

OFFICER DECISION RECORD SHEET

Name of decision maker: Matt Rawdon

Service Area: People and Performance

Title of Decision:

To approve Community Grants for the Spring 2018 round

Decision made and reasons:

To make grants to the following organisations for the Spring 2018 round of bidding:

1. Herts Inclusive Theatre, *'Herts Inclusive Theatre' project*: to purchase portable PA Equipment to take mini productions around to fetes and schools to build awareness of their Saturday morning inclusive theatre group for children and young people, based at the Old Town Hall. The equipment will also be used for rehearsals to get the children used to using it for the main productions. £1,219.32
2. Dacorum Community Choir, *'Singing Out Together' project*: Funding specifically for musical director and accompanist for 4 performances in Dacorum in community venues. £720
3. Druglink, *'Oxygen Community Counselling Hub' project*: to develop a 'Counselling Hub' by siting a readymade building in the grounds of the Oxygen rehab in Hemel Hempstead. Primarily the building will ensure a confidential space for counselling clients as well as being multi-functional to allow a family meeting room and a training space. This better environment improves the quality of the interaction and enhances clients' self-worth whilst re-integrating with family allows stronger support and improves chances for recovery, £3000.
4. Herts Vision Loss, *'Sight Life Juniors' project*: To run two groups (5-11 years / 12-17 years) for young people who have a visual impairment and a range of disabilities. The sessions will be facilitated by a qualified vision loss advisor and there will also be dedicated counsellors available during the session. Each session will have a theme, and provide an opportunity for socialising. Parents will have an area that they can socialise in too and can talk to dedicated staff members as required. £1950.

The Community Grant Scheme is specifically set up to support Community, Voluntary, Arts and Sporting groups that benefit the residents of Dacorum. There are three rounds of Community Grant funding per financial year. Charities are invited to apply for funding and the applications are assessed by a panel of officers, who assess whether the projects support the Council's objectives and the 5 ways to wellbeing; Connect, Give, Be active, Learn, Take notice.

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Small Grants:

5. Bovingdon Parish Council, '*Bovingdon 10k run*' For signage for the Bovingdon 10k, 3k and fun run organised by the Parish Council, £500.
6. OxJam Hemel Hempstead, '*Oxjam Hemel*' For sound and lighting equipment for the first OxJam Hemel music festival in October. Oxjam is all about local music making a global impact. They will deliver a multi-venue music festival across one day in Hemel Hempstead in October. They will bring the community together and showcase a range of local artists on the day and will give local business, organisations and venues the chance to get involved in the initiative, £500.
7. Ladybirds Club, '*Microphone and soundbox project*' To purchase a microphone and sound box for use by guest speakers and presenters. This will enable members to hear presentations more clearly, (up to) £400. (pending further information)
8. Dacorum First Credit Union, '*Advertising Campaign*' To fund one advert in the Digest and for printing costs for posters to advertise their services, £500.

Reports considered:

n/a

Officers/Councillors/Ward Councillors/Stakeholders Consulted:

Officers on the grants panel present:

Eli Tweed, Community Partnerships (Grants and Funding) Officer
Morgan Steel, Active Communities Lead Officer, Neighbourhood Action
Marion Rawdon, Assistant PA to the Chief Executive
Kim Gioiosa, PA to the Chief Executive
Eleanor Cornforth, Community Partnerships Assistant
Jackie Doyle, Senior Accountant, Finance
Sally Riley, Trainee Accountant, Financial Services
Simon Smith, Assets and Business Improvement Team Leader
Sue Pilgrim, Technical Assistant, SPAR Team

Also consulted: Alex Care, Community Partnerships Team Leader and Loretta Anderson, Community Action Dacorum

Financial Comments:

Finance provided detailed comments on each application at the grants panel meeting and each application was scored. The applications have been reviewed and the scoring approved by finance.

Monitoring Officer Comments:

No comments to add to the report.

Deputy S151 Officers Comments:

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There is a revenue budget of £58,500 p.a. for community grants, and this is the first allocation of the year and equates to £8789.32, and is within approved budgets.

Implications:

Value for Money: The community grants helps voluntary and community organisations with projects that benefit the local community. Each application considered is scrutinised by Finance and other officers to ensure value for money. Each organisation awarded a grant must provide a written report of the project within 12 months of receipt of funds.

Financial: The community grant pot is protected for allocating to community and voluntary organisations and the budget is allocated for the 2018/19 financial year

Risk: If we did not fund these community projects through the community grant scheme, they may not be able to go ahead.

Officer Signature: