

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS,
CHARITABLE BODIES AND INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN SPORTS,
THE ARTS AND DISABILITY MATTERS 2021/22**1. Purpose of Report

To consider requests for grant aid in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Grant Aid Policy.

2. Applications and Financial Position

Details of the grant application received is included in the appendix for consideration. The amount available for distribution in 2021/22 is as follows:

	£
Revenue Grant Aid Budget	168,800
Less: Estimated requirements for: Rent Awards and Other Commitments (#)	24,400
Less: Grant Awards to Date	123,429
BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION	<u>20,971</u>

(#) This includes provisions in respect of the application from New Stapleford Community Association, Stapleford Community Association, Chilwell Community Association, 2nd Beeston Sea Scouts, Eastwood People's Initiative, Bramcote Cricket Club, Age Concern Eastwood and Broxtowe Play Forum.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to:

- 1. CONSIDER the requests in appendix 1 and RESOLVE accordingly; and**
- 2. NOTE the grants awarded under delegated authority in appendix 2.**

Background papers

Nil

APPENDIX 1

Applications

The following grant applications have been received for consideration in 2021/22:

<u>Applicant</u>		<u>Grant Award 2020/21</u>	<u>Grant Request 2021/22</u>
		£	£
New Stapleford Community Association	1	4,000	4,000*
Stapleford Community Association	2	3,000	3,000*
Chilwell Community Association	3	3,150	3,150*
2 nd Beeston Sea Scouts	4	2,150	2,150*
Eastwood People's Initiative	5	2,500	2,500*
Broxtowe Women's Project	6	6,000	8,000
Age Concern Eastwood	7	9,000	9,000*
Bramcote Cricket Club	8	1,000	1,000*
Broxtowe Play Forum	9	5,500	5,500*
Dig In Community Allotment	10	700	655
The Greasley Gathering	11	Nil	1,000
		Total	39,955

The total request is made up of £15,555 in 'cash' from the balance available, with £24,400* being covered by a provision for rents and other commitments.

Community Associations1. NEW STAPLEFORD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The New Stapleford Community Association (NCSA) is responsible for the management and operation of the Council owned Community Centre on Washington Drive in Stapleford that was first opened in 1972.

The aim of NCSA is to provide a community meeting place for Stapleford and the surrounding area. A variety of groups utilise the facilities for educational, recreational and sporting activities, including senior citizen's groups, blood donor sessions, dance and fitness classes, community sessions, martial arts clubs and family groups. Around 450 people use the facilities every week, the majority of whom live in the borough.

For the year ended 31 December 2020, NCSA generated income of £7,436 from hall bookings, dances, grant aid, fund raising and membership subscriptions. Total expenditure amounted to £14,643, which included rent, utilities, fixtures, repairs and maintenance, dance and social activities and other running costs. Total bank balances as at 31 December 2020 was £31,307. NCSA has earmarked part of these reserves towards toilet maintenance and decoration.

As the most recent available accounts are for the year ended 31 December 2020, an update from the group has been received to indicate the current

financial position. It has been stated that the balance on the current account has decreased since the 31 December 2020, from £13,730 to £7,275 as at 29 December 2021.

The current tenancy agreement for the Washington Drive Community Centre replaced the previous arrangement of charging a peppercorn rent. The annual market rent for the premises was assessed at £4,000 as part of the Council's aim to secure economic rents on its properties. NCSA suggests that it would be unable to sustain an ongoing rental charge of this size.

The Council has supported New Stapleford Community Association for many years with grant aid towards its premises rental. The grants awarded in the past four years were as follows:

2020/21	£4,000
2019/20	£4,000
2018/19	£4,000
2017/18	£4,000

For 2021/22, New Stapleford Community Association has requested a grant of £4,000 to cover the market rent. This grant would be for a period of one year and would be matched by allowances within the premises income budget and therefore leave the Council's overall budget unchanged.

2. STAPLEFORD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Stapleford Community Association was formed in 1954 and is responsible for the management and operation of the Council owned Community Centre on Cliffe Hill Avenue in Stapleford.

The aim of the Association is to provide a high quality, low cost centre for a variety of leisure, educational and community activities in Stapleford. A number of groups utilise the facilities for these purposes including playgroups, keep fit clubs, uniform groups, senior citizen's groups, dance classes and family groups. Around 200 people of all ages use the facilities on a weekly basis (pre-Covid-19), with an estimated 80% being residents of the Borough.

