

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 2023/24**

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 and RESOLVE accordingly.

3. Detail

Details of the grant applications received are included in the appendix for consideration. The amount available for distribution in 2023/24 is as follows:

	<u>£</u>
Revenue Grant Aid Budget	168,800
Less: Estimated requirements for:	
Citizens Advice Broxtowe	73,750
Rent Awards and Related Commitments	47,300
Less: Grant Awards to Date	-
BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION	<u>47,750</u>

The provision in respect of rental and support costs for tenants of Council-owned properties includes: Age Concern Eastwood, New Stapleford Community Association, Toton Coronation Hall Community Association, 2nd Beeston Sea Scouts, 2nd Kimberley Scout Group, Phoenix Community Foundation, Bramcote Cricket Club, Stapleford Community Association, Eastwood People's Initiative, 5th Stapleford Scout Group and Chilwell Community Association.

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 2023/24 if the budget is not to be exceeded. The total 'cash' grant requested in this report is £2,500. The additional sums requested in this report, when compared to the previous year, would amount to £2,500 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. Climate Change Implications

There were no comments from the Climate Change Manager.

9. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any [OFFICIAL (SENSITIVE)] information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment

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

11. Background Papers

Nil.

APPENDIX

Applications

The following grant applications have been received for consideration in 2023/24:

		<u>Grant Award 2022/23</u> £	<u>Grant Request 2023/24</u> £
New Stapleford Community Association	1	4,000	4,000*
DH Lawrence Music Festival	2	-	2,500
		Total	<u>6,500</u>

*The grant request from New Stapleford Community Association is wholly covered by the above-noted provision for rental costs for Council-owned premises. The total 'cash' grant request in this report is therefore £2,500.

1. 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 380 people use the facilities every week, the majority of whom live in the borough.

Financial Information

For the year ended 31 December 2022, NCSA generated income of £10,336 (2021: £3,132) from hall bookings, dances, and fund raising. Total expenditure amounted to £13,389 (2021: £9,581) which included utilities, fixtures, repairs and maintenance, dance and social activities and other running costs. Total bank balances as at 31 December 2022 were £21,803 (2021: £24,857). NCSA has earmarked part of these reserves towards repairs.

Grant Request

For 2023/24, 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.

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:

2022/23	£4,000
2021/22	£4,000
2020/21	£4,000
2019/20	£4,000

Such an award would be in line with the Council's Grant Aid policy for the following key reasons:

- The services provided by New Stapleford Community Association benefit Broxtowe residents and are complementary to the services provided by the Council.
- The activities of New Stapleford Community Association 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 New Stapleford Community Association are a specific category of organisation welcomed to apply for Grant Aid.

2. D H LAWRENCE MUSIC FESTIVAL

An application for grant aid has been received for support towards the cost of organising the D H Lawrence Music Festival 2023.

The D H Lawrence Music Festival organiser states that this is "a music festival that promotes local songwriters and performers, brings the community together and brings music fans from outside of Broxtowe into Eastwood. This all helps local businesses, including the venues [where] we hold the music and the food establishments people visit throughout the day. The festival also promotes one of Eastwood's most important figures, D H Lawrence."

The festival runs over the course of one day, bringing around 120 individual artists into the area, performing their original music. Twelve stages at venues across Eastwood have already signed up for the festival this year which takes place on 9 September 2021 (to coincide with the birth date of D H Lawrence on the 11 September).

Financial Information

As an annual festival run by independent musicians, there is no formally constituted 'group' as such which prepares financial statements for scrutiny, nor does the festival hold a separate bank account.

The applicant has provided a budget for the festival which estimates the cost of the festival at approximately £2,500. This consists primarily of promotional material, decoration throughout venues (banners and other advertising),

programmes, expenses payments to artists (£1,100) and organisers' time (£350) with regards to administration and on-the-day running of the event. The festival does not make any profit and in previous years the organisers have produced posters, badges etc. from their own time and resources.

Officers are sufficiently assured that the 'not-for-profit' aims of the festival and the promotional nature of this local event, with its links to music and the arts, is sufficient for the request to be considered for an award under the grant aid policy.

Grant Request

For the 2023 event, a grant of £2,500 has been requested by the D H Lawrence Music Festival towards / to cover the costs of promoting and organising the festival as detailed above.

The Council has previously supported the D H Lawrence Festival, with a grant of £2,500 having been awarded in 2021/22. In addition to the local economic and cultural benefits, an award for the 2023 festival would be in line with the Council's Grant Aid policy for the following key reasons:

- The D H Lawrence Music Festival benefits Broxtowe residents, enhancing their quality of life, and is complementary to the services provided by the Council.
- The D H Lawrence Music Festival helps to combat loneliness and social exclusion within the Borough.