
Subject:	DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANTS
Meeting and Date:	Cabinet – 6 November 2017
Report of:	Mike Davis, Director of Finance, Housing and Community
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor M J Holloway, Portfolio Holder for Community Services
Decision Type:	Non-Key
Classification:	Unrestricted

Purpose of the report: To approve the DDC Community Grants for 2017/18.

- Recommendation:**
- (1) To confirm the DDC Community Grants awarded during the 2017/18 grants scheme, as set out in Appendix 1.
 - (2) To agree that the £1,000 refunded grant from 2016/17, and the £1,000 from the “Guild Players”, is rolled over to the DDC Community Grants pot for Deal & Walmer in 2018/2019.
 - (3) To agree that in the 2018/19 there is flexibility in the use of underspent grant. To permit the use of underspent grant from one forum area, to fund projects in oversubscribed forum areas in the District within the same grant year.
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1 Summary

- 1.1 The Dover District Community Grants Scheme is a fund administered by Dover District Council, which allocates small grants to local community organisations.
- 1.2 In 2017/18 DDC allocated a £500 contribution per DDC Council Member to the fund, totalling £22,500.
- 1.3 The 2017/18 funding pot is further supplemented in the following wards:
 - Dover West - £480.00 rolled over from 2016/17
 - Deal & Walmer - £1000 rolled over from 2016/17
- 1.4 On 1st March 2017, Cabinet agreed the DDC nominated representatives to the Neighbourhood Forums, and the DDC Community Grants Appraisal Panel.
- 1.5 The 2017-18 DDC Community Grants round closed to applications on 18th August. The Cabinet is now asked to approve the recommendations made by the DDC Community Grants Appraisal Panel, which met on the 10th October 2017 to consider the applications and allocate the grants.

2 Introduction and Background

- 2.1 The Dover District Neighbourhood Forums were established to engage with residents. These Forums have equal representation from DDC, KCC and the Town and Parish Councils. They follow the Kent County electoral boundaries: *Deal and Walmer; Dover North; Dover Town; Dover West and Sandwich Area.*

- 2.2 The Dover District Community Grants scheme has developed from an initial scheme to distribute Member grants via the Neighbourhood Forums (“You Decide”) to distribute as small grants to local projects.
- 2.3 DDC and KCC each allocate funds, and since the 2015/16 grant round have administered their funds independently.
- 2.4 The DDC Community Grants Scheme is administered via the Community Development Team, supporting the appraisal panel of Cabinet approved representatives.

3 Grants awarded 2017/18

3.1 A summary of the 2017/18 DDC Grants Scheme is provided in Tables 1 and 2 (below).

3.2 Table 1: Summary of grant scheme overall.

Applications received	52
Eligible applications	39
Ineligible applications	13
Total grant requested by eligible applications	£34,691.07
Total Grant awarded	£23,980
Applications funded	29
Applications not funded	10
Applicants receiving full grant	16
Applicants receiving partial grant	3

3.3 Table 2: Summary of DDC Community Grants by Neighbourhood Forum Area.

Forum Area	Total value of grants sought	Total value of grants awarded
Deal & Walmer	£6,070.43	£6,850.00
Dover North	£11,223.48	£3,375.00
Dover Town	£6,879.00	£6,300.00
Dover West	£5,641.16	£3,855.00
Sandwich & Area	£4,877.00	£3,600.00
DDC Total	£34,691.07	£23,980.00

- 3.4 Appendix 1 contains the full list of projects that are seeking Cabinet approval for DDC Community Grants in 2017-18.
- 3.5 Members are advised that since the applications were evaluated by the Panel, one of the successful applicants "The Guild Players" have withdrawn their application. It is proposed that the £1,000 recommended in respect of this project is rolled over into the 2018/19 funding pot.
- 3.6 The grants were oversubscribed in all areas except Deal and Walmer.
- 3.7 A project submitted in the Dover North ward had a clear demonstrable benefit to communities across the whole District. The Appraisal Panel took the decision to award the underspend from the Deal and Walmer area to this project.
- 3.8 A grant awarded to a project in Deal and Walmer in 2016/17 for £1000 is to be refunded by the grant applicant because they no longer are delivering their project. This £1,000 is to be included in the 2018/19 funding pot for Deal and Walmer.
- 3.9 It is a requirement of the funding that funds are spent by the end of the financial year. Appraisal Panel members expressed a view that organisations would benefit from additional time to deliver their projects, and recommended that the grants process be delivered earlier in the year.

4 Recommendations

- 4.1 To confirm the DDC Community Grants awarded during the 2017/18 grants scheme, as set out in Appendix 1.
- 4.2 To agree that the £1,000 refunded grant from 2016/17, and the £1,000 from the "Guild Players" is rolled over to the DDC Community Grants pot for Deal & Walmer in 2018/2019.
- 4.3 To agree that in the 2018/19 there is flexibility in the use of underspent grant. To permit the use of underspent grant from one forum area, to fund projects in oversubscribed forum areas in the District within the same grant year.

5 Resource Implications

- 5.1 The administration of the DDC Community Grants will continue to be delivered within capacity of existing services. There are no additional resource implications.

6 Corporate Implications

- 6.1 Comment from the Section 151 Officer and the Accountancy Section: 'The S151 Officer and Accountancy Team have been consulted and have no further comments to add (SG)'.
- 6.2 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council: 'The Solicitor to the Council has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no further comments to make.'
- 6.3 Comment from the Equality Officer: 'This report does not specifically highlight any equalities implications, however in discharging their responsibilities members are required to comply with the public sector duties as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15>'

Appendices

Appendix 1: Projects that were awarded funding through the DDC Community grants Scheme in 2017/18

Contact Officer: Rachel Collins, Community Development Manager