For the year ended 31 December 2020, income of £15,367 was generated from hall lettings and grant aid. This included a Covid-19 related business grant of £10,000 linked to the business premises. Annual expenditure amounted to £11,408 and included rent, repairs and renewals, cleaning and sundry expenses, insurances, heating and lighting, water charges and depreciation. Cash and bank balances at 31 December 2020 had increased to £27,464. Stapleford Community Association has indicated that these funds are earmarked towards ongoing maintenance projects and for unexpected emergencies. The funds also provide contingencies for additional costs associated with the ongoing pandemic, such as cleaning, and the reduced hire capacity.

The tenancy agreement for the Community Centre replaced the previous arrangement of charging a peppercorn rent. As part of the Council's aim to secure economic rents on its properties, the rent was assessed at £3,000 per annum. The Stapleford Community Association has suggested that it has only limited financial resources and would be unable to sustain a rental charge of this size.

The Council has previously supported Stapleford Community Association with grants towards its premises rental. The grants awarded in the past four years were as follows:

2020/21	£3,000
2019/20	£3,000
2018/19	£3,000
2017/18	£3,000

For 2021/22, Stapleford Community Association has requested a similar grant of £3,000 to cover the rental of the Community Centre on Cliffe Hill Avenue in Stapleford. This grant award would be for a period of one year and would have no effect on the Council's overall budget, with the award being matched in the Council's premises income budget.

3. CHILWELL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Chilwell Community Association was set up with its own Constitution in January 2002 and is responsible for the day-to-day management and development of the Council premises at Chilwell Community Centre on Inham Road in Chilwell.

The aim of the Association is to provide facilities at a reasonable cost to enable local community groups and individuals to use the premises for a variety of purposes including parent and toddler groups, craft courses and educational classes run by the local college.

The main user of the facility is the Nottinghamshire County Council Library Service and this provides an important resource and meeting place for the community. The library is well used on the week days that it is open although the Covid-19 pandemic has restricted general usage since March 2020.

For the year ended 31 March 2021, the Chilwell Community Association generated receipts of £13,088 were generated from grant aid and fees. Payments amounted to £9,468 including rent, wages (£1,820), property maintenance, utilities, insurance and other miscellaneous costs. Cash and bank balances as at 31 March 2021 had increased to £36,832. These funds are earmarked towards the enhancement of facilities at the Community Centre, including the provision of additional facilities at the Centre, and to provide initial financial support to newly formed groups using the Centre in order for them to become established for long-term use.

As part of the Council's aim to secure economic rents on its properties, the annual rental of Chilwell Community Centre has been assessed at £3,150. The Chilwell Community Association has suggested that with limited financial resources it would be unable to sustain a rental charge of this size.

The Council has previously supported Chilwell Community Association with grants towards its premises rental. The grants awarded in the past four years were as follows:

2020/21	£3,150
2019/20	£3,150
2018/19	£3,150
2017/18	£3,150

For 2021/22, the Association has requested a similar grant of £3,150 to cover the market rent of the Chilwell Community Centre. This grant award would be for a period of one year and would have no effect on the Council's overall budget, with the award being matched in the Council's premises income budget.

Uniformed Groups Category

4. 2ND BEESTON SEA SCOUTS

The 2nd Beeston Sea Scouts was established in 1928 and is based at Lilac Grove in Beeston. The group serves the South West Nottinghamshire Scout District, including Attenborough, Beeston South, Beeston Rylands and the west of Nottingham City. It currently has 110 members (including 80 junior members) with the majority living in Broxtowe.

The aim of the 2nd Beeston Sea Scouts is to provide scouting activities, under the policy and rules of the Scout Association, with the speciality of water based activities such as canoeing, kayaking, rowing and sailing. The main activities of the group attempt to develop young people in life skills in many areas of physical, social and mental development.

For the year ended 31 December 2020, 2nd Beeston Sea Scouts generated receipts of £64,598 from subscriptions, grants, donations and fundraising activities. Total payments amounted to £37,258 and included premises expenses, such as heating and lighting and repairs and renewals, boat maintenance, youth programme activities (i.e. camps), purchase of equipment and capitation. The cash and bank balances at 31 December 2020 increased to £52,247.

