	4,150
Parchment Trust Ltd.	Friary Gardens	3,146
Radiator Arts	Umbrellas	4,013
St. Leonards Writers	Anthology	665
XTRAX Young Peoples	Young Peoples Community	4,150
Access Hub	Voice	
Total		49,997

Appendix B - Foreshore Trust Small Grants Programme - Round 1 - December 2011

Unsuccessful applications

Applicant	Project Name
Barbarian Swimming Club	Teacher Training
Battle Town Band	Purchase of new instruments
Burton St. Leonards Society	The James Burton Anniversary Garden
Citizens Advice 1066	Reception Co-ordination
Chichester Diocesan Association	Family Support Work in Hastings
Christine Gist	Untitled
Claremont Studios CIC	Engage/Engage
Emmaus Hastings & Rother	Community Leader
Entertainment Workshops	Help for Helpers
Active Arts Hastings & Bexhill Mencap Society	Visual Art, Artist and Film
Hastings & District Canoe Club	Sea Kayak Club
Hastings & Rother Credit Union Ltd	General Budget Support
Hastings & Rother Gay Helpline	Helpline Funding
Hastings & Rother Mediation Service	Recruitment & training of new volunteer mediators
Hastings & St. Leonards Voluntary Lifeguard Club	Purchase of First Aid Defibrillator & Training Unit
Hastings Area Community Trust (Relief)	Case Work Support
Hastings Bonfire Trust	Hastings Borough Bonfire
Hastings Kurdish Welfare Association	Rojbas
Hastings Pensioners Association	Events
Hastings Russian Community	Discover England
Hastings & St. Leonards Heritage Open Days	Hastings & St. Leonards Heritage Open Days 2012
Hollington Community Centre	Untitled
Holy Trinity Church	Diamond Dialogues - A Community Development Project
Hornbye Park Sports Complex	Primary School Inclusion
Hastings & Rother Voluntary Association for the Blind	Day Centre Upgrade
Junkanoo UK	Hastings All Stars
Monday Club	Untitled
My Future Starts Here LLP	Families Aiming High
Plumpton College @ Netherfield Young Farmers Club	Rural Skills Inclusion Project
Project Art Works	Outreach Pilot
St. Andrews Residents Association	St. Andrews Square Play Sessions
St. John's Tuesday Club	St. John's Tuesday Club
St. Matthew's Day Centre for the Blind and Partially Sighted	Untitled
Start Creative Learning Adventures	Get Outside
The Wheelers	Untitled