

## Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**GRANT AID REQUESTS FROM KIMBERLEY TOWN COUNCIL**1. Purpose of report

To consider requests for grant assistance in accordance with the protocol for the consideration of grant aid to parish and town councils.

2. Grant aid applications

Four grant aid requests have been received from Kimberley Town Council for consideration.

- A revenue grant of £1,200 towards the full cost of its recent Remembrance Sunday event.
- A revenue grant of up to £6,700 towards the full cost of its recent Christmas lights switch-on event.
- A revenue grant of up to £1,005 towards the cost of the electricity supply for the defibrillator to be situated on Cliffe Boulevard in Kimberley.
- A capital grant of up to £6,700 towards the cost of disabled access works at the Stag Recreation Ground on Nottingham Road, Kimberley.

The requests for funding towards the remembrance event and festive activities are being considered retrospectively having been received too late for consideration at the December meeting of this Committee.

Details of the applications are included in appendix 1. The agreed protocol for assessing grant aid to parish and town councils is provided in appendix 2 with the grants previously awarded under this scheme listed in appendix 3.

3. Financial position

A permanent annual 'cash' budget of £20,000 for grant aid to parish and town councils was approved by this Committee on 10 October 2019 to support parish and town councils in meeting the cost of activities and events. Currently, £6,511 remains uncommitted in this budget for 2021/22.

No budgetary provision exists for capital grants to parish councils and the overall capital contingencies budget has been fully committed in 2021/22. If Members wished to support the capital request from Kimberley, an award could be made from the above remaining provision for grants to parish councils.

**Recommendation**

**The Committee is asked to CONSIDER the requests and RESOLVE accordingly.**

Background papers – Nil

**APPENDIX 1****1. Kimberley Town Council – Remembrance Sunday Event**

Kimberley Town Council has requested a retrospective grant of £1,200 towards the full cost of its recent Remembrance Sunday event.

The Kimberley Remembrance Parade took place on 14 November 2021. It started at the Holy Trinity Church, with a road closure from the church up to the War Memorial on the corner of Greens Lane. A short service and wreath laying took place at the memorial.

This event is important to the residents of Kimberley and is always well supported, especially from the town's remaining veterans. The total costs incurred were £1,200, which included £1,075 for traffic management. Other costs included the hire of a public address system and the services of a bugler.

**2. Kimberley Town Council – Christmas Lights Switch-On Event**

Kimberley Town Council has requested a retrospective grant of up to £6,700 towards the full cost of its recent Christmas lights switch-on event.

The event took place on 26 November 2021 on Toll Bar Square and Newdigate Street in Kimberley with stalls, fun ride and Santa's grotto in the hall. The estimated number of people attending the event was 1,300.

The total cost of the event was around £6,700 and included traffic management (£1,025), security (£763), equipment hire including the stage (£875), Liberty Leisure assistance (£1,100), fireworks (£2,450), entertainers (£280) and first aid support (£216). Kimberley Town Council indicated that no other financial aid was anticipated for this event.

**3. Kimberley Town Council – Electrical connection for Defibrillator**

Kimberley Town Council has requested a revenue grant of up to £1,005 towards the cost of connecting the electricity supply for the new defibrillator situated on Cliffe Boulevard in Kimberley.

A defibrillator has been obtained, which was part-grant funded by Broxtowe Borough Council for the installation in a refurbished telephone box situated on Cliffe Boulevard. It has since been identified that a new electrical supply is required and a quotation of £1,006 has been received from Western Power for these works.

Members will recall similarly supporting Kimberley Town Council, as recently as January and March 2021, with two grant awards of £1,200 each towards the purchase of defibrillators to be located on Cliffe Boulevard (to which this application refers) and in the Swingate area of Kimberley.

Members should note that Kimberley Town Council stated in its earlier applications that it would be responsible for the repairs and maintenance and inspection of the facility and meet the cost of any power supply required.

4. Kimberley Town Council – Improved Disabled Access Stag Recreation Ground

Kimberley Town Council has requested a capital grant towards the cost of disabled access works at the Stag Recreation Ground on Nottingham Road in Kimberley costing £6,700.

The Town Council indicate that several road bumps have been installed on the access road to the Stag Recreation Ground for health and safety reasons. It has since been identified that these road bumps create a problem for disabled users of the site. In order to alleviate these difficulties for the disabled users, Kimberley has commissioned a scheme to tarmac the current grassed area at the side of the access road.

The works costing £6,700, which have already been completed the contractors, were for tarmacing and included excavation, removal of any waste, installation of edging curbs, installation of weed suppressant membrane; installation of hardcore and tarmac.

Financial Information

The closing balance of Kimberley Town Council funds as at 31 March 2021 was £305,996 (£289,796 in 2020). Although the Town Council has considerable funds, a significant proportion of these funds are earmarked for either the extensive modernisation or complete replacement of the Town Hall, which is now 60-years-old. This is similarly the case in respect of other recreational buildings in the Town, as confirmed in a full building structural report received last year. The current Kimberley Town Council annual precept is £123,877 in 2021/22.

The draft budget projection for 2022/23 predicts a surplus of around £12,500 to be presented to the Town Council on 20 January 2022. The intention of Kimberley Town Council, at this stage, is for no increase in Council Tax payments per household.

Kimberley Town Council is considering the replacement of the current list of Earmarked Reserves to one consisting of Capital Receipts Reserves, Earmarked Reserves and General Reserves, with a predicted sum of £320,000 by 31 March 2022.

