



Meeting: Finance and Administration Committee

Date: 26th November 2024

Author: Town Clerk

Item For Consideration:

1.0 Purpose of the report and Background information

1.1 To provide background information to the applications at the November 2024 Community Grant Scheme meeting, to assist Councillors make decisions.

1.2 The purpose of the award scheme is to provide financial support to bring positive change to local organisations who can:

- Provide and develop facilities and services that are accessible, inclusive and promote health and wellbeing.
- Play an active role in the future development of the cultural or economic welfare of the town through collaboration with stakeholders.
- Help to create a future that is carbon neutral, environmentally sustainable and resilient to the impact of climate change.
- Maintain and create opportunities to enhance our green spaces and provide a clean and safe environment.

1.3 The scheme offers three awards

- Small Grants up to £500 (revenue only)
- Medium Grants up to £5,000 (revenue and capital)
- One Large Grant between £5,000 and £10,000 (capital only and over more than one financial year).

1.4 Applicants are asked to demonstrate how the project benefits the residents of Kingswood and how many people from Kingswood will benefit. It also asks applicants to describe their other grant and income streams, who they are collaborating with and to provide evidence that their scheme is needed. Each successful applicant is requested to invite councillors to see their project and to be subject to a small article in the Kingswood Voice. Each applicant is requested to provide a number of documents (Application Form, Memorandum & Articles of Association, Bank statement, Insurance policy, AGM minutes, Equality & Inclusion Policy, Safeguarding Policy) and the Town Clerk and Finance Officer has ensured that the applications meet the governance criteria.

1.5 The applicant must be one of the following:

- Registered Charitable Organisations
- Community Interest Groups
- Social Enterprises
- Sports Clubs and Arts Groups
- Schools
- Faith Groups
- Advice Organisations
- Start-up grants for new organisation who will become one of the above

2.0 Awards made to date

2.1 The Community Grant Scheme was launched in May 2024 with a budget of £50,000. At its first meeting in July, it awarded £16,250.

2.2 A summary of the grants awarded in July 2024 is below.

Name of Organisation	Amount Rewarded	Summary of Application
Kingswood Heritage Museum Trust	£10,000	Contribution towards solar panels and battery storage, to move museum to being more carbon neutral and reduce overheads
Whitfield Tabernacle	£5,000	Contribution towards two external signs, to identify the building Contribution towards some running costs as progress is slow, overheads high but huge community benefit and a very strong desire to support
Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School	£1,250	For contribution towards an outdoor sensory play area, including stage area, music storage and musical instruments

3.0 Applications to the November 2024 meeting

3.1 This meeting has up to £17,000 to award, leaving a further £16,750 to award at the February 2025 meeting. The following applications have been received for consideration at this meeting. The applications total £12,506.16.

Name of Organisation	Amount Requested	Summary of Application
Shop Mobility Registered Charity	£500	Contribution to fund bus trips with Kingswood Community Transport to collect people with a physical disability in Kingswood and transport to the shop in Yate where they will have the opportunity to use a mobility scooter and encourage them to get one for themselves. The organisation has provided all the relevant information. An application form is provided for cllrs, that contains further details.

We are BS15 Community Interest Company	£4,980	<p>Contribution to support 3 interconnected projects addressing essential community needs in Kingswood to create a hub for residents to access diverse support programmes, that includes a community kitchen and food club, as well as community allotment and social café.</p> <p>This application is for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New freezers for the Down Under Project • Kingswood Kitchen Equipment Upgrade • Lap tops, set up and connectivity for public <p>The organisation has provided all the relevant information. An application form is provided for cllrs, that contains further details.</p>
South Gloucestershire Youth Housing Registered Charity	£1,039	<p>SGYH manages a hostel for up to ten young (aged 18 – 25) people in Kingswood. Their application is for a contribution to buy replacement furniture for the hostel to ensure health and safety and comfort for residents. The grant would be to purchase equipment and furniture for 2 rooms.</p> <p>The organisation has provided all the relevant information. The application form is provided for cllrs, that contains further details.</p>
Kingswood Rugby Club Community Amateur Sports Club	£5,000	<p>Contribution to lay a concrete path around the newly built changing and storage facility to assure safe accessibility for all users especially those with mobility issues. Part of a larger project to create new facilities.</p> <p>The organisation has provided all the relevant information. The application form is provided for cllrs, that contains further details.</p>
Friends of Holy Trinity Church Community Interest Group	£387.16	<p>Contribution to purchase equipment to manage the graves and areas within the closed churchyard that will: showcase the history of Kingswood as well as increase the biodiversity in the churchyard and create a place for quiet reflection.</p> <p>Newly created community interest group with 20 volunteers who have started to fundraise.</p> <p>The organisation has provided all the relevant information. The application form is provided for cllrs, that contains further details.</p>
The Brightwell Registered Charity	£600	<p>Contribution towards funding the cost of providing subsidised oxygen therapy for members in Kingswood who live with the effects of neurological conditions. The charity provides therapies and services available to all residents of Kingswood that are not available elsewhere. The Brightwell fills a gap in provision for people in Kingswood living with neurological conditions and seeks to close the health inequality gap so that people from Kingswood can remain as healthy and as active as possible for as long as possible. We have six members who live in Kingswood at present.</p>

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 To consider the above applications and agree to make awards from the Community Grant Scheme.