

Report to	-	Cabinet
Date	-	3 September 2018
Report of the	-	Executive Director
Subject	-	Community Grants 2018 – Round 1

**Recommendation:** It be **RESOLVED:** That:

- 1) the community grants listed at Appendix 1 as recommended by the Grants Panel be approved, subject to specific conditions relating to each application; and
- 2) all Members be requested to promote the scheme within their Wards.

**Head of Service: Ben Hook**

**Lead Cabinet Members: Councillors Ganly and Kenward**

**Introduction**

1. The Council's Community Grants Scheme makes provision for up to £130,000 per annum to be made available to community groups or organisations that meet the grant criteria of the Rother District Council (RDC) Community Grants Scheme, as agreed by Cabinet on 1 December 2008 (CB08/115).

**Community Grants**

2. The Panel has delegated authority to award grants under £500. The Panel used its delegated authority to approve £500 to Bexhill Angling Club for the purchase of equipment to be used for the coaching of junior members; and to The Royal British Legion Bexhill Branch towards the cost of a Remembrance Parade to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW1. This leaves a total of £129,230 for Round 1 and Round 2 of the Grants Scheme, as set out below:

Total provision:	£130,000
Amount awarded through small grants scheme:	£770
<b>Remaining provision for Rounds 1 and 2 2018/19</b>	<b>£129,230</b>

Table 1: Community Grant budget

3. Round 1 of the Rother Community Grants Scheme for 2018/19 closed on 15 July 2018. A total of 10 applications were received.
4. Cabinet is asked to consider the applications in Appendix 1 for funding from the Council's Community Grants Scheme as follows:

All awards are subject to other funding being in place.

- i. **Audioactive - £3,500**
- ii. **Battle Town Council (Covered shelter) - £3,000**
- iii. **Battle Town Council (Football Pitch) - £1,593**

- iv. **Burghwood House Residents' Association - £2,000**
  - v. **Northiam Parish Council - £5,650**
  - vi. **Pett Level Independent Rescue Boat Association - £1,000**
  - vii. **The Pelham Community Interest Company (CIC) - £29,975**
  - viii. **Westfield Cricket Club - £795**
  - ix. **Westfield Parish Council - £15,000**
  - x. **Winchelsea Beach Community Association - £3,318**
5. Should Cabinet agree with the Panel's recommendation to award the applications at Appendix 1 then this will result in a maximum of £65,831 being awarded in Round 1. Once this amount is added to the amount awarded/committed as set out above (Table 1) the total amount spent from the overall budget of £130,000 will be £66,601.
6. Members are reminded that conditions are applied when awarding the grants which include that full funding is obtained in advance of any Rother payments being made and that RDC is acknowledged in any publicity and promotional material associated with these projects. Other specific conditions will also be applied to grants as appropriate.

### **Community Grant Scheme: Round 2**

7. Round 2 of the Community Grants scheme (applications above £500) will open for applications on 1 October 2018 and close on 15 January 2019. Members are asked to encourage groups within their Wards to seek advice from RVA prior to starting the application process.
8. Members are reminded that small grant applications (up to £500) are accepted all year round. Prospective applicants are encouraged to make applications through the on-line application process. Again, support and advice can be accessed through Rother Voluntary Action (RVA).
9. Further information is available via the Community Grants Section of the Council website: <http://www.rother.gov.uk/communitygrantscheme>

### **Conclusion**

10. Members are requested to consider the applications attached at Appendix 1 and be mindful of the clear benefits these offer to their communities. The Community Grants Scheme offers a robust assessment process that benefits communities applying for grants and secures considerable additional value for money benefits for the Council.

Dr Anthony Leonard  
Executive Director

### **Risk Assessment Statement**

The assessment and monitoring system for community grants will mitigate much of the financial and reputational risks associated with handing over grant finance. The Council attaches specific conditions to grant applications to mitigate risk. Nonetheless, we are often in the hands of voluntary groups as to the amount of time, effort and other financial support that they can commit to their projects. This is mitigated by the good working relationships that exist across the district.

