

EASTLEIGH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 14 March 2023

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Report of the Assistant Local Area Manager on behalf of the Eastleigh Community Grants Panel

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee approves the grants as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

Summary

The Grants Panel recommends that grants be allocated to local organisations operating in the Eastleigh, Allbrook and Velmore area for 2022/23.

Statutory Powers

Section 1 Localism Act 2011 i.e. the Local Authority's general power of competence, including power to act for the benefit of its area or persons resident or present in its area.

Strategic Implications

1. The recommendations in this report support the Council's approach to localism by allocating devolved resources to meet local needs. The recommendations align with Corporate Plan objectives of Tackling Deprivation, Enabling Healthier Lifestyles and Wellbeing, Supporting an Excellent Environment, Improving Town and Local Centres, Increasing Provision and Ensuring a more diverse mix of Housing, and Enabling the Right Skills and Employment mix.

Introduction

2. This Committee has allocated £10,000 for a community grant budget to support local organisations. Eight different grant applications were received with a total value of £9,424.
3. The grant panel comprises Councillors Park, Mann, Beer and Dedhia, representing the three local wards of the Local Area Committee.

The Panel's decisions

4. The Grants Panel sought to ensure the available funding was spread throughout the three local wards.
5. The Panel also considered the objectives of the organisations, the numbers attending, whether they were from the Local Area, the total cost of the project and whether funding was or could be sought from elsewhere. The applications were also assessed against the following criteria: Inclusion of a business plan, details on how the grant application meets Eastleigh Borough Council's priorities (Healthy Communities, Green Borough and Prosperous Place) and confirmation that the applications were not for day to day running costs.
6. It is recommended that grants be approved as contained in Appendix 1 to this report.

Financial Implications

7. The total grants awarded in this report amounts to £7,164 and can be accommodated within the approved budget of £10,000.

Risk Assessment

8. The recommendations made by the Grants Panel do not hold significant risks. All grant applications are subject to the completion of a detailed application and supporting documents, including the submission of financial details. A monitoring form will also be sent out to all successful recipients to ensure the funds have been spent in line with the approved grant within 12 months of the award.

Equality and Diversity Implications

9. The report complies with our policy to ensure that the voluntary and community sectors are treated fairly and equitably. The Council has had due regard to the aims of the Equality Act. The recommendations in this report promote equality of opportunity, in particular for children and young people, children and young people with disabilities and disabled people (including mental health) and older people. As part of the application process, applicants are required to submit an Equal Opportunities statement.

10. **Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

The community grants aim to encourage a change in residents' behaviours by supporting projects that incorporate green initiatives. For example, the North Stoneham Community Group are organising a Christmas event for local residents and this Committee requests that any materials to be used should be as sustainable as possible, for example, the promotional flyers should be made from recycled paper. Dementia Support Hampshire and Isle of Wight are providing 12 months of art and craft sessions for their clients and this Committee requests that all materials used as part of these sessions are as sustainable as possible.

Conclusion

11. The recommendations made in this report complement the Council's corporate priorities, as well as this Committee's local priorities. Subject to the approval of this Committee, the grants will be awarded in March 23 to recognise and celebrate the extent of community work being undertaken in the local area.

SIOBHAN STRAND
ASSISTANT LOCAL AREA MANAGER

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Appendices Attached: 1

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - SECTION 100D

The following is a list of documents which disclose facts or matters on which this report or an important part of it is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. This list does not include any published works or documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information.

8 grant applications were received and are held on file for further inspection.