

Report of the Interim Deputy Chief Executive

GRANT AID REQUEST FROM GREASLEY PARISH COUNCIL1. 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

A request for revenue grant funding has been received from Greasley Parish Council towards the cost of a silhouette soldier to be sited somewhere in the Parish of Greasley to commemorate the end of WW1. The life sized sculpture, known as 'Tommy', is already on display at a number of national locations including The Tower of London. The hollow outline is cut from lightweight aluminium giving it strength and durability and it stands on a base plate for bolting or pegged into the ground.

The purchase price is £750 including VAT. Greasley has asked the Council to provide grant aid of up to £625 (net) towards the cost of the sculpture.

Greasley Parish Council has stated that it has not been able to take advantage of the grant available to parish and town councils towards the cost of parades on Remembrance Sunday. Greasley will be having a church service at St. Mary's Greasley, but a parade will not be necessary as the war memorial is inside the church.

The agreed protocol for assessing grant aid to parish and town councils is provided for information in the appendix. Also provided for information is a list of grants awarded under this scheme.

3. Financial position

No budgetary provision exists for grants to parish councils. If members were minded to approve a grant, then an allocation from revenue contingencies would be required for which £25,000 remains uncommitted in 2018/19 (subject to any further reports being considered by other Committees during this cycle).

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to CONSIDER the report and RESOLVE accordingly.

Background papers

Nil

APPENDIX**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 grant aid will normally only be awarded for one year at a time 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.

Grant Aid to Parish/Town Councils

The table below lists the grants awarded under this scheme since 2010/11.

Date	Council	Amount £	Purpose
07/09/10	Nuthall Parish Council	4,650	Cemetery maintenance
08/03/11	Stapleford Town Council	2,500	Allotment access (Capital)
29/11/11	Nuthall Parish Council	3,900	Cemetery maintenance
29/11/11	Kimberley Town Council	600	Play equipment insurance
19/02/13	Greasley Parish Council	1,000	Community event
15/10/13	Kimberley Town Council	7,000	War memorial renovation (Capital)
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