

## 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**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 grant aid 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:

Revenue Grant Aid Budget	£ 168,800
Less: Grant Awards to Date	164,900
<b>BALANCE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION</b>	<b>3,900</b>

The total amount requested for 2023/24 in this report is £6,150, of which £2,000 constitutes 'cash' grants with the balance being rent awards to community group tenants of Council-owned properties which would be 'paid' via an internal transfer in the Council's financial systems. Should Members wish to support all grant applications within this report, there would be a nominal overspend on the Grant Aid budget for 2023/24.

4. Key Decision

This report does not relate to a key decision.

5. Updates from Scrutiny

Not applicable.

6. 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.

7. Legal Implications

The comments from the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal Services were as follows:

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.

8. Human Resources Implications

The comments from the Human Resources Manager were as follows:

Not applicable.

9. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:

Not applicable.

10. Climate Change Implications

No climate change implications have been identified in relation to any of the grant applications contained within this report.

11. 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.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

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

13. Background Papers

Nil.

## APPENDIX

Applications

The following grant applications have been received for consideration:

		<u>Previous Year Grant Award</u> £	<u>Current Year Grant Request</u> £
Age Concern Eastwood	1	9,000	2,000* <sup>1</sup>
Chilwell Community Association	2	3,150	3,150* <sup>2</sup>
Bramcote Cricket Club	3	1,000	1,000* <sup>2</sup>
		<b>Total</b>	<b><u>6,150</u></b>

Notes:

\*<sup>1</sup> Age Concern Eastwood already awarded grant aid of £9,000 in 2023/24.

\*<sup>2</sup> As detailed further in the report, these requests are for grants to cover the cost of rental for Council-owned premises and, as such, are non-cash grants, awarded via an internal transfer in the Council's financial systems.

## 1. AGE CONCERN EASTWOOD

Members will recall considering the regular grant request from Age Concern Eastwood at its meeting on 7 February 2024 when a grant of £9,000 was awarded towards its running costs, including the premises rental. The Council has since received another request from Age Concern Eastwood that Members may wish to support.

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 70 clients use its services with the great majority being Broxtowe residents aged 60 years or over.

The group provides welfare facilities to local elderly residents. Its clientele includes some disabled users, others who are suffering with dementia 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, social events and activities.

### Financial Information

For the financial year ended 31 March 2023, income totalling £53,749 (2022: £76,026) was generated from meals and drinks receipts (£27,232), grants and donations (£11,361), transport receipts (£7,731), fundraising and other activities. Annual spend of £70,409 (2022: £61,739) mainly related to wages (£25,624), transport (£15,045), 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 2023 was healthy at £82,370 (2022: £99,030).

### Grant Request

This ad-hoc request from Age Concern Eastwood is towards the cost of buying and installing a new commercial oven at the Edward Road premises.

The old 'domestic' cooker with an electric double oven with a gas hob has been regularly repaired following breakdowns and has now failed. Despite the challenges, the group's dedicated cook has continued to work well, sometimes under difficult circumstances. Although the group was keen on a similar electric oven and gas hob, it is now known that the existing cooker hood and extractor is obsolete and no longer compliant with current legislation.

The group are therefore considering a multi-functional commercial combination oven as recommended by a local supplier. The demonstration of its use was well received and is anticipated it will save time and energy. The unit with stand and fitments costs £6,800. The power supply needs updating at around £500 to ensure safe installation, meaning the total project costs are £7,300.

Age Concern Eastwood has received £1,500 from the local County Councillor from divisional funds. Eastwood Town Council has provided a grant of £500, with further donations from the local Borough Councillor and Dog and Parrot Community Fund. In total £3,000 has been secured for the project.

Age Concern Eastwood has requested a grant of up to £2,000 towards the cost of the scheme with the balance being match funded from its own resources.

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:

2022/23	£9,000
2021/22	£9,000
2020/21	£9,000
2019/20	£9,000

In 2023/24, the Council has already awarded Age Concern Eastwood a grant of £9,000 towards its running costs, including the rental of its premises at £3,850.

The group has now requested an additional award of £2,000 for towards the purchase and installation of a new commercial cooker and hob.

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

- The services provided by Age Concern Eastwood benefit Broxtowe residents and are complementary to the services provided by the Council.
- The activities of Age Concern Eastwood target the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged sections of the community, in particular helping to combat loneliness and social exclusion within the Borough.
- Caring Organisations such as Age Concern Eastwood are a specific category of organisation welcomed to apply for grant aid.

## 2. 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 a holiday club for local children and occasional events. 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.

### Financial Information

For the financial year ended 31 March 2023, the Chilwell Community Association generated receipts of £14,869 (2022: £14,151) from grant aid and fees. Payments amounted to £15,412 (2021: £9,995) including rent, wages, property maintenance, utilities, insurance and other miscellaneous costs. Cash and bank balances as at 31 March 2023 had fallen slightly to £40,445 (2022: £40,988). 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.

### Grant Request

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:

2022/23	£3,150
2021/22	£3,150
2020/21	£3,150
2019/20	£3,150

For 2023/24, 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 have no effect on the Council's overall budget, with the award being matched in the Council's 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 Chilwell Community Association benefit Broxtowe residents and are complementary to the services provided by the Council.
- The activities of Chilwell 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, as well as providing educational and co-curricular benefits to local children.
- Community Associations such as Chilwell Community Association are a specific category of organisation welcomed to apply for Grant Aid.

### 3. 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 offers coaching for junior teams.

The Club is open to anyone interested in playing or coaching cricket and currently has around 75 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.

#### Financial Information

Bramcote Cricket Club provided its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 for scrutiny. These show income totalling £11,864 (2022: £10,462) being mainly generated from subscriptions, match fees, bar sales, grants and other fundraising activities. Annual expenditure of £16,712 (2021: £15,967) included bar expenses, pavilion costs, pitch maintenance, pitch hire, rent, insurances and other running costs. The Council's rent charge and matching grant are not included within the above figures. Cash and bank balances as at 31 December 2023 are recorded as £10,836 (2021: £15,802).

### Grant Request

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:

2022/23	£1,000
2021/22	£1,000
2020/21	£1,000
2019/20	£1,000

For 2023/24, Bramcote Cricket Club has requested a similar grant of £1,000 towards the total cost of its annual rent obligations. This award would be for a period of one year and be matched by allowances within the premises income budget, leaving the Council's overall budget unchanged. Such an award would be in line with the Council's Grant Aid policy for the following key reasons:

- The services provided by Bramcote Cricket Club benefit Broxtowe residents and are complementary to the services provided by the Council.
- The activities of Bramcote Cricket Club target the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged sections of the community, in particular helping to combat loneliness and social exclusion within the Borough.