

Agenda Item 7

BISHOPSTON, COTHAM AND REDLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

23rd June 2014

Report of : Jenny Hoadley, Chair of the Grants Task Group
Title: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ALLOCATION OF THE WELLBEING FUND

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) The Wellbeing budget stands at £30,000 for new bids for 2014/15. The following organisations are recommended to be funded, in full or in part, at a total expenditure of £11, 428.
- a) **Ardagh Toddlers Group, Horfield Common £400**
 - b) **Cotham Co-operative Academy £3500**
 - c) **Friends of the Downs and Avon Gorge £338**
 - d) **Friends of Horfield Common £1,660**
 - e) **Bishopston Cotham & Redland Neighbourhood Partnership Street Scene £3000**
 - f) **Unique Voice £2,530**
- 2) It is recommended not to fund the applications from
- a) the Dolphin School at this time but to re-consider it in October , providing the applicant supplies more information
 - b) Gloucestershire County Cricket Club, as they did not provide additional information by the deadline for this report about the benefit specifically to Partnership residents.

1 Recommended grant applications

- 1.1 The total amount of grant aid requested was £22,699.65 from 8 applicants.
- 1.2 Summary of the final applications, and comments by the Grants Subgroup.

Organisation	Purpose	Priorities met (code in 4) below)	Targeted area	Amount request-ed	Amount recommended
Ardagh Toddlers Gp	Educational equipment, nonslip flooring	4	Bishopston	£400	£400
Cotham Co-operative academy	To make a film about young people's lives in North Bristol and who attend Cotham School	4, 5ii	Cotham, Redland	£5,000	£3,500
Dolphin School Academy	Playground equipment	4	Bishopston, Cotham	£6,500	None

Friends of the Downs and Avon Gorge	Printing costs of a A3 leaflet about activities on the Downs, for general distribution (1250 copies)	3	General public but would include the whole BCR area	£338	£338
Friends of Horfield Common	Range of activities for the summer and improvements to the Common	3, 4, 5i	Bishopston and Redland, and other adjoining NP areas	£2,222.65	£1,660
Glos C, Cricket Club	Summer activities for the Sports Reminiscence Gp which is aimed at cricket fans who have dementia	5iv	Across the NP area	£2,000	None
BCR Street Scene	Removal of graffiti, "greening" the streets, literature for volunteers	2	All wards in BCR NP	£3,000	£3,000
Unique Voice	18 play sessions in the 3 local parks in summer holidays	4	All wards in BCR NP	£3,230	£2,530

1.3 Background to the recommendations:

1.3.1 *Ardagh Toddler Group*

This is a weekly drop in toddler group which has 20-30 parents and their children in each session. It has been running for three years. The sum requested is for play materials, and a non-slip flooring. Paint for decorating has been donated by a past user, and the work will be carried out by volunteers. It is recommended that the grant is met in full as it is a comparatively small amount, although the group has been asked to consider applying to other Neighbourhood Partnerships in future, in addition to Bristol Cotham and Redland.

1.3.2 *Cotham Co-operative Academy*

The school wishes to make a film about the lives of young people who live in the school area and/or attend the school. It will invite 100 students to devise, act and film the story line, and then it will be professionally edited. It is expected that it will be shown locally at several public venues and entered into local and national film competitions. Participants will be selected by open invitation but young people from minority ethnic groups within the

school will be specifically targeted. Its aim to extend local arts locally as well as promoting understanding of local communities and providing opportunities for young people facing social disadvantage to improve their integration and social development. The Grants Subgroup wanted to support this project because it is a contribution to local arts and because the school wishes to encourage socially disadvantaged young people to take part. However we are aware that some students do not live in the BCR area so we are recommending a two-thirds contribution, assuming that over 50% of the school population do in fact live within our area.

1.3.3 *Dolphin School Academy*

This primary school was opened in the autumn of 2011. It has little outside space and wants to improve this for educational and play purposes to be used in all weathers. The total cost is £17,469, and both the school and the PTA are making contributions to the cost. The Partnership has been asked to fund the main piece of equipment which is a bespoke "tall house" with tunnels, Astroturf surface etc and some water tables. We asked for further information about the number of children attending the school who live in the BCR area. Unfortunately despite several attempts there was no response. So we are recommending that this application is rolled over for consideration at the October meeting, and that the school is asked to provide this information.

1.3.4 *Friends of the Downs and Avon Gorge*

This is a long established group which works co-operatively with the council in protecting and enhancing this public green space. They are seeking 50% of the print cost of their leaflet for this summer's activities which will be distributed free. They have successfully approached an adjoining Neighbourhood Partnership for the other 50% so we are recommending the full amount requested.

