

CABINET – 1ST JULY 2021

Report of the Head of Neighbourhood Services Lead Member: Councillor Leigh Harper-Davies

Part A

ITEM 6 CHARNWOOD GRANTS – ROUND ONE 2021/2022 CHARNWOOD COMMUNITY AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES GRANT APPLICATIONS

Purpose of Report

To enable Cabinet to consider applications received for funding in round one of the Community Facilities and Community Grants schemes for 2021/22.

Recommendations

1. That the following Community Grants be awarded:
 - £500 to Sileby District Guiding towards play / sports equipment;
 - £750 to the Baldwin Trust towards recruitment and training of volunteers;
 - £1,400 to Rectory Wildlife Gardeners towards accessible seating;
 - £3,900 to New Life Community Church towards a family worker to support families who access the Loughborough Foodbank and CAP Debt Centre;
 - £1,200 to Peter Le Marchant Trust towards additional boat running and servicing costs associated with additional trips to support people with their mental health and well-being;
 - £1,200 to Albert Street Artists towards general running costs;
 - £2,500 to Leicestershire Youth Sailing Association towards volunteer training courses / qualifications;
 - £2,000 to PACE towards the provision of a summer holiday activity camp for children and young people;
 - £4,000 to PCM Loughborough (Polish Community Centre) towards a Healthy Body, Healthy Mind project;
 - £1,750 to Quetzal towards volunteer development and support for survivors of childhood sexual abuse;
 - £2,700 to FC Seagrave towards coaching qualifications and a set of football goals;
 - £5,000 to Go-Getta CIC towards the Loughborough Youth Motivators project;
 - £2,500 to Barkby United Cricket Club towards new furniture to enable wider community use of the clubhouse.

2. That the following Community Grant applications be declined:
 - Steps Conductive Education Centre - £1,500 requested – applied for funding towards the installation of a new heating system;
 - Outwoods Edge Primary School PTA - £3,250 requested – applied for funding towards a bike shelter and outdoor play equipment;
 - Above and Beyond - £5,000 requested – applied for funding towards the Phoenix Youth Group;
 - Thurmaston DPC FC - £4,550 requested – applied for funding towards the start-up costs of a Ladies' Football Team and team kit for the wider club.

3. That the following Community Facilities Grants be awarded:
 - £10,000 to Soar Valley Bowls Club towards heating, lighting and refurbishment of toilets;
 - £10,000 to Leicestershire and Rutland Youth Sailing Association towards upgrade / refurbishment costs of building to facilitate disabled access and increase community use.

4. That the following Community Facilities Grant application be declined:
 - Yogi Divine Society UK - £20,000 requested – applied for funding towards the refurbishment of Thurmaston Old School Community Centre.

5. That the Head of Neighbourhood Services be given delegated authority to finalise the terms and conditions of the awarded Community Grants.

Reasons

1. To provide financial support to organisations which meet the criteria of the Community Grants scheme.
2. To decline to provide financial support to organisations which do not meet the criteria for the award of a grant under the Community Grant scheme.
3. To provide financial support to organisations which meet the criteria of the Community Facilities Grants scheme.
4. To decline to provide financial support to organisations which do not meet the criteria for the award of a grant under the Community Facilities Grant scheme.
5. To enable the grants awarded to be finalised and appropriate information to be supplied to the Council about the outcomes of the project.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

The Council's Corporate Strategy 2020-2024 makes a commitment to deliver high quality living with a range of services to meet the needs of our diverse community. It makes a commitment to support our communities by delivering a range of services which not only help residents, but also empowers them to make a positive difference in their local areas and that community cohesion will remain a priority. In addition, it wants residents to live healthy and active lifestyles and to offer services to improve wellbeing, either directly or with our partners.

At its meeting on 11th March 2021, Cabinet agreed the revised Charnwood Community Grants, Community Facilities and Member Grants schemes following the 2021/22 budgets for the grants schemes being agreed at Cabinet on the 11th February 2021. The previous grants schemes (Community Development and Engagement, Loughborough grants and the Sports grants) were reviewed and changes made, resulting in a proposed new combined grants scheme called Charnwood Community Grants. The Community Facilities Grant scheme was revised, removing the Feasibility study and small environmental project elements, and allowing for the inclusion of certain sports related projects.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

The Community Facilities Grants and Community Grants considered in this report will be released, providing they are approved, once the applicants have met any required pre-payment grant conditions. Grant payment terms will be on a grant by grant basis, depending on the nature of the organisation / project and level of grant awarded. Payment may be made in stages, and copy invoices, or proof of project expenditure, requested.

Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

Financial Implications

Community Facilities Grant Funding

The Community Facilities Grants budget allocated in the 2020-2023 Capital Plan was £190,000. The opening balance remaining in the 2021/23 Capital Plan for this grants scheme is £150,300. Three applications were received for funding in Round One 2021/22, and two grants were awarded at a total of £20,000 by the grants panel, with one declined, and therefore the balance remaining for future rounds of the Community Facilities Grants scheme is £130,300.

Community Grant Funding

The 2021/22 budget for Community Grants is £50,000.

Seventeen applications were received for funding in Round One 2021/22, and this report recommends that thirteen applications are supported totalling £29,400, with four

applications declined, leaving a balance of £20,600 for Round 2 of the Community Grants.

Risk Management

The risks associated with the decision Cabinet is asked to make and proposed actions to mitigate those risks are set out in the table below.

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Overall Risk	Risk Management Actions Planned
Grants do not deliver the objectives of the Grants scheme	Remote (1)	Minor (1)	Very Low (1)	The grants have been assessed against the criteria and will be supported with appropriate monitoring information.

Equality and Diversity

There is a requirement in the grants criteria for each organisation that applies to either have their own Equal Opportunities Policy or provide a statement that the organisation will abide by the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.

In addition, an Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and attached at Appendix 3.

Crime and Disorder

Many of the grants awarded support the provision of activities and programmes for both children, young people and adults which contribute towards reducing the impact of crime and anti-social behaviour through the provision of diversionary activity and promotes stronger, cohesive and balanced communities.

Key Decision: Yes

Background Papers: None

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Part B

Charnwood Community Grants Criteria

1. At its meeting on 11th March 2021, Cabinet agreed the revised Charnwood Community Grants scheme following the 2021/22 budgets for the grant schemes being agreed at Cabinet on the 11th February 2021. The previous grants schemes (Community Development and Engagement, Loughborough grants and the Sports grants) were reviewed and changes made, resulting in a proposed new combined grants scheme called Charnwood Community Grants.
2. The main criteria include the following:
 - maximum grant award of £5000
 - criteria has been amended to make it accessible to sports clubs and sports organisations
 - provides funding for projects delivered by the voluntary and community sector
3. The application form has been shortened and been devised to ensure that only relevant questions are asked. The associated assessment process has been adapted to ensure that the scoring system is directly related to the questions on the application form, with each question having a maximum score of 5. The Grants Panel will assess the applications and score against each of the questions, with a maximum score of 35.
4. The scoring and assessment process allows the Grants Panel members to provide an overall score of the application itself as well as provide additional comments based on the knowledge they have of groups, emerging issues in the sector or localities as well as things they have picked out from the application which can be brought to the meeting for discussion.

