

## Report of the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Personnel Policy

**GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS,  
CHARITABLE BODIES AND INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN SPORTS,  
THE ARTS AND DISABILITY MATTERS 2022/23**

1. Purpose of Report

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

2. Recommendation

**Cabinet is asked to CONSIDER the requests in the appendix and RESOLVE accordingly.**

3. Detail

Details of the grant applications received are included in the appendix for consideration. The amount available for distribution in 2022/23 is as follows:

	<u>£</u>
Revenue Grant Aid Budget	168,800
Less: Estimated requirements for:	
Rent Awards and Related Commitments ( <i>Note A</i> )	44,800
Other Anticipated Grant Awards ( <i>Note B</i> )	10,000
Less: Grant Awards to Date	112,450
<b>BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION</b>	<b>1,550</b>

The total grant amount requested in this report is £8,000. Of this, £7,000 is already provided for as a rent award (see note A, below). The remaining £1,000 would be drawn from the balance available for distribution of £1,550.

Note A – This includes provision in respect of rental and support costs for tenants of Council-owned properties, including 2<sup>nd</sup> Beeston Sea Scouts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kimberley Scout Group, 5<sup>th</sup> Stapleford Scout Group, Age Concern Eastwood, Bramcote Cricket Club, Broxtowe Play Forum, Chilwell Community Association, Eastwood People's Initiative, Stapleford Community Association and Toton Coronation Hall Community Association.

Note B – The estimated provision, based on grants awarded in 2021/22, in respect of other anticipated annual recurring grants to community organisations, including The Helpful Bureau.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

Any grant awards will be met from the established grant aid budget shown in the table above. Members are reminded that they will need to suitably constrain grant awards in 2022/23 if the budget is not to be exceeded. The total 'cash' grant requested in this report is £1,000. The additional sums requested in this report, when compared to the previous year, would amount to £1,000 if all applications are fully supported.

5. Legal Implications

The Council is empowered to make grants to voluntary organisations by virtue of Section 48 Local Government Act 1985 (as well as other legislation). Having an approved process in line the legislation and the Council's Grant Aid Policy will ensure the Council's compliance with its legal duties.

6. Human Resources Implications

Not applicable.

7. Union Comments

Not applicable.

8. Data Protection Compliance Implications

There are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

9. Equality Impact Assessment

As there is no change to policy an equality impact assessment is not required.

10. Background Papers

Nil.

## APPENDIX

Applications

The following grant applications have been received for consideration in 2022/23:

		<u>Grant Award 2021/22</u> £	<u>Grant Request 2022/23</u> £
Speech, Sign and Song Club	1	nil	1,000
Toton Coronation Hall Community Association	2	7,000	7,000*
		<b>Total</b>	<u>8,000</u>

\*The request of £7,000 from Toton Coronation Hall Community Association is wholly covered within the provision for rent awards.

#### 1. SPEECH, SIGN AND SONG CLUB

The Speech, Sign and Song Club ('SSSC') was formed in 2009 and has recently (January 2022) formally become a registered charity with the Charity Commission. The main activity of SSSC is the delivery of regular specialised music group sessions to children who need support with social and communication skills. Through this, SSSC provides a unique educational and therapeutic, safe and fun activity for those who may be unable to access other community groups owing to their communication difficulties and associated emotional/behavioural/other issues.

SSSC works closely with parents and carers, sharing information and strategies to help their children's communication skills. SSSC also encourages parents and carers to support each other emotionally and practically and organises occasional training sessions for them on relevant topics of interest.

Groups run in Beeston and Toton, serving anyone who can travel to them. This is mainly residents of Nottinghamshire, though sometimes families come from Derbyshire and Leicestershire. There may be up to 16 families engaged as members at any one time. Currently 4 families resident in Broxtowe are members of the group, however this can vary over time. A small (£4/5) charge is made for each meeting of the group, though concessions are made on a case-by-case basis.

SSSC feels that it provides a unique service to a very specific section of the community - children with communication difficulties and their families. This includes children with autism, Down's syndrome and other conditions. SSSC groups offer children carefully tailored opportunities to gain confidence, make friends and learn vital communication skills in a safe and non-judgmental atmosphere.

### Financial Information

SSSC has provided an Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 August 2022 along with a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 August 2022. Total income for the year was £6,923 (2021: £7,752) which comprised primarily of grant income from Jessie's Fund of £3,837, fees and registrations of £830 and fundraising of £956. Total expenditure for the year was £9,661 (2021: £11,287) which comprised primarily of the cost of Music Leaders and Planning of £7,950, room hire of £937 and sundry administration costs.

Total Net Assets as at 31 August 2022 was £4,155, comprising entirely of cash and cash equivalents of £5,206 less £570 in unrepresented cheques and other outstanding liabilities.

No other applications for grant funding are currently in progress, however SSSC is in the process of investigating further possible sources including other public authorities, charities and private grant-awarding bodies.

### Grant Aid Request

For 2022/23, SSSC has requested grant aid of £1,000 as a contribution towards the cost of providing weekly and monthly sessions during spring term 2023. This is the first time SSSC has applied to this Council for support. Such an award would be in line with the Council's Grant Aid policy for the following key reasons:

- The services provided by SSSC benefit Broxtowe residents and are complementary to the services provided by the Council.
- SSSC targets the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged sections of the community.
- Caring Organisations such as SSSC are a specific category of organisation welcomed to apply for Grant Aid.

## 2. TOTON CORONATION HALL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The Toton Coronation Hall Community Association ('TCHCA') is responsible for the management and operation of the Coronation Hall on Portland Road in Toton which opened in 1953 and is owned by this Council.

The aim of the Community Association is to provide the best possible social meeting place for Toton and the surrounding area. A variety of groups utilise the facilities for educational, recreational, leisure and sporting activities, including keep-fit clubs, dance instruction, social dancing, Zumba, Fitsteps and whist along with some private parties and other functions.

### Financial Information

TCHCA has provided its annual accounts for the year ended 31 July 2022 for scrutiny. Annual income amounted to £16,624 (2021: £15,785), comprising almost entirely of rental income for the hall and Grant Aid from this Council.

Expenditure of £14,693 (2021: £12,999) included rent (£7,000), utilities (£4,157), insurance, repairs and renewals and cleaning. Cash and bank balances as at 31 July 2022 were £16,653. TCHCA has indicated that reserves are earmarked towards general repairs and improvement of the premises.

### Grant Aid Request

For 2022/23, Toton Coronation Hall Community Association has requested a grant of £7,000 to cover the market rental of the Coronation Hall. This grant award would be for a period of one year, with the potential award being matched by allowances within the premises income budget. Such an award would be in line with the Council's Grant Aid policy for the following key reasons:

- The services provided by TCHCA benefit Broxtowe residents and are complementary to the services provided by the Council.
- TCHCA and the groups which operate from Coronation Hall target the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged sections of the community, in particular helping to combat loneliness and social exclusion within the Borough.
- Community Associations such as TCHCA are a specific category of organisation welcomed to apply for Grant Aid.

The Council has previously supported TCHCA with grant aid towards its premises rental with the grants awarded in the past four years being as follows:

2021/22	£7,000
2020/21	£7,000
2019/20	£7,000
2018/19	£7,000