

POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL REPORT

REPORT TO:	Environment and Community Panel		
DATE:	7 June 2022		
TITLE:	2021-22 Review of the Councillor Community Grant Scheme		
TYPE OF REPORT:	Monitoring		
PORTFOLIO(S):	Leader of the Council, Cllr Sam Sandell		
REPORT AUTHOR:	Debbie Ess, Corporate Performance Officer		
OPEN/EXEMPT	Open	WILL BE SUBJECT TO A FUTURE CABINET REPORT:	No

REPORT SUMMARY/COVER PAGE

PURPOSE OF REPORT/SUMMARY: On 9 September 2021, Council agreed to create a Councillor Community Grant Scheme to run consecutively during 2021-22 and 2022-23, the aim was to support local projects and activities that will have a positive impact throughout the borough. This report provides an overview of how the funding has supported projects, events and initiatives within the local community since the launch on 1 November 2021 to 31 March 2022.
KEY ISSUES: To support members, give practical financial assistance to schemes in their constituencies which will benefit the community as well as contribute to the council's overall vision and corporate business plan.
OPTIONS CONSIDERED: The Environment and Community Panel is asked to review the delivery of the scheme for 2021/22 and consider improvements to be implemented during 2022/23.
RECOMMENDATIONS: The Environment and Community Panel to provide feedback and recommendations to enhance the scheme for local groups within the borough, including raising awareness of the scheme
REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS: To enhance the Councillor Community Grant Scheme for 2022/23.

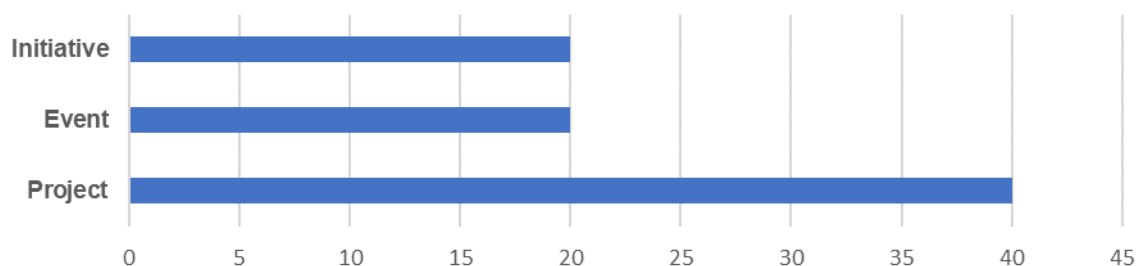
1. Introduction

- 1.1 The council introduced a Councillor Community Grant Scheme with the aim of funding community projects, events and initiatives to deliver better outcomes for residents in the borough as well as contributing to the achievement of the Council's Corporate Business Plan priorities.
- 1.2 A total of £55,000 grant funding for each year was made available from an underspend in the Financial Assistance Grants. Each ward councillor was given a budget of £1,000p.a. to assist their constituents with funding for projects which met the criteria of the scheme.
- 1.3 The online training offered to all councillors in October 2021 provided an overview of the rules of the scheme and the process of awarding a grant. Guidance and assistance have been given to councillors since the launch on 1 November 2021.

2. 2021/22 overview and achievements

- 2.1 From 1 November 2021 to 31 March 2022 councillors awarded funding to local groups and organisations for projects, initiatives and events amounting to £40,103.73. The highest volume of requests was received for sports equipment/maintenance (16), jubilee events (14) and defibrillators (6).

2.2 The number of Projects / Events / Initiatives awarded funding



2.3 The criteria met by each grant was decided by members with some grants meeting multiple criteria



2.4 Member's Feedback

2.4.1 Following the launch of the scheme members have said:

- a high proportion of members believe the system has worked well
- the groups received a quick turnaround receiving funds
- the forms appear to be clear to follow.

2.4.2 Members have raised the following questions and the responses are shown below:

Question	Response
Could there be flexibility in the Council's budget to increase the ward allocation to £2,500?	The member allocations were agreed as part of the scheme in September 2021, and the budget was ratified by Council on 23 February 2022.
Disbarring Parish Councils from the scheme is a mistake and tarnishes both Parish Council Members and the scheme, can the condition be dropped?	The scheme is aimed at helping voluntary and community organisations who vary enormously both in terms of their size and structures and how they support local communities. Whilst many rely on significant grant funding to deliver key support, for some more grass root organisations a small amount of funding can make a big difference. Elected members are well placed to identify these needs. Parish Councils have the ability to raise funds through Parish Precepts
Will a summary of grants in a similar fashion to CIL awards be published?	See Appendix A

3. Issues for the panel to consider

The Environment and Community Panel is asked to review the delivery of the scheme for 2021/22 and consider improvements to be implemented during 2022/23.

