

EXETER COMMUNITY GRANTS PANEL MEETING – LARGE AND COMMUNITY BUILDINGS FUND

9th June 2022

Present: CLLR Martin Pearce; CLLR Anne Jobson; CLLR Naima Allcock, CLLR Marina Asvachin; Cllr Catherine Rees

Apologies: Cllr Paul Knott

Advisory Members present:

Carole Pilley (Exeter Community Initiatives); Eleanor Tomlinson (Devon Community Foundation/Wellbeing Exeter)

Dawn Rivers Programme Manager – Communities; Mahi Ahmed Community Officer

1. Welcome and Introductions

Cllr Martin Pearce welcomed new panel members and Dawn presented information on the purpose of the Exeter Grants programme, membership and panel role/ spending to date, budget thresholds for the current year etc.

2. Recommendations and decision making

a) Large Grants

Four applications were reviewed – Exeter Islamic Cultural Centre, Positive Lights, St Sidwell's Centre and Whipton Community Centre

This funding is to support: building or refurbishment costs or the purchase of equipment. Groups need to demonstrate a minimum of 50% match funding. (Unless in a priority community)

In discussion it was agreed to signpost some of the groups to Exeter Connect for further support for writing bids and accessing funding from other sources rather than being reliant on ECC grant funding

The Large Grants Budget for the current financial year is **£60,000**. £30,000 was awarded in the current round. We have another 2 rounds for the current financial year.

Application: Exeter Islamic Cultural Centre

Refurbishment of sports hall incorporating replacing sash windows and generally improving the state of repair.

Application for £10,000

Awarded: £8,500

Application: Positive Light Projects

Build a community darkroom in one of the large spaces within building. A valuable resource for the community to engage with analogue photographic processes and learn and utilise traditional printing and processing techniques.

Application: £10,000

Awarded: £6,500 – in principle, but applicant needs to provide information on length of lease and potential of moving provision to another space if necessary.

Action – Follow up to check length of lease and check with Chair/Panel members before Award is made.

Application: St Sidwell's Centre

Improve the safety and security at St Sidwell's Community Centre through installing lighting and CCTV.

Application: £8,272

Awarded: £5000 – stressing that any future applications will be dependent on evaluation reports being returned. Signpost to Exeter Connect to secure wider funding.

Action - Eleanor to find out when the next round is for applications for the Devon Community Foundation Anti-social behaviour fund. Dawn to follow up on potential of ECC funding for ASB.

Whipton Community Association

Worked with the Energy Fund consultants to identify that the windows are allowing a lot of heat out and cold air in. Also consulted regular users of the hall through the winter months about the changes in temperature and how to make the space better.

Application: £10,000

Awarded: £10,000 – in principle, on condition of providing evidence of securing match funding within 12 months. Fund will be released after receiving evidence of the match fund

Total Awarded £30,000**b) Community Building Fund**

Community Organisations can apply for a maximum of £5,000. The aim of the funding is to help Community Organisations with their financial planning. This fund is to contribute to the everyday running costs of community centres such as wages, utility bills, rent etc. £80,000 available pa.

12 organisations already receiving an award up to £5k pa with £57,000 already committed on 3 year agreements (the award now applies to 12 months from 2021/22)

The Community Buildings Fund budget for the current financial year is £23,000.

Application: Devon Family History Society

Premises Costs for Tree House Research Centre. The full amount was not awarded as this is a Devon Wide Project.

Application: £5,000

Awarded: £2,000

Application: Pinhoe Community Centre - America Hall

Running Costs for America Hall (Referred to Exeter Connect for additional guidance for future applications).

Application: £5,000

Awarded: **£5,000**

Application: Positive Light Projects
Running Costs for Sidwell Street premises

Application: £5,000

Awarded: £5,000

£12,000 was awarded in the current round. We have another 2 rounds in the current financial year.

3. Dates of future meetings

Mahi and Dawn will pencil some dates and will email these to the Grants Panel.
Proposed date **September 29th 2022. 11am – 1pm.**