

To consider requests for grant funding and recommendations of Grants Panel

Members of the Grants Panel (Councillors Bishop, Foster and Harris) met on 9th December 2021 to review in detail Swanage Town Council Grant Applications received for the 2021/22 financial year. All applications received are listed in the table below (Appendix 1). This also indicates the sum requested, the recommended size of the grant from the Grants Panel, a summary of the project that will be funded by the grant, and the reason for the Council's support.

Background

The Council has agreed a grants budget of £10,000 for the 2021/22 financial year. This is separate from the support for the Citizens Advice Bureau which has been given its own budget line. This sum also excludes the Council's support to partner organisations including Dorset Council, through which the Council funds the Mount Scar School Crossing Patrol.

Also attached is a copy of the Council's grant criteria, adopted by Council in February 2021. This states that in order to ensure a wide distribution of funds, grants will usually be for sums of less than £500, and would typically only support festivals and events whilst they are being established.

No grants have been awarded to date. A total of £13,958 has been requested, and it is proposed that £2,548 be awarded. The balance of £7,452 will be available for applications received throughout the remainder of the financial year, and it is proposed that the Town Council increases awareness of its grant scheme with local charitable/community groups accordingly.

Decisions required:

- 1) To approve the recommendations of the Grants Panel made at its meeting held on 9th December 2021.

Niki Clark
Administration and Communications Manager
December 2021

Appendix 1

Swanage Town Council - Grant applications received

Applicant	Sum requested	Recommended grant	Summary of project	Reason for support
Greengage Community Garden – Request 1	£368	£368	<p>Request 1 – grant towards the cost of repairing and replacing glass panes in the nursery greenhouse.</p> <p>The Greengage Project was set up by Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) in 2016 as a wellbeing ‘hub’ at Prospect Nursery with support from the Town Council. With numerous examples of the benefits gardening and contact with nature can bring to wellbeing, the project originally aimed to support those living with mental health issues, dementia or in long-term unemployment through supported eco-therapy and gardening.</p> <p>The Project has the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to promote well-being through gardening • to provide a relaxing, safe and friendly environment • to encourage, develop and share new and existing skills • to provide mutual support across all ages and abilities 	<p>Benefit to the local community’s health and wellbeing. Particularly mental health.</p> <p>Horticultural therapy for local people - positive support for local residents of all ages, and easily accessible to people with mobility issues.</p> <p>A free service, providing a relaxed and supportive atmosphere to encourage socialising and boost self-esteem.</p> <p>Working well in conjunction with the Rabling/Prospect Green ‘Pocket Park’ Project.</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to promote wildlife, eco-friendly and chemical-free gardening 	
Greengage Community Garden – Request 2	£500	£500	<p>Request 2 – towards the cost of works required to the conifer hedge to the south of the nursery site. The Council’s Operations Manager has been made aware of these proposed works.</p> <p>A grant application has also been submitted to the De Moulham Trust for an additional sum of £1,000.</p> <p>The total cost of these works will be £1,680.</p>	<p>Benefit to the local community’s health and wellbeing. Particularly mental health.</p> <p>Horticultural therapy for local people - positive support for local residents of all ages, and easily accessible to people with mobility issues.</p> <p>A free service, providing a relaxed and supportive atmosphere to encourage socialising and boost self-esteem.</p> <p>Working well in conjunction with the Rabling/Prospect Green ‘Pocket Park’ Project.</p>
Life Education Wessex	£430	£430	<p>Towards the cost of delivering a two-day programme at St Mary’s RC Primary School.</p> <p>Total cost £1,140, of which the school will pay £710.</p> <p>Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley is an independent and self-financing charity and a delivery partner of the UK’s leading health, drug, and emotional well-being education programme ‘Coram Life Education’ to children aged 3–13 years across:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wessex - Devon & Cornwall, Dorset, 	<p>In recognition of the benefit of the charity’s workshops to the health and wellbeing of local children.</p> <p>The charity has been particularly concerned for the mental health and wellbeing of children during the past year, and the effect that isolation has had on their emotional wellbeing.</p> <p>It has previously been noted that there had been a surge in domestic violence during the COVID-19 lockdowns and that many children are more vulnerable than ever,</p>

