

Report to: Charity Committee Meeting

Date of Meeting: 14th March 2022

Report Title: Appendix 1 - Foreshore Trust Small & Events Grants Round 5 2022 recommendations

Report By: Andrew Colquhoun
Chair, Foreshore Trust Grants Advisory Panel

Purpose of Report

1. To make recommendations as to which organisations should be funded under the Foreshore Trust Small & Events Grants Round 5 2022 and the allocations that will be made to each.

Recommendation(s)

1. To consider the Grant Advisory Panel's (GAP) recommendation to award small and events grants to the organisations shown in Appendix A.
2. To request grant funding for this round at £45,000

Reasons for Recommendations

1. The recommended organisations for grant funding have been selected following an open application process and awarded to those considered by the GAP to best meet the Foreshore Trust's aims and objectives.

Introduction

1. The Foreshore Trust Small and Events Grants Programme is a small and events grants scheme for voluntary and community groups offering a service or running an event within Hastings & St. Leonards. £45,000 is available for Round 5 in the 2022 financial year for grants of up to £6,000 each.
2. Hastings Borough Council, as administrator for the Foreshore Trust Events Grants Programme, advertised the programme in October 2021 via a social media campaign and in the Hastings Voluntary Action newsletter, the Hastings Observer and in East Sussex County Council's external funding newsletter. An e-mail was also circulated to all previous Foreshore Trust grant applicants. The deadline for receipt of applications was 10th December 2021.

Assessment of applications

A total of 64 enquiries were received and by the closing date, 39 applications were submitted. 1 application was ineligible meaning that 38 applications with a total amount requested of £197,737 were assessed.

3. The GAP met via Microsoft Teams on 19th and 26th January 2022 to review and score the applications. As in previous years the GAP members were paired up for the initial assessments and these were then jointly reviewed at the meetings.
4. All GAP members had previously declared conflicts of interest, which precluded them from appraising applications from particular organisations.
5. In assessing the applications, the GAP attempted to ensure they were assessed in terms of the organisations' ability to deliver their proposals, how closely the proposed activities matched the priorities of the Charity Committee, value for money and a fair distribution of funds amongst all the priorities and members of the community.
6. The GAP acknowledged that the majority of the applications showed merit, but they were mindful of the limited budget and therefore selected those they considered to be the strongest in terms of the above criteria.
7. Following a full assessment process, GAP members agreed to the recommendations shown in Appendix A (recommended applicants)
8. Of the 38 applications considered, GAP recommends to the Charity Committee that 11 of these be approved for funding at various levels, with some subject to conditions. All the projects plan to deliver within 12 months of approval of the grant.
9. The projects recommended for approval total £45,000

Policy Implications

10. The Foreshore Trust's Grants Programme is a 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

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	Yes
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	Yes
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	No
Local People's Views	No
Anti-Poverty	No

Additional Information

Appendix A – Foreshore Trust Small & Events Grants Programme Round 5 2021-22 recommendations

Officer to Contact

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Appendix A - Foreshore Trust Small & Events Grants Programme Round 5 2021 Recommendations

Foreshore Trust Small and Events Grants Round 5 2022 - Recommended applications

Applicant	Project	Funding recommended	Reasons for Recommendations
Counselling Plus FT-SE502	Positive Mental Health for Young People. Counsellors work with young people to improve resilience and become more robust as they face life and make more positive choices for their future. CPC uses a humanistic, integrative, therapeutic model delivered by experienced, highly qualified and professional counsellors.	£6,000	The panel thought this was a strong application that sits really well with the aims and priorities. It's a very well established organisation with a good track record and provided a well detailed budget, the panel are happy to support this as it demonstrates good value for money.
FSN FT-SE504	Volunteers Lead The Way. The project will upskill and mentor 16 new and existing volunteers through delivery a City & Guilds Level 1 employability qualification with a view to facilitating development of volunteer led self-help groups where unleash dormant skills will be utilised for the benefit of both volunteers and the local community.	£5,288	The panel felt that this went beyond just recruiting and training volunteers in the sense that they were training them to be employable elsewhere, which they considered to be of added value. Also that they covered a wide range of subjects within their offer, appealing to a broader audience and as such more beneficiaries.
Hastings and Rother Interfaith Forum FT-SE508	Garden Full of Cultural Delights 2022 The aim of this project is to hold a free to enter community event which provides an opportunity for community and faith groups in Hastings and St Leonards to celebrate the rich cultural and ethnic diversity of our local community in a very enjoyable setting and by so doing to encourage community cohesion, collaboration, mutual understanding, and respect.	£1,200	The panel felt the requested amount was very modest and the project is an excellent cultural event which brings together people from diverse areas. The applicant will be providing match funding from their own reserves and they have a track record of delivering this event.