It is proposed that the level of score achieved will reflect the level of grant recommended. A low score will result in no award being recommended, a medium score will result in some of the grant applied for being awarded, with high scoring applications receiving most, if not all of the funding applied for.

Score	Level of funding
Low score	Nil
Medium score	Some of grant funding applied for
High score	Most or all of funding applied for

Community Facilities Grants

5. At its meeting on 11th March 2021, Cabinet agreed the revised Charnwood Community Facilities Grants scheme. The Community Facilities Grant scheme was revised, removing the Feasibility study and small environmental project elements, and allowing for the inclusion of certain sports related projects.

6. The criteria include the following:
 - That the maximum amount awarded would be £20,000 for projects that link well into the Council's Corporate Plan and can achieve wider community benefits.
 - Inclusion of sports clubs and sports organisations who previously were not able to access this grants scheme.
7. Schemes are scored using an assessment matrix which looks for:
 - Well prepared schemes, with a realistic costing of the work, and projects that are well targeted, have good local support and a strong input from volunteers.
 - Projects that link well into the Council's Corporate Plan and can achieve wider community benefits.
 - Applications from organisations with a strong local base and full accessibility to the community.
 - The need of the community for the facility and the need of the organisation for the funding.
8. The assessment matrix produces a maximum score of 100. A scheme scoring below 30 on the matrix is recommended for refusal and the Grants Panel will provide feedback to the community organisation on the reasons why it was not successful. Where a scheme scores between 30 and 40 on the first assessment the Grants Panel will work with the community organisation to see whether the bid can be improved and strengthened. Schemes scoring 40 and above are normally recommended for approval. However, applicants seeking a large grant which scores only just over 40 are advised that they may only receive part of the money they have applied for.

Community Facilities Grant Applications

9. Three applications were received for the Community Facilities Grants in Round One for 2021/22. The applications were assessed against the grants criteria and two were recommended for funding, and one recommended to be declined.

Soar Valley Bowls Club – Score 43.2 – Recommendation to award up to £10,000

10. Soar Valley Bowls Club is a well established club and has a vibrant membership of both men and women of all ages, comprising of playing members and social members. The club has a strong commitment to its members and the wider community. Whilst the club is competitive, playing in major county competitions and leagues, they also provide a full calendar of social bowling events. In addition, they host a wide range of social events which are non-bowls related and are open to all. They aim to be a focal point within the community and provide a full social calendar for members, their neighbours and friends.
11. The application is to refurbish the clubhouse/pavilion. The pavilion is constructed of wood and brick and has been well maintained over the years. It

is structurally sound, however the club feels that if they are to continue serving the local community and continue to open the facilities up for wider community use that major interior renovation is needed. The pavilion currently has no heating, which limits winter usage and the toilets and changing rooms are in need of renovation, including looking at disabled access.

12. The project involves the following:

- reconfiguring and refitting the changing rooms to incorporate new toilets with disabled access.
- increasing the size of the main Function room and installing low energy lighting;
- install heating and air conditioning;
- replace the main entrance doors to enable disabled access.

13. The benefits of the project include:

- Enabling the club to continue to offer facilities to the community as a whole for a wide range of community events all year round. The club has previously had to turn down requests for hire during the winter;
- It will become a meeting place for all to enjoy and it will play an important role in helping combat the effects of loneliness and isolation experienced not only by their older members, particularly following the current pandemic, but also by those in the wider community;
- It will provide enhanced ancillary facilities with better disabled access;
- The pavilion is situated with easy access to the surrounding new housing developments, and has extensive parking space, ensuring good access.

14. Local Ward Councillors were consulted on the application and one Councillor commented as follows:

“I have read the application and I am very supportive in principle.”

15. The application of £20,000 is for 50% of the total scheme costs of £40,000.

16. The Panel scored this scheme at 43.2 and recommends that a grant of up to £10,000 be awarded towards works that meet the criteria of the scheme, which includes the heating, low-energy lighting, refurbishment of the toilets and increasing disabled access.

17. The Panel felt that this was a strong application and that the club had really taken on board the community element needed for this grants scheme. They noted that the location of the facility is at the opposite end of the village to the main leisure facilities, which is positive. The Panel had requested a breakdown of costs which the club provided.

Leicestershire and Rutland Youth Sailing Association – Score 42.7 – Recommendation to award £10,000

18. The Leicestershire and Rutland Youth Sailing Association (LRYSA) is based at John Merrick's Lake within Watermead Country Park in Syston. Their objective is to make water sports available to the whole community. The high cost of sailing within private clubs and the barriers that entails can prevent sectors of the community from pursuing water sports as a healthy outdoor activity. The LRYSA operates a training centre accredited by the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) and a governing body to teach the whole community, focusing on hard to reach sectors of the community, the disabled and those with learning difficulties. They make their activities accessible by charging no annual membership fee, providing all boats and equipment, and all qualified instructors and staff are volunteers. Although they are mainly a youth organisation, they also teach adults of all ages, train emergency services and severely disabled adults. They teach children with all abilities from all areas of Charnwood. Many of the students' progress to become instructors themselves and in turn volunteer their time to teach new students. They are the only RYA training centre in Charnwood and the only Sailability centre in Leicestershire accredited to teach the disabled. They have specially adapted access boats, a floating jetty to transport wheelchair users to boats, and volunteers are all trained in the use of hoists, and handling and working with disabled students.
19. The application is for funding towards three main elements:
 - Extended disabled access across the site – levelling out the site and ensuring access to all areas. This will extend their available outdoor teaching areas, enabling enhanced social distancing and make it safer for everyone.
 - Completion of toilet and shower installation before use by community.
 - Improvements to the inside of the community building – replacement flooring (from carpet to vinyl to enable easier cleaning and more suitable for the location and activities) and redecoration to make the space more attractive and usable by both the sailing participants and other wider community groups.
20. The benefits of the project include:
 - Will increase access across the site for people with disabilities;
 - Will attract further community groups to use the facility.
21. Local Ward Councillors were consulted on the application and one Councillor commented as follows:

“I fully support the application”.
22. The application of £10,377 is for 50% of the total scheme costs of £20,753.
23. The panel scored this scheme at 42.7 and recommends that a grant of £10,000 be awarded.
24. The Panel recognised the benefits of the activities that LRYSA offered and their inclusive approach to delivery and that this project would be enhancing access,

and community-based space to allow a wide range of activity including education, training opportunities and wider community use.