As at the date of the application received from 2nd Beeston Sea Scouts (13 December 2021), the cash and bank balances had increased to £153,697, an increase of over £100,000 during the year. This is primarily due to a successful funding drive for the construction of a new headquarters for the group, including one particularly generous one-off donation. Funds raised for the construction of the new headquarters are ring-fenced and not available for general use. Cash available for general purposes at the 13 December 2021 was £17,873, all of

which is earmarked towards replacement boats, essential maintenance and training.

As part of the Council's aim to secure economic rents on its properties, the rental of the Lilac Grove premises was increased to £2,150 for 2020/21, from £1,750 in previous years. The 2nd Beeston Sea Scouts suggests that it has only limited financial resources and would be unable to sustain a rental charge of this size.

The Council has regularly supported the 2nd Beeston Sea Scouts with grant aid towards its rental obligations. The grants awarded in the past four years were as follows:

2020/21	£2,150
2019/20	£1,750
2018/19	£1,750
2017/18	£1,750

For 2021/22 the 2nd Beeston Sea Scouts has requested a grant of £2,150 to cover the market rental of the Lilac Grove premises. This grant award would be for a period of one year and would have no effect on the Council's overall budget, with the potential award being matched by allowances within the premises income budget.

Caring Organisations

5. EASTWOOD PEOPLE'S INITIATIVE

Eastwood People's Initiative is a registered charity that was formed in 1982 that serves Eastwood and the surrounding communities in north Broxtowe.

The objectives of the charity are for the relief of poverty, sickness and distress amongst the unemployed, those with low incomes, the homeless and individuals with a drugs dependency in the surrounding area. The charity also aims to advance the education and promote the benefit of local people.

Eastwood People's Initiative offers practical help and emotional support for any individual, with particular regard to people on low income or unemployed. The charity provides support aimed at improving self-confidence, developing social and practical skills and enhancing employment potential. To achieve this, the charity operates a community facility that provides computer and phone facilities, in addition to giving users with advice on welfare rights, finances and budgeting, employment and training.

For the year ended 5 April 2021, Eastwood People's Initiative generated total receipts of £14,103 from grants, room hire, investment receipts and donations. Annual expenditure of £13,447 related to costs for rent, ICT, telephone and utilities costs, professional/legal fees and other operating costs.

The net investments, bank and cash balances as at 5 April 2021 amounted to £97,227. Investments include the capital receipt from the sale of the bungalow on Seymour Road in 2018/19. The charity considered its options in terms of the capital receipt, with its Finance Committee agreeing to invest £90,000 in an ethical savings account that is estimated to provide a suitable rate of return that will sustain the charities balances for at least 10 years. The charity state that with this investment and the ongoing support of the Council, its future looks financial sustainable.

Eastwood People's Initiative continues to operate from Council owned premises on Scargill Walk in Eastwood. There is a tenancy agreement in place with the rent assessed at £1,750 per annum as part of the Council's aim to secure economic rents on its properties.

The Council has regularly supported Eastwood People's Initiative with grants towards its operating costs. The grants awarded in the past four years being as follows:

2020/21	£2,500
2019/20	£2,500
2018/19	£2,500
2017/18	£2,500

For 2021/22, Eastwood People's Initiative has requested a similar grant of £2,500 to cover the market rent and buildings insurance (£1,750) and other associated premises costs (£750). Any grant awarded in respect of the rental element would have no effect on the Council's overall budget, with the award being matched in the Council's premises income budget. Members should note that any additional award for the other operating costs will have to be funded from the grant aid budget.

6. BROXTOWE WOMEN'S PROJECT

Established in 2001, Broxtowe Women's Project Limited (BWP) is a voluntary organisation that provides a unique, community-led service offering a range of high-quality domestic abuse outreach and awareness services in response to local needs. The BWP vision is that women and their families who are affected by domestic abuse in Broxtowe are empowered to feel safe, to take control of their lives and to lead safer lives. BWP wants everyone in Broxtowe to have more awareness of all types of domestic abuse.

The main aims of BWP are to provide outreach support to women and children who are experiencing or have experienced domestic violence and to provide advice, information, training, publicity and raising awareness for local agencies, individuals and community groups. BWP empower women to regain domestic control and lead independent, fulfilling, safe and positive lives. It nurtures children and young people affected by domestic violence to build resilience and understand healthy relationships and emotions. BWP challenge the stigma associated with domestic violence, advocating women, raising awareness and campaigning for an end to domestic violence.

BWP has grown and developed a range of services that support and empower women and their children to overcome the trauma of experiencing domestic violence and economic abuse. These services include outreach, drop-in support services, helpline, wellbeing, employability programmes, children's and young people's service, counselling, Freedom Programme training, partnership working, business training and support packages, legal support, and a volunteer programme.