## Grants recommended for approval

**Rother Community Grants Scheme: Meeting of Grants Panel on Wednesday, 1 August 2018**  
**Summary of applications: Round 1 of Financial Year 2018/19**



**Panel Members:** Cllr Tony Ganly (Chairman), Cllr Martin Kenward, Cllr Osborne, David Pankhurst (RALC), Kim Richards (AirS), Catherine Jobling, and Debbie Peters. **Apologies:** Gina Sanderson (RVA). **In attendance:** Alison Spring, Marie Kennedy, Cllr Mrs Joy Hughes and Cllr Graham Browne.

**Declarations of Interest:** Kim Richards (AirS).

**Opening budget:** £129,230

**Amount recommended at this meeting:** £66,601

Organisation & project	Total cost of project incl VAT*	Who will benefit?	Amount requested from RDC	Amount from organisation	Other Grants or donations	Signature of Ward Member & Town/PC?	Recommendation to Cabinet
<p><b>Audioactive</b> is a registered charity and music organisation that works with young people to deliver a broad, year round programme of weekly drop-in activities and social change projects across East and West Sussex.</p> <p>The grant will be used to deliver a project to offer free drop-in music sessions in Bexhill for young people aged 13-25.</p>	£8,900	<p>This project is aimed at young people living in challenging circumstances due to socio-economic difficulties. The service aims to work with 20 young people (aged 13 to 25). Audioactive has started making contact with services that work with young people including Youth Offending Teams.</p>	£3,500	£1,500	<p>£500 – Jempsons Foundation            £2,000 – Groundwork            £1,000 – Tesco Bags of Help            £500 – Hastings Direct</p>	Yes – Cllrs Mrs Hughes and Hollidge	<b>Recommend subject to usual conditions.</b>
<p><b>Battle Town Council</b>            The grant will be used to provide a half pod shelter in the recreation ground.</p>	£7,699	<p>The project will benefit residents and visitors to Battle, but especially teenagers and students from Claverham Community College.</p> <p>Support for the project was identified through community consultation undertaken in 2016 and a teenager survey undertaken in 2017.</p>	£3,700	£3,800	<p>£200 – Police Property Act Fund (to be confirmed)</p>	Yes – Cllrs Dixon and Field	<b>Recommend an award of £3,000, with suggestions that outstanding £700 to be fund-raised by Claverham Community College students. Also subject to Police support (through the donation) and usual conditions.</b>

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<b>Battle Town Council</b> The grant will be used to level the junior football pitch.	£8,093	The project will benefit families with children – those living locally and those visiting Battle. Youth organisations, football, hockey, rugby and other sports clubs in the Battle area that have junior teams or that want to organise a tournament. Other groups that will benefit include older residents in the Battle area including U3A members who wish to play Walking Football, and specialist schools and charitable groups that currently use the recreation ground for some of their outdoor activities.	£1,593	£6,500	£0	Yes – Cllrs Dixon and Field	<b>Recommend subject to usual conditions and additionally that Battle Town Council will work with the Council's Sports Development Officer to develop community sport as a result of this investment.</b>
<b>Burghwood House Residents' Association</b> The grant will be used to complete a garden project which will also include safety rails.	£23,500	The garden will be open to Burghwood House residents and Hurst Green residents who join in activities which will take place there. This will include Brownie groups, social clubs and there will be afternoon teas. The aim is to bring people together and reduce isolation and loneliness.	£2,000	£1,695	£10,000 – Big Lottery £6,000 – ESG fund £2,000 – Tesco £1,805 - donations	Yes – Cllr Browne	<b>Recommend subject to usual conditions.</b>
<b>Northiam Parish Council</b> The grant will be used for purchase and installation of new playground equipment to upgrade the existing facility for use by older children.	£18,827	The new equipment will benefit families with children in Northiam.	£9,415	£13,177	£0	Yes – Cllrs Jenkins and Mooney	<b>Recommend an award of £5,650 which equates to shortfall of the NET costs of the project (Northiam Parish Council had based costings on gross costs but is able to claim back VAT).</b>  <b>Recommend subject to usual conditions and:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provision of maintenance and repair plan which provides for weekly inspection of the equipment;</li> <li>• evidence be provided that all equipment and surfacing complies with</li> </ul>