4. Corporate priorities

The Councillor Community Grant Scheme contributes to the following priorities within the Corporate Business Plan:

- Protecting and enhancing the environment including tackling climate change
- Improving social mobility and inclusion
- Helping to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities

5. Financial implications

Of the £55,000 2021/22 budget, £40,103.73 was allocated. From the £14,896.27 underspend £7,922 has been transferred to assist the Platinum Jubilee Grant and the remaining £6,974.27 transferred back to the council's general reserves.

6. Any other implications/risks

None.

7. Equal opportunity considerations

A pre-screening equality impact assessment was completed when the policy was agreed at Cabinet on 3 August 2021. This assessment was positive across all criteria.

8. Environmental considerations

None.

9. Consultation

Management Team and Council Leader

10. Conclusion

The Environment and Community Panel to provide feedback and recommendations, based on their experience of providing the grants for the past year, to improve the scheme for local groups within the borough.

11. Background papers

- Cabinet report 3 August 2021

2021/22 Councillor Community Grant Spend

Organisation	Item requested	Ward	Funding provided £
Shouldham Bowls and Social Club	Drinks cooler	Airfield	£400.00
Runcton Holme Parochial Church Council	Maintenance of churchyard at St Andrews Church	Airfield	£350.00
Marham Friends	Bench at a bus stop	Airfield	£500.00
Fincham Memorial Hall & Playing Fields	Replacement of plastic chairs in memorial hall	Airfield	£292.00
Runcton Holme Social Club	Electrical work to install a defibrillator	Airfield	£458.00
Bircham in Bloom	Planting - Bircham in Bloom	Bircham with Rudhams	£250.00
South Creake Tennis Club	Provision of children's rackets and balls	Bircham with Rudhams	£500.00
Bircham Cricket Club	Cricket equipment for boys and girls youth section	Bircham with Rudhams	£200.00
Simms Reeve Institute	Acoustic tiles in hall	Brancaster	£500.00
Thornham Jubilee Committee	Purchase Beacon for jubilee event	Brancaster	£500.00
Friends of Burnham Market Primary School	Defibrillator	Burnham Market & Docking	£400.00
The Burnhams Surgery	Outdoor benches for patients waiting for transport and visiting the dementia garden	Burnham Market & Docking	£500.00
The Nelson Memorial Hall	Defibrillator	Burnham Market & Docking	£100.00
Clenchwarton Bowls Club	Bowls club maintenance	Clenchwarton	£500.00
Friends of the Village	Jubilee party in the park	Clenchwarton	£500.00
Denver Youth Group	Jubilee community fancy dress disco	Denver	£400.00
Dersingham Choral Society	Printer	Dersingham	£200.00
Sports Ground Management Committee	Dersingham ground improvement scheme	Dersingham	£1,000.00
Dersingham United Charities	Repair/replace dangerous wooden bridges on public footpaths on common	Dersingham	£500.00
Ingoldisthorpe Church Hall	Set up broadband	Dersingham	£300.00
Downham Market Social Centre	Provisions to help with Meals on Wheels	Downham Old Town	£1,000.00
Kids in Downham Drama Society	Hall hire fees, performance licence, script hire	East Downham	£400.00
West Norfolk Calm Families Hub	Toys for parent and child support group	East Downham	£600.00
Emneth Central Hall	Provide children of Emneth Parish with platinum souvenir mug and a street party	Emneth with Outwell	£1,000.00
Outwell village hall and playing field committee	Commemorative Jubilee mugs for all children in Outwell	Emneth with Outwell	£1,000.00
Feltwell Community Group	Jubilee celebrations - party in the park, carnival parade	Feltwell	£1,000.00
Feltwell United Football Club	Line marking machine	Feltwell	£250.00
The Friends of St Peters Church Hockwold cum Wilton	Wildflower area in churchyard with involvement of local school	Feltwell	£150.00
Feltwell Community Fund	Defibrillator	Feltwell	£600.00
Leziate Ashwicken & Bawsey Village Hall	Contribution towards provision of CCTV (security cameras for car park of village hall)	Gayton & Grimston	£1,150.00
Leziate Ashwicken & Bawsey WI	Books to start up a craft library	Gayton & Grimston	£150.00
ReMap	Materials to make disability aids provided free of charge to the community	Gayton & Grimston	£200.00
Painting for Pleasure	Purchase of pyrography equipment	Gayton & Grimston	£150.00
Grimston Cricket Club	New gate to entrance of pitch	Gayton & Grimston	£350.00
Gaywood Park Bowls Club	New pathway leading to the club house	Gaywood Clock	£1,000.00
Reffley Community Association	Queen's Jubilee street party with music, refreshments, entertainment and competitions	Gaywood North Bank	£500.00