Yogi Divine Society, UK – Score 25 – Recommendation to decline

25. Yogi Divine Society UK was established in 1990. The organisation aims to serve the global community by providing healthcare and educational activities to promote community development. This includes family values enrichment, educational literacy, good-health, self-sufficiency and enables people to have a happy, peaceful and harmonious life.
26. The application is for funding towards the cost of the refurbishment of Thurmaston Old School Community Centre. Until the early 1980s the Old School was utilised as an education resource centre and since then it has been used exclusively as a church and community centre. The construction of the building is conventional throughout and given the age of the building and apparent level of poor patch repairs, it requires significant refurbishment works to enable full use of the facility.
27. The project involves the following:
 - Engagement of building professionals such as structural engineer, building surveyors to evaluate condition of the building and its structure;
 - Assessment and repairs to the rear steel escape stairs;
 - Repairs to Stonework Cills and Copings;
 - Installation of new flooring, ceiling and pitched roof;
 - Installation of new mechanical, electrical and plumbing throughout the building;
 - Design and creation of a new community space for cultural events and local community engagement;
 - Design and installation of a new audio-visual and interactive teaching and assembly space to promote education, professional seminars and spiritual assemblies;
 - Painting and decorating throughout the internal building space.
28. The benefits of the project include:
 - Improved access to training and self-development opportunities;
 - Delivery of their voluntary professional IT training courses;
 - Provision of a common “go-to” place for various communities, especially individuals from a BAME background;
 - Involvement of volunteers;
 - Delivery of multi-cultural events, creative spiritual assemblies, activities for women’s empowerment and will encourage widening participation.
29. Local Ward Councillors were consulted on the application two Councillors commented as follows:

“I fully support this application”.

30. The application of £20,000 is for 12.5% of the total scheme costs of £160,000.
31. The Panel scored this scheme at 25 and recommends that the application be declined.
32. The application was low scoring, and the Panel had a number of concerns relating to the organisations Constitution, local governance arrangements, the quality of the quotes provided and that the organisation also appeared to have sufficient funds in their bank account. The Panel also questioned how much governance and financial control the group had at local level. In addition, there seemed to be little evidence of wider community benefit.
33. The Panel felt it was very positive for Thurmaston that the building would be brought back into use after a period of it being closed. The Panel recommended that the organisation be invited to meet with and work with the Council’s VCS Development Officers to look at the areas of concern, including their Constitution, local governance and how they could increase their accessibility to the wider community.

Community Grant Scheme Applications

34. Seventeen applications were received for funding in Round One for 2021/22. Seventeen applications have been assessed against the criteria, thirteen have been recommended for approval, and four have been recommended for declining.

Sileby District Guiding – Score 29.4 - Recommendation to award up to £500

35. Sileby District Guiding is part of the UK Guide Association. The organisation provides fun and friendship through a programme which supports girls to grow and reach their full potential, supported by volunteer leaders. Sileby District Guiding comprises of one Rainbow Unit (ages 5-6yrs), two Brownie Packs (ages 7-10yrs) and one Guide Unit (ages 11-14yrs). The group has members from Sileby, Cossington and Seagrave. The Units between them have approximately 80 members. During the pandemic, they have been providing activities for the girls via email and Facebook pages, via hand delivery and via Zoom meetings. The groups are led by 18 young leaders and adult leaders from the local community. They are also helped by parents on a rota system.
36. The application is for funding towards the cost of play / sports equipment that can be used by all units when required. Types of equipment will include bats, balls, hula hoops, skipping ropes etc. Their aim is to allow the girls to have fun in a safe environment. The equipment will be used to help with the programme of challenges, activities and badgework and also to just have fun playing games with each other, an aspect that has been missing throughout the pandemic.
37. The benefits of the project include:

- The girls will learn how to be part of a team, how to share with others, and how to win and lose gracefully;
 - An opportunity for the girls to have fun with their friends and to make new friends;
 - Will enable the girls to reach their potential;
 - Will provide healthy activities for the girls, promoting the importance of keeping active in order to improve physical and mental health and wellbeing.
38. Local Ward Councillors were consulted on the application and two Councillors commented as follows:
- “I would only be too pleased to support this grant in full towards the play equipment for the Sileby District Guiding”.
39. The application of £500 is for 100% of the total project cost.
40. The Panel scored this scheme at 29.4 and recommends that a grant of up to £500 be awarded.
41. The Panel felt that this was a good project with strong outcomes and noted that the equipment would be widely available for other community groups to use, which was positive.

The Baldwin Trust – Score 22.2 - Recommendation to award up to £750 towards a range of training courses for volunteers

42. The Baldwin Trust aims to enhance the wellbeing of people of all ages, especially those living with disabilities, mental illnesses, social exclusion and isolation. The organisation provides trips onboard two disability-adapted narrow boats, along waterways that meander through the Charnwood catchment area. The Trust is supported by 61 volunteers and 7 trustees.
43. The Baldwin Trust is in the process of hiring a part-time Volunteer Manager/Mentor. They have secured funding of £20,000 through the Henry Smith Charity, to cover the salary for this position over two years. The organisation is now applying for funding to cover the cost of the equipment and materials required to carry out this role. Costs include a computer, printer/scanner, printer ink and paper, phone contract and travel /out of pocket expenses and costs to negate and train new volunteers.
44. The benefits of the project include:
- Enables the organisation to successfully emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic;
 - Enables the organisation to engage new volunteers, mentor them and provide appropriate training;
 - Ensures continuity of recruitment and training of volunteers;
 - Provides an opportunity for those with physical and mental health disabilities and their families, to have new experiences, maintain a healthy lifestyle and improve wellbeing;

45. The application of £5,000 is for 100% of the total scheme cost for a two year period.
46. The Panel scored this scheme at 22.2 and recommends that a grant of up to £750 be awarded towards the cost of recruiting and training new volunteers.
47. The Panel recognised the good work of this organisation, however the application did not score highly against the criteria of the grants scheme, and the Panel noted that the application was for funding for a two-year period, which would not be covered by this grants scheme and only considered one year of costs. The Panel also had concerns regarding some of the costs being high, such as general expenses, with no explanation. Due to the application having a low score, the Panel recommended that a lower amount be approved towards the recruitment and training of new volunteers, as the Panel recognised that the organisation needed sufficient, suitably qualified volunteers to enable them to operate and this will have been impacted by the pandemic.