BWP provides an outreach service supported by specialist outreach workers and skilled therapeutic professionals. BWP advocates its service users who are often stigmatised, to navigate around financial or legal issues. The Covid-19 pandemic crisis has exacerbated existing domestic violence issues, with increased needs for BWP services continuing during this time. BWP is keen to ensure that it provides a longer-term exit strategy for vulnerable women and their families, including financial resilience and independence, mentoring and engagement strategies that move these women closer to the employment market.

In 2020-21 BWP received 200 referrals made through various channels, including self-referral, friends and family, CAB, Women's' Aid, children and young people, health, adult social care and others (these referrals do not include the numbers of women supported by the legal surgery or who contacted the support line). BWP aims to provide a quality service to women and to provide support as quickly as possible for them. The majority of referrals were received support on the day of referral, with the remainder largely being supported by the next day. All referrals were supported within two weeks of the referral.

Outcomes are monitored and the percentage of women that reported an increase in positive outcomes as a direct result of working with BWP during this period included client empowerment (86%), feeling safer (80%), minimised risk of harm (78%), skills increased (more informed) (76%), increased self-esteem (66%), improved mental health (58%), reduced isolation (53%), fled relationship (47%) and gained employment/training/ volunteering (30%). Furthermore, 31% of women were 'support ready' for moving onto well-being/counselling/befriending services after outreach. These outcomes provide a strong indication of the impact the BWP has had upon the lives of survivors with whom it works. It also indicates the importance of continually developing services such as the counselling to increase the positive outcomes for women.

While full statistics for 2021-22 are not yet available, the report provided by BWP for the six months to September 2021 indicates referrals to have increased by approximately 28% during the year.

BWP works in partnership with other service providers to help women with personal development and in changing their lives. BWP supports the Stapleford Focus Group and Eastwood South Focus Group action plan aligning with the priorities set and supported by the South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership. Its active involvement in these groups highlights a

commitment to working in partnership and dedication to improving the lives of survivors of domestic abuse.

As well as direct support, BWP consistently highlights issues of domestic abuse and is committed to improving knowledge and services for women and children to seek help and support. BWP has successfully delivered a number of media campaigns, raising awareness around the impact of domestic and economic issues. BWP also works in partnership with the Council on the White Ribbon Campaign.

BWP has submitted its latest financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 for scrutiny. Financial activity is split between restricted and unrestricted funds. In the year, BWP generated total income of £245,585 mainly from grants and donations. The charity considers the majority of this funding to be restricted and significant grants were received from the National Lottery Community Fund (£100,542), Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner (£41,966), Lloyds Bank Foundation (£32,014), and Children in Need (£20,222). Expenditure for the year amounted to £242,184 and mainly related to employee costs (£170,167), publicity and PR, professional fees, and premises rental and room hire costs. The average number of employees during the year was 8. BWP had overall cash and bank balances of £77,001 as at 31 March 2021, with unrestricted funds amounting to £40,359.

The project continues to apply to a range of funders for all aspects of its services and costs. Most funding is restricted to specific project costs. BWP recently received funding from the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner Violence Reduction Unit to fund wellbeing activity that enables women to get closer to the labour market and helps young people in their understanding positive relationships and avoiding anti-social behaviour. This funding is due to expire in March 2022. Other funding has been received from Lloyds Invest (part fund an Outreach Worker and Communications Officer) and the Ministry of Justice. Support received from Children in Need (for the Children's and Young People's service) has not yet been secured for future years however an application for a one-year continuation is currently in progress.

BWP add that it is difficult to access funding for core costs (rent, utilities etc.) so without the Council's support it is increasingly difficult to develop the service further and meet the needs of the service user.

The Council has supported BWP for many years with funding towards core costs. The grants awarded in the past four years were:

2020/21	£6,000
2019/20	£6,000
2018/19	£6,000
2017/18	£6,000

For 2021/22, BWP has requested an increased grant of £8,000 to meet its rental obligations and to contribute towards other core costs. The requested

increase is primarily due to an increase in insurance premiums (£619 per annum) and energy (£1,444 per annum). Members should note that the grant aid policy requires that grant awards of £5,000 or above may be subject to a Service Level Agreement.

