

Agenda Item 8

BISHOPSTON, COTHAM AND REDLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

23rd March 2015

Report of: Jenny Hoadley, Chair of the Grants Task Group

Title: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ALLOCATION OF THE WELLBEING FUND

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Following the October 2014 NP meeting, the Wellbeing budget currently stands at **£10,065.50** for the remainder of 2014/15. The following organisations have applied for funding: (at a total expenditure of £10,065.50)
 - a) **63rd Scout Gp, Happy Lane** £1,204.50
 - b) **BCR NP May Festival** £500
 - c) **Cycle Sunday** £2,308
 - d) **Friends of Horfield Common** £3,000
 - e) **Glos Rd Central** £1,200
 - f) **Lifecycle UK** £600
 - g) **Redland Green Community Gp** £403
 - h) **Unique Voice (Easter playscheme)** £850
- 2) It is recommended not to fund the applications from
 - a) **Pearce's Hardware (GRTA)** £20,000
 - b) **Westbury Park CA** £250
- 3) The Grants Task group recommends that the deadlines for the allocation of this budget in 2015/6 should be May 4th 2015 and September 5th 2015. The current criteria should remain in place for the first deadline but that these criteria to be reviewed and agreed at the meeting on June 12th 2015 in line with the Neighbourhood Plan.

1 Recommended grant applications

1.1 The total amount of grant aid requested was £20,237.50 from 4 applicants.

1.2 Summary of the final applications

Organisation	Purpose	Priorities met (code in 2 below)	Targeted area	Amount requested	Amount recommended
63rd Scout Gp, Happy Lane	Cost of soil analysis prior to new build	4,2	Redland and Bishopston	£4,200	£1204.50
BCR NP Festival Committee	Costs of running the BCR-sponsored Community Festival 2015	5i)	All wards	£995	£500
Cycle Sunday	Support for 2 traffic free cycle events on the Downs aimed at children and disabled people	1,3,4, 5iii	All wards	£2,308	£2308

Friends of Horfield Common	Installing walking and running routes on the Common	1,3	Bishopston	£3,000	£3,000
Glos Rd Central	Support for Mayfest event	5	Bishopston and Redland	£1500	£1200
Lifecycle UK	To cover costs of training and supervision of volunteer bike mechanics	3	Bishopston and other wards	£950	£600
Redland Green Community Gp	3 trees +installation of second wild flower meadow	3	£903	Redland	£403
Unique Voice (Easter playscheme)	Pop-up play session in the Easter Hols	4	£3,240	Bishopston, Redland	£850

1.3 Background to the recommendations for funding:

The budget is outstripped by the number and size of the applications, so the Sub Group used additional criteria eg how much other money was being raised from elsewhere, the contribution from voluntary activity, the long-term sustainability of the project, the breadth of the community the project would benefit, to maximise the benefit from the spend of public money. However, a decision had to be made whether to recommend full funding for some applicants and not others, or partial funding for everyone. We took the view that following two applications warranted full funding:a) FHOC and b) Cycle Sunday: both were well researched projects and offered a positive impact on a wide group of people. In addition oen fo the projects was for a new activity, and we felt that partnership funding should be sued to pump-prime innovative projects which had a longterm future. Partial funding for the others was based on specific items in the application's financial breakdown. However the Neighbourhood Partnership may wish to partially fund all the applications to a more generous level..

1.3.1 *63rd Scout Gp, Happy Lane:*

The re-building of the Scout Hut, a much used local resource apart from the Scouts group, has been financially supported by the BCR Wellbeing Fund in the past, although it is not actually in our Partnership area. Their application did not demonstrate that the group had undertaken any particular fundraising for this project: however we felt it needed some support to progress the re-build (which will require considerable fundraising from the group in the future). So we are recommending only a contribution to the total cost, which amounts to what was left after allocating funds to other projects which we felt were a higher priority.

1.3.2 *BCR NP Festival Committee:*

This has become a regular annual event to promote and celebrate the community activity within the Partnership area. However the Grant Sub Group had doubts about the value of meeting the request in full, given the other applications to be considered, and that community events were to take place (see application from Glos Rd Central) irrespective of the BCR festival Committee's work. Nonetheless it was agreed unanimously that the cost of the BCR stall at the Redland Fair and the production of publicity material should be met.

1.3.3 *Cycle Sunday*

This was a very well researched project to take place on the Downs which borders our Partnership area. A petition was organised last autumn to gauge local enthusiasm for such events with over 4,000 respondents, and The Downs Committee agreed to an initial event in April this year. However the group plans two further events in June and September and the application was geared towards supporting these. We felt that this project broadened the use of green spaces, and promoted safe cycling particular y for children but also for disabled adults – the local CTC will be providing cycles designed for different disabilities. Lots of other activities will be

provided and have been funded by Travel West. Highways within the Council, the Police and ambulance services have all been consulted and there appears to be broad support. The group has approached the Henleaze Stoke Bishop Westbury-upon-Trym Partnership for matched funding for the initial event. Our view is that this a good project geared towards promoting alternatives to cars, as well as providing enjoyable community events to a wide group of people, so we are recommending the full amount to pump-prime this project. At the same time we would recommend that CycleSunday must look for more sustainable funding to support future events.