Rectory Wildlife Gardeners – Score 24.4 - Recommendation to award up to £1,400

48. The Rectory Wildlife Garden sits within the Hastings and Lemyngton ward of Loughborough. The garden is situated next to Fearon Hall, which attracts a diverse range of service users including but not exclusive to the young and old, individuals with physical and learning disabilities, visually impaired, homeless adults, the unemployed, people with mental health difficulties, those struggling with drug and alcohol dependency, those who are isolated and low-income families.
49. The group hopes to promote community involvement in the development of the garden as a wildlife sanctuary and as an outdoor facility for the peaceful enjoyment for people that live and work in the local area, and to raise awareness of the community in all matters relating to wildlife, gardening and the outdoor world. There are several blocks of flats near the garden, and they aim to increase involvement from tenants who don't have their own gardens and involve them in caring for the environment. Local youth groups, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are all starting to use the garden as a facility for their own outdoor activities, along with people with disabilities.
50. The application is for funding towards the cost of making the garden accessible to all. In order to do that they would like to have two wheelchair accessible picnic benches to enable wheelchair users to benefit from the garden. They also need a secure storage unit for their gardening tools. The storage needs to be a substantial vandal resistant construction and will need to have associated construction works etc provided for it. Both of these items will need various footings and paths, which volunteers will build. Members of the group will be contributing their time in kind for ground preparations and construction.
51. The benefits of the project include:
 - Benches will enable access to more disabled users, ensuring social inclusion for those who are less able;

- Brings the local community together, to develop friendships and understanding, and create a space in which to celebrate nature and take pride in a community project;
- Reduces isolation and increases social cohesion;

52. The application of £4,660 is for 85.3% of the total cost of £5,460.
53. The Panel scored this scheme at 24.4 and recommends that a grant of up to £1,400 be awarded towards the accessible seating element of the project.
54. The Panel felt that this was a good community based project, and that the organisation was working hard to engage with all of the local community, which is within an area of high deprivation. The garden is a welcome area for residents nearby who don't have their own gardens. The Panel are aware that the group already caters for people with disabilities and the accessible seating enables more inclusivity and this was the priority for the group. Due to the application not scoring highly, the Panel felt they would like to make a contribution towards the project, but would be unable to fund the full amount requested.

New Life Community Church – Score 30.4 - Recommendation to award up to £3,900

55. The New Life Community Church is an all-inclusive community space where everyone is welcome. They operate two social action services supporting members of the Charnwood community who are struggling with debt, poverty and/or are unable to purchase food. The services work hand-in-hand, providing emergency help in times of crisis and addressing underlying causes of financial hardship. These two services are:
- Loughborough Area Foodbank – there were 4,800+ nutritious food parcels distributed in Charnwood in 2020;
 - CAP Debt Centre (Christians Against Poverty) – 32 Charnwood people/families were given debt counselling in 2020.
56. The Foodbank is open three times a week, and on average 33 people attend each session. Since the start of the pandemic, demand for their services has doubled (4,936 people fed from April 2020 to March 2021 compared to 2,451 the previous year). The organisation's chat café offers clients free refreshments, and trained volunteers provide a non-judgemental, compassionate 'listening ear'.
57. The CAP Debt Centre offers an inclusive, professional and free service for those struggling with debt and financial problems in Charnwood. This service is offered to all on the basis of debt need, irrespective of background or religion. They provide bespoke debt counselling, budgeting and money management support.
58. The application is for funding towards the continued employment of their Family Worker one day per week from July 2021 to June 2022. The activities of the Family Worker include:

- Contacting Charnwood-based families (usually by phone call) to offer follow-up support after their visit to the foodbank;
- Offering additional signposting (for example to CAP debt centre, Citizens Advice Bureau, Living Without Abuse, GoLearn, Youth Clubs, Parent and Toddler Groups);
- Providing assistance, applying for individual grants (such as for school uniform, white goods, furniture or household bills);
- Providing a caring and compassionate 'listening ear'.

59. The benefits of the project include:

- Improved physical wellbeing from receiving nutritious food that prevents adults and children from going hungry, and promotes good health;
- Reduced anxiety, stress, and loneliness from knowing they have a place to go to receive free food and tailored support;
- Improved levels of happiness and socialisation, from having somewhere safe and welcoming to go to make connections with others from their community;
- Building increased confidence and self-esteem;
- Reduction in harmful behaviours, such as theft and shoplifting, as basic needs are met and positive choices are encouraged.

60. The application of £3,960 is for 85% of the total cost of £4,660.

61. The Panel scored this scheme at 30.4 and recommends that a grant of up to £3,900 be awarded.

62. The application scored highly, and the Panel felt that this was a strong project with a clearly identified need, and provided a low-level, early intervention support to families, with opportunities for families to be referred for higher-level support from statutory provision if required.

Peter Le Marchant Trust – Score 23 - Recommendation to award up to £1,200

63. The Peter Le Marchant Trust was first in the UK to specifically provide Canal Boat trips for people living with disabilities, the elderly and young people from marginalised communities. The Trust has a significant track record and has supported over 100,000 people since their establishment. Each season they serve over 5,000 people from these communities. They have three full-time staff and a well-trained and motivated volunteer team of over 100 people.

64. The principal aims of the trust as laid out in their strategy include:

- To encourage an appreciation and understanding of the canal and river network and its environment amongst the disabled and wider community for whom this experience would otherwise be difficult or impossible to achieve;
- To enable people with any disability and community groups to undertake boating activities to gain the significant health and wellbeing benefits achieved by being on the canal and river network;
- To build confidence, motivation, personal development and teamwork through boating activities for their passengers, volunteers and staff;

- To enable and encourage passengers and volunteers to have fun and fulfilment from their boating activities.
65. The organisation is applying for funding to pilot an innovative Waterways Mental Health and Wellbeing Project. Their target audience will be charities, statutory organisations and self help groups working on the impact of mental health and wellbeing due to the pandemic. The service will be delivered by a new team of trained volunteers and staff at the base. This pilot is expected to attract over 300 local people. The project will include two essential work programmes:
- Offering their canal trip service to as many people who need it to help their mental health and wellbeing. They will offer tailored and shorter trips for the community to book a place, whether that be an individual, couple or family. This will provide a unique experience for someone who has become socially isolated and doesn't want to mix with other members of the community due to social anxiety or other issues. The funding will enable them to recruit new volunteers to cover days, provide staff cover for community trips, the creation of posters and literature, advertising and boat expenses (fuel, cleaning, servicing etc.);
 - The project will utilise their attractive base, cabin and gardens, to develop a new health and wellbeing garden/sitting area. This will include Special Days of Interest which will be open to all where they will hire experts to be on board/at the base and talk about a variety of relevant topics. They are seeking funding to pilot a range of innovative shared interest groups which meet at the Trust base on a regular basis.
66. The benefits of the project include:
- Introducing activities and opportunities for the community by and on the canal to assist in personal empowerment and enrichment; providing space to manage mental, emotional, physical and behavioural issues;
 - Creating more opportunities for volunteers to gain experience;
 - Providing more inter-generational work and mentoring opportunities - fostering a sense of compassion, understanding and belonging within a tranquil and exclusive setting;
 - Opportunity to foster an interest which could go on to become a hobby, which in turn could lead to a great sense of worth, new friends and improved mental health.
67. The application of £5,000 is for 25% of the total cost of £20,000.
68. The Panel scored this scheme at 23 and recommends that a grant of up to £1,200 be awarded towards the towards additional boat running and servicing costs associated with additional trips to support people with their mental health and well-being.
69. The Panel felt that some aspects of the submitted application were not clear which contributed to the application scoring fairly low against the criteria of the scheme, but the Panel recognised that the project was beneficial to user groups, helping improve mental health and wellbeing, and that there were good

opportunities for volunteers. Therefore, the Panel wished to contribute a reduced amount towards some aspects of the project.