<p>A Town Explores A Book (ATEAB) FT-SE509</p>	<p>Gensing Gardens 150th Anniversary A Town Explores A Book is an annual event/festival organised within central St Leonards. Each year, a book with special relevance to the area is chosen to be the springboard to a diverse range of community-wide, mainly outdoor, arts-focused activities held in local schools, parks and shopping areas. The aim is to increase access to and engagement in reading and in the arts in general among marginalised and disadvantaged sectors of our community</p>	<p>£4,260</p>	<p>The panel felt this was an interesting idea and a very comprehensive and in-depth application. The event has been very successful in the past, taking place in the Easter holiday. The panel recognised that the book will cover the Traveller and Roma community which is often overlooked in applications</p>
<p>Hastings Furniture Service FT-SE510</p>	<p>Confident for work The project seeks to train and upskill vulnerable volunteers so they can compete effectively in the labour market. HFS claim their successful delivery model will ensure disadvantaged people will gain confidence, skills and employment opportunities.</p>	<p>£6,000</p>	<p>The panel recognised that HFS offer a great service and it was felt that this scheme was a good way of extending that offer. Some match funding has already been secured, with contributions from HFS' training arm amongst others.</p>
<p>7th Hastings Scouts FT-SE512</p>	<p>Summer/ Autumn Camp The funding will support Scout, Cubs and Beavers Group work to provide enriching opportunities for a group of teenagers to develop their confidence and participate more fully in team activities, citizenship awards, skill building and engagement with other local groups. The teenagers have all been identified as being lacking in confidence and feeling socially isolated and the funds will go towards their summer camp.</p>	<p>£3,850</p>	<p>The panel thought this was a good scheme but felt it inappropriate to fund the cost of the hall and insurance. It was felt that it would be better for the FST to make a contribution towards the Summer Camp with a recommendation that the applicant seeks the funds for the hall elsewhere as it wouldn't be sustainable for the FST to fund this.</p>

<p>Hastings & St.Leonards Voluntary Lifeguard Club FT-SE521</p>	<p>New Lifejackets To continue providing a service to the local community by replacing our Lifejackets on our main inshore rescue boat and safety boat. Lifejackets must be certificated annually for use in our rescue and safety boats. We have 6 Lifejackets that are now too old to be certificated in future so we must replace them before the 2022 season.</p>	<p>£2,422</p>	<p>The panel were supportive of the application to replace life jackets for use in the rescue and safety boats, so they can continue to provide an important service to the local community.</p>
<p>Hastings Storytelling Festival FT-SE525</p>	<p>Hastings Storytelling Festival 2022 Involving national and international street theatre, puppets, and storytellers; and incorporating the hugely popular Children's Parade. At least seven local schools will participate, and the festival will reach children in schools whose families may not otherwise engage at the Stade.</p>	<p>£5,180</p>	<p>The panel felt this was a good application from a well established organisation and although it noted that a lot of the funding would go to performers, they were crucial to the event and there would be a large number of local beneficiaries - so good value for money.</p>
<p>Barefoot Opera FT-SE531</p>	<p>RED! In partnership with Education Futures Trust and the Hastings Contemporary, (HC), Barefoot Opera will stage new children's Opera 'Red!' with 3 primary schools from Ore, Hollington and Baird wards, on the Stade, in July 2022. This will engage 180 children and their school communities in developing arts, drama and music skills to create a highly professional children's show that will also be available for, and promoted to, visitors.</p>	<p>£6,000</p>	<p>The panel felt this was a really well put together application. They have 2 really good partners good match funding, great detailed budget and evaluation. Good level of reserves.</p>
<p>Energise Sussex Coast FT-SE534</p>	<p>Energy Advice and Events An in person and telephone energy advice service to support residents to save money on their bills, stay warm and save energy. A series of information hybrid online and in person (if appropriate) information events themed around energy saving, renewable energy, renewable heating and saving money.</p>	<p>£3,800</p>	<p>The panel considered this a strong application that demonstrates a massive need for help, as fuel poverty becomes an increasingly big problem. This organisation is well established and the application is well specified in terms of identifying the areas of highest need locally. The panel thought it was good value for money and was wholly supportive</p>

<p>Soundcastle Ltd FT-SE536</p>	<p>Musical Beacons Coastal Connections A transformational model of inclusive music making, that supports the wellbeing and mental health of marginalised families. Vulnerable young, local families will be supported to positively interact through musical sessions that are proven to increase confidence, reduce isolation and enhance wellbeing.</p>	<p>£1,000</p>	<p>The panel felt that although the application was not particularly strong in terms of their requirements versus beneficiaries not equating to good value for money (they requested £6,000) They recognise that there is a real need for support of vulnerable and deprived parents and recommended a smaller contribution towards their project, which would be more than enough to buy musical instruments.</p>
<p>Total</p>		<p>£45,000</p>	