Age Concern Organisations

7. AGE CONCERN EASTWOOD

Age Concern Eastwood is a registered charity, established in 1970, that is based at The Colin Dyson Centre on Edward Road in Eastwood (premises owned by the Council). The group generates its membership from Eastwood and the surrounding area. Around 60 clients use its services with the majority being Broxtowe residents aged 60 years or over.

Age Concern Eastwood provides welfare facilities to local elderly residents. Its clientele includes some disabled users, others who are suffering with dementia and Alzheimer's and those who may be isolated. The group aims to provide a quality meeting place, companionship, socialising, entertainment and advice for its elderly users by offering a wide variety of activities such as a luncheon club (before the pandemic the group were serving over 100 meals per week, Monday to Thursday), social events and activities, arts and crafts and festive parties. In previous years, a trustee provided a Sunday lunch for up to 18 members on a regular basis and occasionally hosted a 'Friday pie day' to serve meals to those in need. A Christmas party would normally be held to provide a festive meal for those isolated and living alone, including a turkey roast dinner, wrapped gifts, games and a party atmosphere.

The charity provides its own volunteer driver service as transport for its more isolated members. It is seeking funding from other sources to cover the cost of the mini-bus service as an alternative to the volunteer drivers. The group also works in partnership with the Broxtowe Mental Health team and Nottinghamshire County Social Services who recommend their service to potential new members.

For the year ended 31 March 2021, income totalling £25,258 was generated from grants and donations (including £9,000 from this Council and £10,500 from the Nottinghamshire County Council Local Improvement Scheme), meals and drinks receipts, transport receipts, fundraising and other activities. Annual expenditure of £10,321 mainly related to equipment, repairs and renewals, meals and catering, rent, utilities, insurance and other general running costs. Cash at bank and in hand as at 31 March 2021 increased to £84,743.

The Council has supported Age Concern Eastwood for many years with grants towards its premises (including rental) and transport costs. The grants awarded in the past four years were as follows:

2020/21	£9,000
2019/20	£9,000
2018/19	£9,000
2017/18	£9,000

For 2021/22, Age Concern Eastwood has requested a grant of £9,000 towards its running costs, including the rental of the Edward Road premises. Any grant award in respect of the premises rental (£3,850) would be matched by allowances within the premises income budget and therefore leave the Council's overall budget unchanged. Any additional award for other running costs however will have to be funded from the grant aid budget.

Members should note that the grant aid policy would normally require that all 'cash' grant awards of £5,000 or above to be subject to a Service Level Agreement. However, monitoring arrangements that 'measure and celebrate success' should also be tailored specifically to the organisation and can include written reports, feedback from service users and monitoring visits to the funded organisation.

Sports Club Category

8. BRAMCOTE CRICKET CLUB

Bramcote Cricket Club was founded in 1858 and is based at Bramcote Hills Park on Ilkeston Road in Bramcote. Bramcote Cricket Club provides an opportunity to play and watch cricket. The club currently runs a number of league cricket teams and has occasionally coached midweek junior teams.

The Club is open to anyone interested in playing or coaching cricket and currently has around 60 members, the majority of whom live in Broxtowe. In addition, a further 100 juniors regularly attend the club to play and practice, as do other visiting clubs from around the Borough.

Unlike some clubs in the region, Bramcote Cricket Club continues to experience strong participation, particularly amongst juniors who attend for coaching sessions. The club hopes to continue to provide this opportunity for juniors to participate in cricket.

Bramcote Cricket Club provided its draft financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 for scrutiny. These show income totalling £14,921 being mainly generated from subscriptions, match fees, bar sales, grants and other fundraising activities. Annual expenditure of £13,496 included bar expenses, pitch maintenance, playing equipment, pitch hire, rent, insurances and other running costs. Cash and bank balances as at 31 December 2021 are recorded as £21,275.

The Council owns the clubhouse used by the Club on Bramcote Hills Park and as part of the Council's aim to secure economic rents on its properties the rent has been assessed at £1,000 per annum.

The Council has supported Bramcote Cricket Club for many years with grants towards its premises costs (including rental) and the occasional capital grant towards facilities and equipment. The grants awarded in the past four years were as follows:

2020/21	£1,000
2019/20	£1,000
2018/19	£865
2017/18	£865

For 2021/22, Bramcote Cricket Club has requested a revenue grant of £1,000 towards the total cost of its annual rent obligations. This award would be for a period of one year and would be matched by allowances within the premises income budget, leaving the Council's overall budget unchanged.