Albert Street Artists – Score 23.4 - Recommendation to award up to £1,200

70. Albert Street Artists is a self-help, arts therapy group for adult individuals who have personal experience of long-term mental health issues. The organisation attracts people aged between 20-70+ from across the Borough, encouraging the management of their mental health through creativity and peer support. All members must have a diagnosed mental health condition and be referred by professionals working within statutory health services. The group rents a studio located in the town centre which is self-contained and easily accessible for members. The group is fully democratic, and all members have a vote and are involved in planning and decision making.
71. The organisation provides the following:
- Emotional and personal support;
 - A structured and creative environment for members at the studio four times a week;
 - Longer opening hours on Thursdays for members to learn new skills such as pottery and print making;
 - Day and residential trips at least twice a year for members;
 - A calendar showcasing the artwork of members annually.
72. The organisation is applying for funding towards general running costs, including rent, electricity, water, council tax, bottled gas refills for heating, telephone and internet. The group has limited income generating opportunities through selling members' artwork and voluntary contributions and so are largely grant reliant. They receive ongoing fundraising support from the Council's VCS Development Officers who are exploring other funding opportunities with the group.
73. The benefits of the project include:
- Improving ability to cope with poor mental health;
 - Increasing confidence and stronger ability to cope with daily activities;
 - Reducing isolation and forming new friendships;
 - Reducing risk of harmful behaviours (alcoholism, other addictions, irregular sleep, loss of routine etc);
 - Increasing opportunities to visit new places/meet new people.
74. The application of £4,470 is for 81.7% of the total cost of £5,470.
75. The Panel scored this scheme at 23.4 and recommends that a grant of up to £1,200 be awarded, with the opportunity for the group to apply for further funding in Round 2 if required.
76. The application did not score very highly against the criteria of the grants scheme, and the Panel noted that there were ongoing issues relating to the sustainability of the group. The organisation is currently investigating alternative

venues for the members to meet, and the Panel recommends that the VCS Development Officers continue to work closely with the group to source alternative funding and an alternative venue to ensure the sustainability of the group.

Leicestershire and Rutland Youth Sailing Association – Score 25.8 - Recommendation to award up to £2,500

77. The Leicestershire and Rutland Youth Sailing Association (LRYSA) is based at John Merrick's Lake within Watermead Country Park in Syston. Their objective is to make water sports available to the whole community. The high cost of sailing within private clubs and the barriers that entails can prevent hard to reach groups from pursuing water sports as a healthy outdoor activity. The LRYSA operates a training centre accredited by the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) and a governing body to teach the whole community, focusing on the disadvantaged, the disabled and those with learning difficulties. Although they are mainly a youth organisation, they also teach adults of all ages, train emergency services and severely disabled adults. They teach children with all abilities from all areas of Charnwood. Many of the students' progress to become instructors themselves and in turn volunteer their time to teach new students. They are the only RYA training centre in Charnwood and the only Sailability centre in Leicestershire accredited to teach the disabled. They have specially adapted access boats, a floating jetty to transport wheelchair users to boats, and volunteers are all trained in the use of hoists, and handling and working with disabled students.
78. The organisation is applying for funding towards volunteer coaching qualifications. For various reasons they have lost three of their instructors and a racing coach over the last year. Volunteers are trained by their own chief instructor, including safety boat handling, teaching all abilities and learning to sail all craft. However, in order to fully qualify as instructors their volunteers have to pass tests run by the RYA. They also need the correct dry suits and kit which can be expensive and receives a lot of wear and tear. Instructors and power boat drivers who cover safety on the water are crucial and must be trained and qualified to the high standard required by the RYA. This includes training in the special requirements of teaching the disabled and those with learning difficulties, covering the use of hoists, handling and how to transfer a wheelchair user from land to boat using our mobile floating jetty. All activities have to be supervised by a senior instructor or coach who is qualified to the highest standard.
79. The benefits of the project include:
- Fully qualified instructors able to deliver services safely and efficiently;
 - Able to deliver a service that is in high demand from the community, due to there being little other similar provision in the area;
 - Improvement of physical and mental health and wellbeing;
 - Opportunity for people / families from disadvantaged backgrounds to experience an outdoor activity.

80. Local Ward Councillors were consulted on the application and one comment was received as follows:
- “I confirm I am happy to support the application fully. The application for £4,355 allows instructors to be trained, to enable the association to continue to offer sailing instruction to a wide range of people in the community, following the loss of existing instructors who have left the area”.
81. The application of £4,355 is for 100% of the total scheme costs.
82. The Panel scored this scheme at 25.8 and recommends that a grant of up to £2,500 be awarded, towards the cost of the training courses / qualifications and travel costs only. The grant should be used towards those people participating who are residents of Charnwood.
83. The Panel felt that this was a good application and that the organisation were fully accessible and inclusive in their approach, but with a medium score against the criteria of the scheme, were unable to award the full amount requested.

PACE – Score 27 - Recommendation to award up to £2,000

84. PACE was established in 2003 and since then the charity has served people who are vulnerable, disadvantaged, those that have fallen into hardship as well as the general public. Their projects include craft and social clubs for the senior citizens, emergency food bank provision, professional BACP registered counselling service, debt advice service, weekly youth club and a summer camp. They serve a range of people within the community and people from anywhere in the Charnwood area can access their services. On average over 500 direct beneficiaries are in receipt of their services each week. They aim to tackle issues such as food and fuel poverty, low and loss of income, mental health and wellbeing and debt and counselling. They provide short to medium support to struggling individuals / families and work with service users to build a more sustainable future. They take referrals and signpost clients to other organisations where appropriate. There are typically 75 key staff and volunteers who deliver the services.
85. The organisation is applying for funding towards the annual PACE Camp in August 2021. The PACE Camp typically serves 100 children each week and this year's camp will run for 2 weeks. This project is a provision for low income families, single parents, young people who struggle with holiday hunger and the general community. Children aged 8-14 are welcomed to participate in a range of group activities, including a variety of sports, team games, arts and crafts, inflatables as well as dance and drama. The PACE Camp will be delivered by a number of key staff and volunteers.

