

## OFFICER DECISION RECORD SHEET

**Name of decision maker: James Doe**

**Service Area: Place, Communities & Enterprise**

**Title of Decision:**

To approve Community Grants for the Winter 22-23 round

**Decision made and reasons:**

**To make grants to the following organisations for the Winter 2022-23 round of bidding:**

1. *DENS: Financial Inclusion Project:* To provide Dacorum residents who are facing homelessness with financial support to include: 1:1 welfare and benefits advice, support to attend appointments, in-depth financial analysis to devise a recovery plan out of debt and workshops in money management and life-skills. £3000
2. *Friends of Great Gaddesden Primary School: Turning learning to read into reading for pleasure.* This project aims to support a new reading scheme, which will update how the children learn to read & work on growing their love of reading for pleasure. £2000
3. *Hospice of St Francis: Ensuring continuity of care for patients with life-limiting illnesses:* Funding to support the provision of new computers for their IPU £1500

**Small Grants:**

1. *Leverstock Green Village Association:* Funding to provide warm spaces to local residents £500
2. *Potten End Allotment Association:* Funding to provide a new gate shop to sell surplus produce and crafts. The money raised will be used to maintain the allotments. £500
3. *St Bartholomew's School Running Club:* Funding to be used towards training, vetting and certification costs for volunteers. £270
4. *BerkoFest:* Funding for two roll up banners and two teardrop flags. £500
5. *Friends of Hasley Field:* Funding for printing costs for a children's activity sheet £215

**Reports considered:**

n/a

**Officers/Councillors/Ward Councillors/Stakeholders Consulted:**

Officers on the grants panel present:

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Fraser Willcox, Economic Development Officer  
Fay Murphy, Assistant Accountant, Finance  
Darren Flanagan, Accountant, Finance  
Joe Guiton, Community Safety and Children's Services Team Leader  
Gunilla Edwards, Interim Community Partnerships and Wellbeing Team Leader

### **Financial Comments:**

Fay Murphy gave detailed comments to each application on the grants portal and scored each application. The comments and scores are written on the grants portal for staff. The Finance officer also approved the applications.

### **Deputy Monitoring Officer Comments:**

Under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the power to incur expenditure, which in its opinion is in the interest of and will bring direct benefit to its area or any part of it or all or some of its residents.

Further to section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 a local authority has the power to make grants to voluntary organisations providing recreational facilities.

### **Deputy S151 Officers Comments:**

The cost of the grant awards is within the approved budget levels.

### **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 2022/23 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:**

**Date – 14 December 2022**