Miscellaneous Category

9. **BROXTOWE PLAY FORUM**

Broxtowe Play Forum was established in 1983 and is based in Council owned premises at Montrose Court in Stapleford. Broxtowe Play Forum generates its membership from across the Borough and, in a typical year, around 130 local member groups and families use the facilities provided, supporting over 3,000 children and young people.

The primary aim of Broxtowe Play Forum is to support and encourage play in the borough and the group achieves this by providing play resources for children's groups. Broxtowe Play Forum also organises meetings at its premises, provides office services and craft workshop facilities and offers reasonably priced art and craft materials for sale in its play resource centre.

It is open to the general public on a Wednesday, holding a card making club for adults. Broxtowe Play Forum has also attended local play days and play events in partnership with the Arts and Development team.

For the financial year ended 31 March 2021 income totalling £9,051 was generated from grants, membership fees, equipment hire and resource sales. The grant received was from this Council for premises rental. Total expenditure amounted to £9,274 and included rent and utilities, the purchase of resources and equipment and general running costs. Total cash funds as at 31 March 2021 amounted to £18,968.

Broxtowe Play Forum has occupied units at Montrose Court in Stapleford since 2014. As part of the Council's aim to secure market rental on its properties, the annual rent for the premises was assessed at £5,500. The group has limited financial resources and would be unable to sustain a rental charge of this size.

The Council has supported Broxtowe Play Forum for many years with grants towards the cost of its rent obligations. The sums awarded in the past four years were as follows:

2020/21	£5,500
2019/20	£5,500
2018/19	£5,500
2017/18	£5,500

For 2021/22, Broxtowe Play Forum has requested a similar grant of £5,500 towards the cost of its rent obligations. This grant would be for a period of one year and would be matched by allowances within the premises income budget and therefore leave the Council's overall budget unchanged.

10. DIG-IN COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

The Dig-In Community Allotment scheme ('Dig-In') was established in 2004 and is based at the Albany Allotments on Pasture Road, Stapleford. Dig-In provides a facility for local groups and residents to grow fruit and vegetables and explore biodiversity and horticulture through running a sustainable community allotment, organising workshops events, volunteer gardening sessions, organic food growing, environmental & food education and local community outreach and involvement.

The group aims to improve the mental & physical wellbeing of the local community through these activities. Operating within current Covid regulations, the group also acts as a community hub for outdoor events and workshops which are intended to bring the local community together with a shared purpose of combating social isolation and developing people's skills, knowledge and self-confidence. Training is offered on an informal and occasional basis and is "on the job" during normal gardening sessions.

All activities are evaluated and this informs action planning for future events, workshops and sessions. The volunteers shape the Dig-In activities and growing sessions are tailored around needs of the group.

Dig-In is free and open to all (the project asks for donations at its events). Community groups and families use the site as a resource. Dig-In is managed by a voluntary management committee made up of local residents, voluntary groups and local agencies/authorities. In 2020 the scheme has delivered:

- 58 volunteer sessions with an average of 9 volunteer attendees per session across the year totalling 812 hours.
- two groups from a local school (Years 1 & 2 - 6 children with 3 adults) and two home schooled children attended the site and helped plant apple trees in the new community orchard.
- Online (due to Covid-19 restrictions, a virtual veg show (34 entries) and a pumpkin competition (32 entries) were held in October. Regular video guides and information sheets were made available throughout the year.
- A giveaway of 90 seed kits to and 47 plants to local schools and groups along with 34 seed and plant kits to local families.

Although the pandemic did impact on the planned events in 2020, Dig-In was still able to maintain a community hub for outdoor events and workshops (operating within Covid regulations) which brought the local community together with a shared purpose of combating social isolation and developing skills, knowledge and self-confidence.

For the year ended 28 February 2021, income totalling £700 was derived from grants and donations. Expenditure of £9,457 related to wages (£8,041), activities and events, materials and other operating expenses. Stapleford Town Council supports the project by donating the three allotment plots for community use and as such no rental is charged. Cash and bank balances at 28 February 2021 amounted to £7,695, a significant reduction from £16,452 as at 29 February 2020. In April 2021 £9,868 was received from the Big Lottery Awards for All scheme, of which £4,093 currently remains. The group states that as at 17 December 2021, the bank balance for the group was £12,420.