The costs for the Camp include:

- A chef to teach cooking skills;
- A musician to deliver music sessions;
- An artist to deliver drawing and painting sessions;
- Range of sports activities e.g. climbing wall

- Camp t-shirts / leaflets;
 - Sports equipment;
 - Refreshments
 - Volunteer expenses
86. The benefits of the project include:
- Engage local community and enhance social connection;
 - Support parents and guardians with childcare over 6 weeks school holiday;
 - Keep young people safe over summer holiday;
 - Provide childcare support at an affordable rate;
 - Include children who would not normally be able to participate in a camp.
87. The application of £5,000 is for 31.7% of the total cost of £15,770.
88. The Panel scored this scheme at 27 and recommends that a grant of up to £2,000 be awarded.
89. The application scored reasonably well against the criteria of the scheme, however the Panel felt that the costs proposed in some areas were quite high and could be scaled back. They recognised the good work delivered by PACE and understood the need for young people to have this opportunity over the summer, following the Covid-19 pandemic. The VCS Development Officers were also providing signposting to other relevant funding opportunities.

PCM Loughborough (Polish Community Centre) – Score 29.4 - Recommendation to award up to £4,000

90. PCM Loughborough (Polish Community Centre) has been providing a wide variety of community focused activities since 1958. In recent years the Centre has been concentrating on organising inclusive activities that are directed to a wide audience and include the following groups in particular: young families, working adults, and the elderly. All activities are community/demand driven. Some are offered free of charge, some are payable (depending whether or not they are undertaken by volunteers or paid personnel). The activities aim to help people integrate, and engage with others, they help fight exclusion, and help improve the mental and physical wellbeing of the community.
91. Activities that take place at the community centre include:
- Wellbeing yoga classes;
 - Art classes;
 - Young mums' sharing support group;
 - Karate for young people;
 - Dances for the elderly;
 - Table tennis / darts tournaments;
 - Reading sessions in the library;
 - Plays;
 - Translations and assistance offered to foreign nationals.

92. The organisation is applying for funding towards the running of some of the above activities. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the community centre has been closed with no income. They are hoping to regain some of their income streams within the next 10-12 months, but they believe it will take a long time to go back to pre-Covid demand. Until that point they wish to provide support to run activities to encourage people to return to the centre. Covid-19 restrictions have impacted on these activities and how they can be delivered and have increased the cost as groups are split into smaller groups and time needs to be allowed for cleaning.
93. Their application is for funding to support their healthy body / healthy mind activities that are on offer at the Centre. The funding would allow them to deliver the sessions throughout the year.
94. The benefits of the project include:
- Inclusion and dependence – by engaging in activities with other members of the community they provide a platform for people to meet and socialise. Some of the activities engage an older demographic and in leaving the house to engage in these activities will keep those persons independent longer and reduce social isolation;
 - Mental wellbeing – activities have a positive influence on participants' mental wellbeing – people tend to leave classes engaged in conversations, smiling, laughing and joking;
 - Physical wellbeing – activities offered are either directly affecting the physical wellbeing of the participants through exercise or indirectly as a healthy alternative to sitting and watching TV.
95. The application of £5,000 is for 40.5% of the total cost of £12,358.
96. The Panel scored this scheme at 29.4 and recommends that a grant of up to £4,000 be awarded.
97. The Panel felt that this was a strong application, demonstrating a high level of engagement with the wider community, and recognises the challenges in re-opening after the Covid-19 pandemic and the organisations drive to encourage people back to activity.

Quetzal – Score 27.8 - Recommendation to award up to £1,750

98. Quetzal supports survivors of childhood sexual abuse aged 16 and above living in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. They support survivors by providing:
- A range of free therapeutic counselling services to equip survivors with the tools to build a better life;
 - Awareness raising sessions and activities for equipping communities and their families with knowledge and skills to better support female survivors;
 - Specialised training and clinical supervision to volunteer counsellors and community connectors supporting survivors in their journey towards recovery.

99. In 2020-2021 during the Covid-19 pandemic, Quetzal supported 261 female survivors by delivering counselling remotely online and via the telephone, achieving the same level of referral pre-pandemic and despite the restrictions. 69% of the survivors were between the age of 16-34. They experienced a surge of referrals by more than 50% from survivors between the age of 16-24, while fewer survivors above the age of 35 engaged with the charity. 15% of survivors supported in the last year live in the Charnwood area. After Leicester city, Charnwood is the biggest area from which they receive referrals.

By accessing Quetzal's free counselling services, survivors are given tools to better deal with the impacts of abuse, reducing in turn the risks of self-harm, suicide, neglect, eating disorders and addiction. Women who access the service are also better able to deal with the disorders born out of trauma including PTSD, anxiety attacks, flashbacks, borderline personality disorders and more.

100. The organisation is applying for funding towards recruiting, training and supporting volunteer community connectors. Some of the main activities the community connectors will undertake are:
- Holding 10 meet and greet stalls;
 - Delivering 5 online awareness raising sessions for communities and individuals living in Charnwood and coordinate and support the volunteer counsellors.

Counsellors will deliver counselling to support approximately 20 survivors living in the Charnwood area with free 16-week counselling sessions. The sessions will be delivered remotely or where appropriate in outreach venues in Charnwood. The project will run for one year. Over the year, they propose to deliver 10 meet and greet sessions in Loughborough and the Charnwood area and distribute leaflets across community centres inviting people to attend their 50-minute online awareness raising sessions.

Costs include:

- Supporting, retaining and providing clinical supervision to volunteer counsellors supporting 20 female survivors in the Charnwood area;
 - Recruiting, co-ordinating, supporting and developing volunteer community connectors to deliver the 10 Meet and Greet stalls as well as the online awareness-raising sessions;
 - Promotional materials, such as banners, posters and leaflets;
 - Growing pots and seeds;
 - Venue hire;
 - Admin costs.
101. The benefits of the project include:
- Improving the mental health of survivors of childhood sexual abuse, by reducing risks of self-harm and suicidal ideation as well as providing the tools to deal with anxiety and stress in order to build better lives;
 - Enabling survivors of abuse and their supporters to be more trauma-informed and understand the value of counselling so they take steps to

improve their own life or better identify when someone is needing support and make a positive difference in their local area.

102. The application of £4,598 is for 100% of the total scheme costs.
103. The Panel scored this scheme at 27.8 and recommends that a grant of up to £1,750 be awarded towards the costs associated with supporting, retaining, training and providing the clinical supervision to the volunteer counsellors along with the associated admin costs of processing the referrals, allocations and monitoring and evaluation. The Panel recommends that the organisation works with VCS Development Officers to look at how they can link in and engage with other local organisations such as UAVA and LWA.
104. The Panel scored the application highly with regards to the organisation's delivery and recognised the importance and benefit of their work, however, the Panel struggled to understand the approach to the community connector element of the project and there was little evidence of the organisation engaging with other local groups. Being able to work alongside UAVA and LWA would enable the organisation to signpost users to other organisations and receive referrals, and therefore improve their service.