1.3.4 *Friends of Horfield Common*

Over the last two years FOHC has been developing a system of walking and running routes across Horfield Common (including a 5km running route) to offer a variety of distances to suit those new to exercise and others wanting to further develop their fitness. There has been local consultation , including the Ardagh Toddler Group, a local women's running group, and young people, and has won wide approval from both local people and officers of the Council in Public Health and the Parks Department. This application is for a contribution to the marker posts, and they have approached Horfield and Lockleaze NP for an additional £3,000 towards their delivery. FHOC is committed to raising a further £1,000 (approximately) to cover outstanding balances on the markers and publicity, and have made an application to another funder for further information boards on Horfield Common). In addition there have been hundreds of hours of voluntary time put into this project from inception to the launch. The Subgroup felt that this was an excellent example of community activity and planning, for a resource which will have a long life and enhance a Council green asset, as well as assisting with local healthy living targets. It is an application for matched funding which we felt we should meet in full.

1.3.5 *Gloucester Rd Central*

This organisation is a group of traders on the "middle" section of the Gloucester Rd which formed to organise the local Mayfest last May, which was a huge success, and launched the beginning of the NP Community Festival. They wish to do the same thing again this year, but want to enhance the experience given the large numbers it attracted last year eg apply for a road closure, provide disabled toilets, hire a marquee and sound system, provide art sessions for young people. The traders and the local free newspapers are making contributions, as well as Avon Wildlife Trust and Golden Hill Community Garden providing planters and a pop-up park. Stewards, artists and musicians are giving their time voluntarily. The Subgroup felt that it should be supported as a community event, with a community arts slant, and as a way of indirectly supporting the Gloucester Rd retail activity. It is recommending the funding of the disabled toilets, road closure fee, insurance, the marquee, and other sundries.

1.3.6 *Lifecycle UK*

This is to support the "Bike Back" project run at Horfield prison. Initially the project was set up to support prisoners re-furbish unwanted bicycles which LifeCycle could re-sell at reasonable costs to people unable to afford a new bike. There is such a demand for second hand bikes that more volunteer mechanics are being recruited, and this application is to contribute to the costs of a trained mechanic who can supervise the work of volunteers, as well as a small volunteer expenses fund. The Subgroup felt that the scheme is making a contribution to promoting a non-car form of transport and therefore is recommending the cost of the professional mechanic to be supported.

1.3.7 *Redland Green Community Group*

This group want to further enhance the Council-owned Redland Green open space by a) planting 3 new trees, as laid down in the Tree Planting Plan, and b) creating a second wildflower meadow (the first one funded last year by the Green Capital Stimulus Fund, was a great success). The Subgroup is recommending supporting only the tree-planting, which is line with the Neighbourhood Partnership's commitment to increasing tree cover in the area.

1.3.8 *Unique Voice*

The organizations ran very successful drop-in summer playschemes in the Partnership's parks in 2014, and they were substantially funded by the Partnership. Although the Subgroup felt that Unique Voice provide good quality play, and this is a needed resource in school holidays, two thirds of the application was for revenue funding ie paid staff time. The Partnership has always taken the view that we cannot not be seen to provide regular revenue funding ie projects in the long term have to be largely self-sustainable. So we are recommending awarding a grant to cover the venue hire and publicity ie £850.

1.4 Background to the recommendations for non-funding:

1.4.1 *GRTA (Pearces' Hardware)*

This was an application from a Gloucester Rd trader, who wanted to put a “green wall” onto its shop, as an example of good practice for other traders to copy in this Green Capital year. Apart from the size of the application, the Subgroup felt it was not appropriate to fund a commercial body. It has contacted the shop to suggest contacting other “green walls” in Bristol and look for commercial sponsorship.

1.4.2 *Westbury Park Community Association*

The Community Association wish to provide up to 3,000 copies of a local history walking trail, to be distributed free. It is requesting £250 to match a similar amount from the Henleaze, Stoke Bishop and Westbury-upon-Trym NP, and balance of the printing costs to be found by the Community Association. The Subgroup felt that local history is not part of the current criteria for the Wellbeing Fund, and so recommend that it is not funded.

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

2.2 The criteria for 2015/6

It is recommended that the current criteria should remain in place for the first round of applications in 2015/6 (the proposed deadline May 5th – see 3.2 below). At the June NP meeting, it is recommended that the criteria should be reviewed in line with the actions and aspirations of the Neighbourhood Plan, which should have been completed except for minor details.

3 The Wellbeing Fund for 2014/15

- 3.1 If all the above applications are funded as recommended this would reduce the Wellbeing Fund to £0.
- 3.2 The Grants Subgroup usually has 2 deadlines per year, and are recommending a deadline of May 5th and September 5th 2015. If all the money is not allocated at the October meeting then a third deadline, as in 2014/5, could be arranged in early 2016.
- 3.3 Articles to be published in both *Bishopston Matters* and the *Redland and Westbury Park Directory* advertising the deadlines, as well as on the Bishopston Society website.