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							<b>BSEN1176 and 1177;</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all play facilities include elements that enable inclusive use and that the play equipment includes items suitable for disabled users.</li> </ul>
<b>Pett Level Independent Rescue Boat Association</b> The grant will be used to purchase a second hand reserve launch vehicle. A back-up boat is required to operate efficiently, should the main boat fail (which has happened recently).	£12,000	The project will benefit all those in trouble at sea and inland lakes and during flooding. The Association works with all blue light services, including Police, ambulance, fire and coastguard as well as the RSPCA.	£1,000	£6,000	£1,662 – Co-op Winchelsea £630 – private donation £135 – private donation £250 – Fairlight Parish Council £400 – The Winkle Club	Yes – Cllr Bird	<b>Recommend subject to usual conditions.</b>
<b>The Pelham Community Interest Company (CIC)</b> The Pelham CIC is a registered charity set up to benefit the residents of Sidley and wider Bexhill through the redevelopment of a 100 year old hotel into a community hub. The grant will be used towards 'The Pelham First Floor Community Space' project. This will see an expansion of available space for the local community to use as the current ground	£114,975	The local community will benefit from the increased opportunities in the vicinity. These range from advice services, volunteering, and a social meeting place, combined to show signs of greater cohesion in the community. The project includes the fitting of a lift making the first floor fully accessible.	£29,975	£0	£10,000 – Hastings & Rother CCG £75,000 (tbc) – Biffa Award	Yes – Cllr Johnson and Potts	<b>Recommend subject to the usual conditions.</b>

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floor space is at capacity at most times during the week.							
<b>Westfield Cricket Club</b> The grant will be used towards the purchase of an outdoor net to further develop the skills of young people as well as senior players.	£1,795	The project will benefit all players from Colts to senior players – currently 32 Colts and 48 senior players. The club is currently looking to increase numbers of members across all age ranges.	£795	£250	£600 – J Perigoe & Son £150 – Westfield Youth Club	Yes – Cllr Maynard	<b>Recommend subject to usual conditions and additionally that Westfield Cricket Club will continue to work with the Council's Sports Development Officer to develop community sport as a result of this investment.</b>
<b>Westfield Parish Council</b> The grant will be used to provide fitness equipment for adults/teenagers, provide sports facilities for teenagers and improve the children's play facilities in the Parish Field in Westfield.	£30,000	The project will benefit local families as well as exercise and fitness clubs. The general public will have access to the facilities and the Scout group will use the facilities on a regular basis.	£15,000	£15,000	£0	Cllr Maynard (tbc)	<b>Recommend subject to usual conditions and additionally that Westfield Parish Council will continue to work with the Council's Sports Development Officer to develop community sport as a result of this investment.</b>  <b>Additionally, it will be suggested that Westfield Parish Council works with local GP surgeries and fitness instructors to encourage safe use of the equipment.</b>
<b>Winchelsea Beach Community Association</b> The grant will be used to refurbish the existing kitchen in the community hall. Much	£7,618	The residents of Winchelsea Beach will benefit from the new facilities, as well as all groups and hirers using the hall.	£3,318	£3,800	£500 – Icklesham PC	Yes – Cllr Osborne	<b>Recommend subject to usual conditions.</b>

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of the current kitchen has been in place for over 30 years with some second hand items used as replacements.							

\*or excluding VAT if organisation is able to claim back VAT.