1.3.5 *Friends of Horfield Common*

This organisation has been running for more than 7 years. Its application for summer activities on the Common and other enhancements to the Common were costed at £3,642, but they have just requested £2,222.65 from the Partnership – in addition all the events will require numerous local volunteers. The application is to cover

- Installation costs for 8 bicycle stands (obtained through a City Council scheme)
- Retrospective outstanding costs for the Wild Life Fun Day on May 31st, part of the Festival of Nature
- Resources for a dog litter campaign
- Signage for the Ardagh
- Playleaders and a local artist's costs for the Summer Picnic (an annual event)

The Grants Subgroup did request information about why an application had not been made to other Neighbourhood Partnerships for funding, but we did not receive a reply. However we did not want the summer activities not to happen because of a lack of money. So, because this organisation does involve a lot of local people, we are recommending that we retrospectively

fund the Wild Life Day (on May 31st) on the grounds that it would be impossible to get charity funding for that now, and the Summer Picnic which has become a successful local public event. The other items are capital items which can await further fundraising initiatives.

1.3.6 *Gloucestershire County Cricket Club*

The Cricket Club runs a weekly sporting reminiscence club for cricket fans who now have dementia. In conjunction with the Sporting Memories Network they are wishing to use three cricket matches this summer to invite members to “donate” their cricketing memories. In addition, the Club is working with media students from Bristol College to record their stories and mount an exhibition later in the autumn. It is hoped that both the young people and group members would both benefit from the experience. The application is for 20% of the cost: to provide the recording equipment and the design and printing of publicity material. They were asked to supply information about the numbers in the group who lived within the Partnership area but as this was not provided by the deadline for this report it was agreed not to recommend funding this application.

1.3.7 *Streetscene (Bishopston Cotham Redland NP)*

This is the annual application from the BCR Street Scene group which provides a forum for issues which are best solved with a Partnership approach, organises project work that improves the street scene and supports the work of volunteers and Street Scene Champions. Over the past few years it has concentrated on removing graffiti and flyposting, and helped to “green” areas eg bulb planting which are not covered by council contracts. The group overseeing the work included local councillors, the police and council staff as well as local residents. The agreement is that any money not used is returned to the Wellbeing budget before the end of the financial year. The Grants Subgroup recommends this is met in full because of the good track record in delivering results.

1.3.8 *Unique Voice*

This is an organisation which through drama and creative events it seeks to work with young people on issues like keeping safe, bullying and developing self-esteem. It is endorsed by the NSPCC for its work. However this application is for 6 drop-in play sessions in St Andrews Park, Cotham Gardens and Redland Green Park throughout the summer holidays ie 18 play sessions in total. This follows a successful pilot session in St Andrews Park during the NP Community Festival in May, where participants asked for further sessions. The age range would be primary school, and parents are generally expected to remain in the Park during the sessions. The Grants Subgroup feel that as there are no guided play sessions in these public parks in the summer, that this initiative should be supported at least in part, and, per session, it represented value for money.

The application is for about two-thirds of the total budget and is to cover playleader time and the cost of a portable gazebo for poor weather (£700). Craft material is donated and there is an additional volunteer playleader in every session. The gazebo was included in the budget as a one-off cost, on the basis that in future applications the cost of venue would not be required.

However the Grants Subgroup felt that the Partnership is unlikely to be in a position to annually fund such revenue costs. It also felt that this item could be funded through charitable trusts. So it is recommending that the Partnership should support the playleading costs only: £2,530, on condition that the local Friends' organisations in each Park do not have an overwhelming objection to the scheme.

2 Criteria

2.1 The criteria for 2014/15 are:

- (1) Local traffic and transport
- (2) Improving the built environment and street scene
- (3) Parks and green spaces and trees
- (4) Young people
- (5) Improving the lives of people living in the neighbourhood, the main priorities for 2011/12 being:
 - i. neighbourliness
 - ii. local arts where they are likely to appeal to a wide section of the community
 - iii. provision and facilities which engage with people facing social disadvantage
 - iv. activities which support carers and the "cared for"
 - v. schemes about food sustainability to encourage people to "grow-their-own" fruit and vegetables
- (6) Improving relations and communication between local businesses and residents
- (7) Supporting the small business community
- (8) Enabling all people to feel safe in public spaces

3 The Wellbeing Fund for 2014/15

3.1 If all the above applications are funded as recommended this would leave a balance of £18,572.

3.2 The next deadline for applications is September 5th 2014. This allows the last Neighbourhood Partnership meeting of the financial year in January 2015 to finalise any outstanding issues.

3.3 Articles will be published in both *Bishopston Matters* and the *Redland and Westbury Park Directory* advertising the deadlines, as well as on the Bishopston Society website.