The Council have supported the Dig-In Community Allotment for many years with grant aid towards its running costs. The grants awarded in the past four years were as follows:

2020/21	£700
2019/20	£495
2018/19	£515
2017/18	No application

For 2021/22 the Dig-In Community Allotment has requested a similar grant of £655 towards insurance premium (£271), water charges (£131), web domain renewal and hosting (£26) and other ICT and mobile phone costs (£226).

11. GREASLEY GATHERING

A grant application has been received from the organising committee of the Greasley Gathering for assistance towards the costs of a free family fun-day multi-venue event in the parish of Greasley to be held on 5 June 2022 to celebrate the Bank Holiday Weekend of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The Greasley Gathering event has been taking place since 2012, having been born out of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. The event is hugely popular with over 1,000 people attending. At previous Gatherings there have been attractions from all across the parish including local pubs, Colliers' Wood, Beauvale Priory, Greasley Church and Craft Fair, with the main hub being based at the Greasley Sports and Community Centre. The group organises transport (London buses) to enable everyone to get around the other venues.

The aim of the event is to strengthen local identity and mirror the wide cultural appeal of a community event. The project is community driven giving voluntary organisations the perfect opportunity to showcase their work in the local community and hopefully recruit new members. It is also considered to be a platform for agencies to promote their services and plans for the future. The

event has an organising committee, which includes the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. All committee members reside in the Parish of Greasley.

The programme for the last event in 2019 offered a variety of activities, including rides around the parish on London buses, children's magicians, dog agility displays, brass band, face painting, 'digi-wall', go-kart racing, singers, choir, creation station, classic cars, Beauvale Priory entertainment and beer festival, Moorgreen Residents' Scarecrow Trail, opening of Greasley Church and craft fair, barbeques and various entertainments provided by the 6 local pubs. There were also charity stalls from Marie Curie, Brinsley Animal Rescue, British Legion. Local groups such as the Broxtowe Model Car Club and Archery Club provided hands-on entertainment. There were inflatables and funfair stalls and other stalls selling products, in addition to catering facilities.

No event was held in 2020 or 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, the financial statements provided by The Greasley Gathering for scrutiny related to the event held on 27 May 2019. These show generated receipts of £3,390 relating to grants (including this Council and a cash grant from Greasley Parish Council who also provided their facilities for free), donations, stallholders and event day takings. The total spend was £3,544 for entertainment, transport hire, refreshments, printing and advertising and prizes. The small deficit was taken from cash and bank balances which had reduced to £1,672.

Planning is well underway for 2022 to ensure a return to fun-filled events with plenty of new things to do and see, as well as some of the established popular events. The projected total cost is around £4,500. Funding is required to make sure the necessary infrastructure is in place to cover the increased cost of stewards and entertainers as well as matters such as publicity.

The Greasley Gathering has requested financial backing of £1,000 to help with the running costs of the event. The group does raise money through raffles, refreshments sales and seeking sponsorship from local businesses as well as appealing for donations. However, these do not cover the total expense for the day especially when entertainment is bought in to ensure that there is a variety of activities for families, especially children, to enjoy.

The Council have supported the Greasley Gathering for many years with grant aid towards its running costs. The grants awarded in the past four years were as follows:

2020/21	No application
2019/20	Withdrawn*
2018/19	£1,000
2017/18	£1,000

*The application for 2019/20 was withdrawn as the event was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

APPENDIX 2

DELEGATED AWARDS

A summary of the grants awarded under delegated authority since August 2021 is included below. The Council's policy in respect of grant aid to voluntary organisations is to award the amount requested by the organisation or the maximum specified whichever is the lower. Additional consideration is given to groups who can demonstrate that they are meeting the particular needs of disadvantaged sections of the community.

All requests under £250 are considered under delegated authority, in consultation with the Chair of this Committee. This includes applications from individuals involved with sport and the arts.

This Committee determines all requests for grants in excess of the £250 maximum.

Groups

Group	Total Members	Total Broxtowe Residents	Grant Award in 2020/21	Grant Award in 2021/22	Purpose of Grant Award
Eastwood Parkinson's Exercise Group	8	8	£nil	£250	Contribution towards rental costs to run weekly classes. Award from the Broxtowe Lotto Community Fund
Nottingham Rehabilitation Gym CIC	105	45	£nil	£100	Contribution towards the purchase of aerobic steps. Award from the Broxtowe Lotto Community Fund
Nuthall and District WI	22	14	£nil	£100	Costs for a speaker at a future meeting of the group. Award from the Broxtowe Lotto Community Fund