FC Seagrave – Score 29.8 - Recommendation to award up to £2,700

105. FC Seagrave was established in 2017. Their main objective is to provide a safe environment for children in which to play football and arrange social activities for its members regardless of gender, race, religion or ability, and to promote football and sport as a means of enhancing health education, learning opportunities and local community involvement. With this ethos, they hope the young people who attend the club will acquire sporting and personal skills from which they will derive life-long benefits, self-respect, self-esteem, self-confidence, integrity and respect for others.
106. The children who attend now, not only come from Seagrave, but also from the surrounding villages such as Sileby, Barrow, Quorn and Mountsorrel. They currently have three separate sessions, all which take place on a Sunday morning, Mini Kickers (Pre-schoolers) – 25 children, FC Seagrave Year 1 – 30 children, and FC Seagrave Year 3 – 25 children. Due to increasing demand, they would now also like to offer sessions for Foundation and Year 2 children and split the existing age groups into smaller group sizes in line with the FA's guidance. This would allow the club to cater for an additional 40 children.
107. The organisation is applying for funding towards increasing the number of qualified coaches that the club has. As they work in line with the FA guidelines, as the numbers continue to grow (currently they are attracting around 80 children per week) they are constantly having to recruit parents to become coaches and they need to get these parents qualified with their FA Level 1 coaching qualification. At present they would like to apply for funding to put nine new volunteer parents and helpers through their FA level 1 coaching qualification. This will ensure they are operating in line with the FA guidelines.

108. In addition, to meet the increased demand the club have had to reconfigure their pitches and are applying for funding towards a set of moveable football goals.
109. The benefits of the project include:
- Will allow parents to become better coaches, but foremost allow the children who attend the sessions, now and in the future, to benefit from a better coaching experience;
 - If the club is successful in obtaining funding, the increased number of children attending the sessions will allow them to fund coaching qualifications in the future.
110. Local Ward Councillors were consulted on the application and one comment was received as follows:
- “I am very happy to support this application. I gave my Member Grant to FC Seagrave a few years ago and I’m pleased to see they’re still going from strength to strength”.
111. The application of £3,415 is for 63.3% of the total cost of £5,391.
112. The Panel scored this scheme at 29.8 and recommends that a grant of up to £2,700 be awarded.
113. The application scored highly against the criteria of the scheme and meets the Council’s healthy community objectives. The Panel noted the strong level of volunteer support and that the club has been successful in becoming a FA Chartered Standard Youth Club. The club would be encouraging and providing a safe, fun environment to increase participation.

Go-Getta CIC – Score 30.6 - Recommendation to award up to £5,000

114. Established in 2011, Go-Getta CIC supports young people to live healthier, happier, safer and more responsible lives. They motivate young people towards positive change through relationships, empowerment, and access to opportunities to learn, grow and have fun. Go-Getta delivers various targeted interventions with young people across Leicester and Leicestershire including:
- The setting up and delivery of youth clubs and youth cafes in areas identified by services as experiencing high levels of deprivation or youth-led ASB;
 - Detached, street-based youth work in communities;
 - Multi-sports programmes including Boxing, Football and Gym Mentoring;
 - 121- Mentoring services for young people referred by Community Safety Partnerships;
 - Alternative Education Provision for young people excluded from mainstream schooling;
 - Anti-Knife Crime assemblies and workshops (Words Over Weapons) in secondary schools;
 - Youth clubs and alternative education settings.

115. Go-Getta CIC employs a team of Youth Engagement Workers with backgrounds and expertise in Counselling, Social Care, Sports Coaching and Project Management. They specialise in supporting young people identified as 'at risk' and 'targeted' often living with adverse childhood experiences and being involved in criminality, ASB, exclusion, substance misuse, etc. The majority of their services are delivered across Charnwood namely; Anstey, Syston and Loughborough - Shelthorpe, Ashby Road, Thorpe Acre, Warwick Way) and Leicester City.
116. The organisation is applying for funding towards the delivery of the Loughborough Youth Motivators project. They propose to focus delivery on the Thorpe Acre, Warwick Way and Ashby Road estates. These priority neighbourhoods are known to experience issues around youth-led anti-social behaviour and deprivation. Many of the young people they encounter in their youth work on these estates are living with adverse childhood experiences including; parental mental health, parental substance misuse, parental criminality/imprisonment, abuse, neglect, poverty, divorce/separation, domestic abuse etc. Many of the young people live with issues around poor emotional wellbeing, exclusion from mainstream education, substance misuse, learning needs, exploitation, involvement in ASB or criminality (TWOC'ing, knife crime, burglary, drug dealing, theft, youth violence etc).
117. Funding will enable the group to deliver detached youth work on these estates (proposed provisional timings: every Wednesday 4-6.30pm) engaging with young people aged 8-21yrs. Workers will visit 'hot spots' in these neighbourhoods, engaging young people meeting in parks/green spaces, ball courts, car parks, or any other places identified by the local authority as problematic with a view to deter them away from becoming involved in anti-social behaviour. They anticipate that this funding will enable them to engage with approximately 70 young people over the 50 weeks.
118. The benefits of the project include:
- Workers will engage with young people and involve them in issue-based discussions focusing on raising awareness and promoting a better understanding to minimise involvement and risks around; bullying, peer pressure, sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, healthy relationships, peer on peer abuse, hate crime, anti-social behaviour, criminality, online safety and any other presenting issues;
 - team games and multi-sports as a way to establish trusting relationships with them and deter them away from ASB;
 - Building confidence, self-esteem, improving mental and physical health outcomes and encouraging positive choices/lifestyles through this work;
 - Young people are provided general advice, information and guidance on any issues arising (for e.g. school issues, employability, managing difficult situations, conflict resolution etc);
 - Support to access other services, including sexual health and substance misuse support;
 - Young people requiring more intensive support are referred into the Youth Engagement project for 121 mentoring.

119. The application of £5,000 is for 100% of the total scheme costs.
120. The Panel scored this scheme at 30.6 and recommends that a grant of up to £5,000 be awarded.
121. The application scored highly against the criteria of the grants scheme, and the Panel felt that this was a strong project, with clear evidence of the impact it has had on young people moving away from crime. The organisation engaged well with young people throughout the pandemic and are responsive to and work well with other providers in the locality to ensure join up and proactively engage with both the Council and the Community Safety Partnership to target key areas.

Barkby United Cricket Club – Score 27.4 - Recommendation to award up to £2,500

122. Barkby United Cricket Club is a registered Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC), who have been at the heart of the community for the last 170 years. Their dual aims as a club are to develop as both a sporting and social hub for the people of Barkby and the surrounding villages. Accordingly, they provide cricket for over 40 adults across 5 senior teams, and 60 boys and girls across 5 junior sides, whilst providing a social 'hub' for local people, as well as players, families, coaches, parents, and supporters alike. The club also has sporting users from the local Pochin School (including those with disabilities), whilst socially, they have a clubhouse area that accommodates approximately 50 users, with an adjoining bar and kitchen.
123. The organisation is applying for funding towards engaging the community with the clubhouse and wider sporting facilities by making functional improvements to the clubhouse. The veranda (which is currently broken and unsafe) will be refurbished by removing and replacing the rotten posts and flooring, replacing the wooden flooring with concrete, and replacing the veranda railing. Internally, they will replace the ageing furniture, through the purchase of new indoor stacking chairs, new tables, and sofas. Finally, they will replace the oven with a larger, more multi-functional, and energy efficient equivalent. Both the replacement furniture and oven will enable greater community use of the clubhouse.
124. The benefits of the project include:
 - Our project will help engage further users from within our community;
 - The veranda and replacement furniture will increase the viability and desirability of the function room for hire from businesses;
 - Local community users e.g. the Parish Council will continue using the building for meetings.
125. Local Ward Councillors were consulted on the application and no comments were received.
126. The application of £4,378 is for 38.3% of the total cost of £11,423.