			<p>Hampshire and Somerset</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thames Valley - Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and East Swindon <p>The charity helps to effectively communicate healthy lifestyle messages and empower children aged 3-13 with the knowledge, skills and self-confidence to make positive healthy decisions and stay safe in school.</p> <p><i>'Helping Children Make Healthy Choices'</i>. Programmes address many topical issues e.g. emotional health and well-being, obesity, drugs, alcohol and smoking. In a nutshell, programmes help children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how their bodies work • Understand what they need to do to look after themselves • Understand the adverse effects of drugs, including alcohol, tobacco and new psychoactive substances • Learn the skills and gain the self-confidence to make and implement healthy decisions now and in the future <p>In the academic year 2019/2020 the charity saw circa 72,000 across all areas covered.</p>	particularly in pockets of the most deprived areas.
Mowlem Institute Trust	£4,910	£0	Towards the costs of new air-conditioning in the projector room (£1,900), a new sound desk (£3,010), and a consultant to analyse the results	Decline – further information/discussions required. See notes below.

			<p>of a community survey (£500). Total cost £4,910 (+VAT).</p> <p>Relevant background information - Minute No. 119 of the Council Meeting held on 25th January 2021.</p> <p>At the time of the application, a grant of £5,000 had been awarded by Dorset Growth Hub, a Crowd Funder Campaign had generated over £4,000, and donations had been received of £3,500.</p> <p>Registered charity.</p> <p>The Mowlem Theatre offers the residents of Swanage access to the performing arts on their doorstep through its year-round programme of film and theatre for all ages.</p> <p>Providing a platform for amateur and professional companies to stage their own live theatre, promoting its own live events, and running a programme of mainstream film releases. Facilities also within the building for hosting exhibitions, talks and events.</p> <p>It is a well-used resource for local schools, including special needs, and is a valuable platform for young people learning performing arts skills.</p>	<p>A previous grant application had been submitted to the Town Council for £36,000 which had been declined at the Council Meeting held on 25th January 2021. However, the Council had expressed its willingness to work with the Trust to realise its aspirations, and felt that more detailed information was required regarding its business plan and strategy to deliver long-term financial sustainability of the theatre before a decision could be made regarding grant funding.</p> <p>The possibility of loan funding as an alternative to grant funding was also raised as a potential avenue to explore for the Trust and it is again suggested that a meeting should be held between representatives from the Council and the Trust to discuss options to secure the long-term financial sustainability of the Mowlem Theatre, which is one of the town's most significant community assets.</p>
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<p>Parkrun Global Limited</p>	<p>£3,000</p>	<p>£500</p>	<p>Towards set-up costs of £4,000 (incl. PLI, first aid kits, defib). £1,000 grant has been awarded by Purbeck Primary Care Network, and applications for grants/funding have been submitted to a further seven organisations, including Dorset Council – awaiting outcome.</p> <p>Parkrun Global Limited is committed to delivering physical activity interventions designed to help communities to be healthier and happier through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - insight and understanding of the challenges and issues that impact participation - normalising physically active behaviour - proactively championing diversity and inclusivity - challenging stereotypes and conventional thinking - positively influencing attitudes, language and behaviour change; and - challenging ourselves every single day in order to ensure we are living up to our mission statement. - residents would gain more leisure time by saving a long drive to and from a parkrun event 	<p>Benefit to the local community’s health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Event is volunteer run.</p> <p>In line with the Council’s existing grant policy, Points 3 to 3.6, and to ensure a wide distribution of funds, a reduced grant of £500 is recommended, to be used towards the set-up costs of the new Swanage Parkrun, subject to further information being received - confirmation of Parkrun Global Limited’s charitable and financial accounting info/status.</p> <p>A question was raised regarding future PLI costs and how these will be covered.</p>

			There are currently seven local Parkruns held in: Blandford, Bournemouth, Bridport, Moors Valley, Poole, Upton and Weymouth.	
Purbeck Arts Weeks Festival – Request 1	£500	£0	<p>Request 1 - towards the cost of the restoration of the PAW murals in Shore Road (previously restored a few years ago).</p> <p>The total cost of this work is estimated at £1,400. £400 for materials, and £1,000 for a week's time of a local artist. PAW is willing to fund £900 of these costs.</p> <p>Registered charity.</p> <p>PAW Festival aims to better inform, educate, inspire and encourage young people to be creative and innovative through engagement with all forms of visual arts through its Purbeck Young Artists scheme.</p> <p>The murals were created over a number of years by young people across Swanage. They show the creativity of our children, offer inspiration to others and have been admired by visitors as well as residents.</p> <p>The charity feels that the murals should be preserved until a new set of murals can be created in future.</p>	<p>Decline – long established murals and funds are required for ongoing maintenance costs. Comments are made that the murals have already been restored in recent years, and concerns are raised that further grant applications will be forthcoming for this purpose.</p> <p>In line with the Council's existing grant policy, Points 3 to 3.6, this is not considered to be a new project, and would be funding continuing refurbishment costs.</p>

