



**Meeting:** Full Council

**Date:** 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**Author:** Town Clerk

**Item For Consideration:**

**1.0 Purpose of the report**

1.1 To give feedback from the first Community Grant Scheme meeting and to present a recommendation to Full Council from the Finance and Administration Committee that an award of £10,000 be given to the Kingswood Heritage Museum Trust.

**2.0 Background Information**

2.1 The Community Grant Scheme was launched this year, with a budget of £50,000 and received five applications at its first meeting (23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024). One application has been deferred to the meeting in November 2024. Another applicant was encouraged to reapply for the November meeting with a more tangible project. The grants that were awarded are:

a. £1,250 to Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School for contribution towards an outdoor sensory play area, including stage area, music storage and musical instruments

b. £5,000 to Whitfield Tabernacle as a contribution towards two external signs, to identify the building and towards some running costs as progress is slow, overheads high but huge community benefit and a very strong desire to support them.

2.2 An application was received from the Kingswood Heritage Museum Trust for £10,000 as a contribution towards solar panels and battery storage, to move the museum to being more carbon neutral and reduce future overheads. The museum is fully managed by volunteers and relies on local grants to top up its income stream from its visitors, its local members and its additional events and talks that it hosts throughout the year. Kingswood Town Council is supporting the museum in other ways, by promoting it on social media and hosting a Christmas Wreath making event at the museum in December 2024.

be interested in making an application. Councillors are welcome to attend.

**3.0 Recommendation**

3.1 To consider and agree to the award of £10,000 to the Kingswood Heritage Museum Trust for solar panels and battery storage.