Organisation	Item requested	Ward	Funding provided £
Heacham in Bloom	Replace raised flower beds and planting outside the fire station	Heacham	£400.00
Bereavement Support Group	Bereavement support including a monthly informal talking group with refreshments	Heacham	£360.00
Women's Friendship Group Sedgeford	30th anniversary celebrations for the group	Heacham	£200.00
St Marys Church Sedgeford	Open gardens event	Heacham	£250.00
Heacham Minors football club	Football strip	Heacham	£290.00
Heacham Horse Show	Sponsorship and production of show schedule	Heacham	£500.00
Hunstanton and District Men's Shed	Materials (wood, screws, nails, glue)	Hunstanton	£700.00
Friday Friendship Group	Queen's Jubilee flags and bunting for Tea Party	Hunstanton	£300.00
Future4Fairgrounds	Purchase books for schools about the showman community	Hunstanton	£500.00
Castle Acre Coronation Bowls Club	Automatic watering system	Massingham with Castle Acre	£200.00
Harpley Village Hall Committee	Replace existing fluorescent main hall lights with energy efficient LED lighting	Massingham with Castle Acre	£150.00
The Hillington Ladies	Decorations, bunting, refreshments for Jubilee celebrations	Massingham with Castle Acre	£150.00
Westacre Theatre	Funding to help local visiting schools to support their curriculum with cost of coaches	Massingham with Castle Acre	£100.00
Flitcham Village Hall and Community Trust	Decoration of the community room	Massingham with Castle Acre	£150.00
Gt Massingham Community Garden	Establish a new area of biodiversity for the community to relax, enjoy and play	Massingham with Castle Acre	£250.00
Methwold Community Action Group	Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations	Methwold	£600.00
Friends of the village - Ailene MacMullen	Memorial mugs for children of Northwold	Methwold	£400.00
North Lynn Methodist Church	Community fridge	North Lynn	£1,166.34
Memorial Hall Trust Steering Group	Refurbishment of sports pavilion	Snettisham	£1,000.00
Harding's Pits Community Association	Works to enhance the Harding's Pits Doorstep Green and support the work of the volunteers	South & West Lynn	£650.00
South Lynn Charitable Trust	Jubilee childrens tea party	South and West Lynn	£500.00
Downham Market & District Heritage Society (DMDHS)	Funds towards making the outside more attractive to new exhibitions, schools and memories. Produce a booklet, an interactive school display, exterior furniture, refreshments in the summer.	South Downham	£1,000.00
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Pride	This year is the 50th anniversary so we would like to make the parade and free festival extra special	Springwood / St Margarets with St Nicholas	£1,600.00
The North End Trust	Defibrillator	St Margarets with St Nicholas	£960.00
Live and Let Live Community Fundraising Action Group	Defibrillator	St Margarets with St Nicholas	£200.00
Terrington St Clement Village Hall Committee	New heating system	Terrington	£1,700.00
14th Kings Lynn (Woottons) Scout Group	Sports equipment	The Woottons	£500.00
Castle Rising Cricket Club	Improvements to the clubhouse	The Woottons	£500.00
Wootton Toddler Park	Refurbishment of neglected toddler park at Wootton Park	The Woottons	£600.00
South Wootton in Bloom	Planting materials for beds of wildflowers in local parks, roadside beds and cemetery	The Woottons	£200.00
Castle Rising Football Club	New football kit	The Woottons	£477.39
West Norfolk Rugby under 10s	New rugby kit and equipment	The Woottons	£700.00
Wimbotsham Recreation Ground	Christmas tree	Upwell & Delph	£200.00
Well Creek Trust Ltd	A wooden bench for the village	Upwell & Delph	£500.00
Welney Residents Rec (and other Green paces) User Group (RUG)	To celebrate the Queens Green Canopy we are planning to plant 4-5 substantial rooted trees to enhance the site at Sandgate Corner.	Upwell & Delph	£300.00
Welney Residents Rec (and other Green paces) User Group (RUG)	Self binding gravel for footpaths	Upwell & Delph	£890.00
Lakes End Village Hall	Rosettes for Easter Fayre dog show	Upwell & Delph	£110.00
Walpole St Peters church	Jubilee celebrations	Walsoken / West Walton / Walpole	£1,000.00

Organisation	Item requested	Ward	Funding provided £
West Norfolk Lawn Tennis Club	Refurbishment of clubhouse and hard courts	West Winch	£1,000.00
Stoke Ferry Community Enterprise Ltd	Woven willow fence around play area and living willow archway	Wissey	£200.00
Wereham Jubilee Committee	To provide projects and events in relation to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee	Wissey	£200.00
Stoke Ferry Community Enterprise Ltd	To facilitate a consultation for setting up a community fresh fruit and veg outlet in Stoke Ferry for surplus produce from local producers	Wissey	£200.00
Boughton Cricket Club	Bowling net	Wissey	£200.00
Boughton Parochial Church Council	Repairs to organ	Wissey	£200.00