Purbeck Arts Weeks Festival with the Mowlem Theatre – Request 2	£2,000	£500	<p>Request 2 – towards the cost of Autin Dance Theatre performances and workshops (as part of the Jubilee/Bank Holiday festivities in 2022). A grant application has also been made to the De Moulham Trust for £2,000.</p> <p>PAW is committed to inspiring people of all ages to realise their potential.</p> <p>Committed to broadening access for local people to a wider variety of arts in Purbeck, an area which is currently under-served.</p> <p>Offering year-round arts activities and provide a support network for our artists across Purbeck.</p> <p>Annual visual and performing PAW Festival held in late May/early June, a winter series of chamber music recitals in Purbeck Houses, and during the year support and promote a programme of art and music workshops for young people in schools across Purbeck.</p>	<p>Entertainment and activities for all ages, and would be part of the PAW Festival and the town’s Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June 2022.</p> <p>In line with the Council’s existing grant policy, Points 3 to 3.6, and to ensure a wide distribution of funds, a reduced grant of £500 is recommended.</p>
Purbeck Film Festival	£1,000	£0	<p>Towards the costs of the 2021 film festival.</p> <p>A grant has already been approved by the De Moulham Trust towards the costs of the 2021 festival in the sum of £1,000 (April 2021).</p> <p>Registered Charity.</p>	<p>Decline – long established festival.</p> <p>In line with the Council’s existing grant policy, Points 3 to 3.6, this is a long established, ticketed event.</p>

			<p>Established annual event across thirty venues in Purbeck. To promote local interest in films for entertainment and education, and bring cinema to rural areas.</p> <p>The festival provides a wide range of film screenings which facilitate an enjoyable social gathering whilst also showing many different cultures, viewpoints, and lifestyles.</p>	
Purbeck International Chamber Music Festival	£500	£0	<p>Towards the costs of the 2021 festival (four ticketed concerts were held in the Fine Foundation Gallery at Durlston Country Park 2nd – 5th September 2021).</p> <p>Registered Charity. Established annual event across various venues in Purbeck. Live musical performances.</p>	<p>Decline – long established festival.</p> <p>In line with the Council’s existing grant policy, Points 3 to 3.6, this is a long established, ticketed event.</p>
Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership	£250	£250	<p>Towards the costs of replacement materials.</p> <p>Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership provides a sustainable provision of public accessed defibrillators across Swanage and surrounding villages.</p> <p>A dedicated team of volunteers ensure that devices are ready and available. Since commencement of the project the defibrillators have been used 82 times.</p>	<p>Benefit to the local community’s health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Volunteer run.</p> <p>Grant recommended in order to ensure that the defibs/cabinets continue to be in good working order in case of need.</p>

The Swanage School	£500	£0	<p>Towards the cost of career education projects (detailed description in the application form).</p> <p>Total cost projected at £9,960, and three applications for grants/funding have also been submitted to other organisations – awaiting outcome.</p> <p>Programme aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Connect students with role models from their dream industries. Forge a network with both professionals and training providers. 2. Provide students with clear pathways into each industry. 3. Run a series of projects that give students hands-on experience of their dream job 4. Inspire students to pursue Higher Education. 5. Open students’ eyes to opportunities in the digital sector. <p>Over the next year The Swanage School will facilitate twelve projects; four per term. The projects will be planned and primarily delivered by teachers at the school.</p> <p>Their specialisms are: Art, DT, Music, Drama, English, P.E, Science and Computing.</p>	<p>Decline at this time - pending further information on specific projects.</p> <p>The Panel was in support of creating a link between school and future careers. However, it felt that funds should be awarded for a specific project or opportunity rather than awarding funds into a general ‘pot’.</p> <p>It is intended for officers to liaise with the school accordingly and report back to a future meeting of the Panel for further consideration.</p>
Total	£13,958	£2,548		