**APPENDIX 2****Protocol for consideration of grant aid to parish and town councils**

The protocol for the consideration of grant aid requests from parish and town councils was agreed by Cabinet on 8 June 2010. The key provisions are:

1. Grant aid will only be given in support of specific projects or services and not as a general grant towards the services provided by a parish/town council.
2. Revenue grant aid will only be considered towards services which act as a replacement for services which otherwise Broxtowe Borough Council would have to provide or which supplement services which the borough council provides so as to reduce the costs that Broxtowe would otherwise incur.
3. In applying for grant assistance the parish/town council will need to demonstrate how the service or project in question contributes to Broxtowe's aims and objectives as laid out in the Corporate Plan and the Sustainable Community Strategy.
4. In applying for grant aid assistance the parish/town council will need to provide evidence as to why they do not have the financial resources to provide the services or project in question and what the consequences would be for local residents and businesses if the service was withdrawn or the project not completed. This will include a requirement for the parish/town council to detail what other funding sources they have secured (or otherwise) and to provide a statement as to any reserves held and their planned use.
5. Preference will be given to support for the provision of mandatory services as compared with discretionary services.
6. Where grant aid is to cover the cost of a specified service, the parish/town council will be responsible at its own cost for providing an audited statement within six months of the end of the financial year concerned to confirm the amount of expenditure incurred and income received against which grant aid may be payable. Any grant payable would then be adjusted retrospectively if necessary following receipt of such an audited statement.
7. Grant aid will only be in respect of additional costs directly incurred by the parish/town council and will not cover the cost of any general overheads which the parish/town council would otherwise incur anyway as a result of their operations.
8. Grant aid will be cash limited in each year and the responsibility for costs increasing beyond the cash limit will normally rest with the parish/town council. Where such cost increases are considered to be unavoidable and beyond the parish/town council's control, then Broxtowe may be approached to seek a further grant award.

9. Where the parish/town council wishes to vary the service provided for which grant aid has been awarded, this should only take place after full consultation and with the agreement of Broxtowe.
10. Preference will be given towards one off capital projects rather than as a regular annual contribution towards the ongoing costs of providing services.
11. The parish/town council shall be required to provide such information as Broxtowe may reasonably request as to the actual outputs and outcomes arising from any service or project where Broxtowe makes a contribution.
12. Any grant contribution that may be awarded by Broxtowe need not be at the rate of 100% of net expenditure incurred but may be at a lesser rate to reflect such as its own corporate priorities, budgetary constraints or the availability of similar services or projects elsewhere.
13. Revenue grants will normally only be awarded for one year although an indicative amount for the following year may be given at Broxtowe's discretion. Capital grant aid will be towards the cost of a specific one-off project.
14. Requests for grant aid in respect of a particular financial year should normally be submitted by the end of October of the preceding year at the latest to assist with forward budget planning for both Broxtowe and the parish/town council. Broxtowe will endeavour to make a decision on such requests by the end of December in the year preceding that for which grant aid is requested.

## APPENDIX 3

Grant Aid Awards to Parish/Town Councils

The table below lists the grants awarded under this scheme since 2014/15.

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Council</b>          | <b>Amount</b> | <b>Purpose</b>                              |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 01/04/14    | Nuthall Parish Council  | £2,000        | War memorial construction (Capital)         |
| 16/10/14    | Nuthall Parish Council  | £2,500        | Cemetery maintenance                        |
| 02/06/15    | Cossall Parish Council  | £350          | Memorial plaque                             |
| 19/04/16    | Eastwood Town Council   | £5,000        | Building refurbishment works (Capital)      |
| 04/07/16    | Greasley Parish Council | £4,000        | Upgraded heating system (Capital)           |
| 19/09/16    | Awsorth Parish Council  | £5,000        | Heating system replacement (Capital)        |
| 09/01/17    | Brinsley Parish Council | £4,000        | Play facility repairs/replace (Capital)     |
| 03/10/17    | Nuthall Parish Council  | £1,820        | Remembrance parade                          |
| 12/10/17    | Greasley Parish Council | £1,000        | Christmas lights event                      |
| 12/10/17    | Nuthall Parish Council  | £3,395        | Cemetery maintenance                        |
| 26/04/18    | Nuthall Parish Council  | £12,000       | Cemetery roadway surface (Capital)          |
| 26/04/18    | Nuthall Parish Council  | £2,000        | Summer Youth Club                           |
| 11/10/18    | Greasley Parish Council | £647          | WW1 commemoration sculpture                 |
| 15/08/19    | Brinsley Parish Council | £2,070        | Summer play day                             |
| 10/10/19    | Awsorth Parish Council  | £1,250        | Kitchen Refurbishment – Pavilion            |
| 10/10/19    | Brinsley Parish Council | £2,300        | Tree planting – commemoration               |
| 10/10/19    | Nuthall Parish Council  | £1,855        | Remembrance parade                          |
| 10/10/19    | Stapleford Town Council | £2,010        | Remembrance event                           |
| 10/10/19    | Trowell Parish Council  | £3,500        | Car park refurbishment                      |
| 13/02/20    | Brinsley Parish Council | £1,000        | Festive lighting display                    |
| 13/02/20    | Brinsley Parish Council | £1,225        | VE Day celebrations 2020                    |
| 07/01/21    | Kimberley Town Council  | £1,200        | New defibrillator                           |
| 30/03/21    | Kimberley Town Council  | £1,200        | New defibrillator                           |
| 07/10/21    | Nuthall Parish Council  | £1,905        | Remembrance parade                          |
| 07/10/21    | Nuthall Parish Council  | -             | £2,950 award pending for new defibrillators |
| 09/12/21    | Awsorth Parish Council  | £7,000        | Play area improvements (Capital)            |
| 09/12/21    | Stapleford Town Council | £1,994        | Remembrance Sunday Event                    |