127. The Panel scored this scheme at 27.4 and recommends that a grant of up to £2,500 be awarded towards the furniture and replacement oven which would widen the use of the building by the community.
128. The application scored fairly highly against the criteria of the grants scheme, and the Panel recognised that the club had good links with schools, supported young people with disabilities, and was open to wider community use.

Steps Conductive Education Centre – Score 19 - Recommendation to decline

129. Steps Conductive Education Centre is based in Shepshed and is currently supporting 40 children nationally. The support offered has changed due to Covid-19, and the organisation has been able to extend its offer to many other families over online sessions. Historically Steps has always been an East Midlands charity, with 25% of their children residing in Charnwood. Steps offers a unique service using the principles of Conductive Education for children with conditions that cause motor impairments or motor development delays. They work with children who have Cerebral Palsy, possible chromosome disorders including Downs Syndrome or other conditions which affect the acquisition of motor skills. Conductive Education combines education, psychology and medical science, and considers all aspects of development.
130. The organisation aims to develop the skills children need to progress and maximise their potential. At the same time, they provide parents with the knowledge, confidence and strength they need to understand how they can help their child. They offer services to children aged from 3 months to 15 years. The service supports the whole family and parents stay in the sessions with their child so that everything taught can be transferred to the home environment.
131. The organisation is applying for funding towards a new heating system. The current heating system at Steps is very old and has proved to be extremely noisy when recording sessions to show online – and this has been very distracting for the children when viewing sessions online or attending face-to-face sessions.
132. The benefits of the project include:
- Enabling 40 children and their parents/siblings to take part in sessions, a total of approximately 97 people;
 - Participation in sessions in a comfortable, well-heated environment, without the distraction of noisy heaters;
133. The application of £1,500 is for 19.2% of the total cost of £7,822.
134. The Panel scored this scheme at 19 and recommends that the application be declined.
135. The Panel recognised the positive work of the organisation, and that it is very important to the families that participate in the sessions, however the application did not meet the criteria of the scheme. The application was for a new heating system to be installed, which would usually be more suited for funding through

the Community Facilities Grant scheme, however due to the building not being available for wider community use, the application would also not be eligible for the Community Facilities Grant scheme. In addition, the Panel noted that there would be a relatively small number of children and their families from Charnwood benefitting from any funding awarded.

Outwoods Edge Primary School PTA – Score 19.8 - Recommendation to decline

136. The Friends of Outwoods Edge Primary School (FOEPS) is a registered charity PTA run by a core committee of 8 individuals and around 20 volunteers. The organisation raises funds to support Outwoods Edge Primary School and aims to maintain and improve the children's and staff's experience in school - from education, physical enjoyment through to mental well-being. Monetary funding and physical voluntary support include:
- Ongoing purchase of books for the schools own library;
 - Multipurpose track;
 - School allotment and outdoor classroom;
 - Trim trail;
 - Space tent;
 - Trips and visits to museums, cinemas, theatres.
137. Before Covid-19, funds had been raised by holding regular events at school that were attended by pupils, their families, staff members and also the wider community. Further they would raise funds through sale of merchandise and, most recently, the sale of second hand uniforms with the added aim to support their families from all economic backgrounds.
138. The organisation is applying for funding towards a bike shelter and outdoor play equipment. The bike shelter will provide a safe shelter for bikes and scooters. It will benefit all school children from years 1, 3 and 5, and adults who commute to school on bikes or scooters (a minimum of 180 people). The outdoor play and learning equipment will be used by all school children during outdoor time. Additionally, community groups such as Scouts and Beavers use the school grounds for their meet-ups throughout the week and will be given access to the equipment.
139. The benefits of the project include:
- Outdoor play experiences during school times will support behaviour and benefit learning time in the long-term;
 - It will enhance the whole primary school experience throughout all years from reception through to year 6 and will strengthen the relationship of the school community as all children will have access to all provision;
140. Local Ward Councillors were consulted on the application and one comment was received as follows:
- “Yes I'm happy with this”.
141. The application of £3,250 is for 32.7% of the total cost of £9,946.50.

142. The Panel scored this scheme at 19.8 and recommends that the application be declined.
143. The application did not score highly enough against the criteria of the grants scheme, and therefore the Panel were unable to award a grant. The Panel felt that there was not enough evidence that the project would be benefitting the wider community and was mainly a school based.

Above and Beyond – Not scored - Recommendation to defer, subject to the organisation meeting with Officers

144. Above and Beyond offers opportunities and activities to engage and support young people and communities. All their activities are designed to enable young people to grow and become positive, caring citizens. They currently support around 160 families, and this particular group (the Phoenix Youth Group) supports up to 20 young people and their families from all over Charnwood, including Loughborough, Sileby, Barrow, and Hathern. The organisation's services include:
- Alternative educational provision;
 - Youth Support Groups and Youth Clubs;
 - Mentoring and One to One; Family Support
 - Advice, information and counselling;
 - Supporting young people who identify as SEND and their families;
 - Support group for parents/carers to share and talk about issues.
145. The organisation is applying for funding towards re-establishing the Phoenix Youth Group after the Covid-19 pandemic. A grant will enable the group to accumulate weekly subs and will give them time to look for other funding pots. The main costs of the project include rent, volunteer training and equipment costs for the sessions.
146. The benefits of the project include:
- Provides an informal educational curriculum which empowers the young people with new skills and knowledge to support the transition to adulthood.
147. The application of £5,000 is for 100% of the total scheme costs.
148. The Panel felt unable to score this application due previous issues with the organisation including not meeting the terms and conditions of previous grants awarded. The Panel would like to invite key personnel from the organisation to meet with Officers and discuss a way forward, with a possible opportunity for the application to be resubmitted and considered in Round 2.

Thurmaston DPC FC – Score 20 - Recommendation to decline

149. Thurmaston DPC FC is a FA Charter Standard Football club specialising in Adult Football. Their main goal is to provide football for adults within Thurmaston and surrounding areas. They currently have two men's' Sunday league sides.

150. The organisation is applying for funding towards the cost of starting up a new Ladies football team. The club was approached by a group of ladies who support the club as friends and relatives of the male players, to open up a ladies team. There is now a growing interest of ladies wanting to join the club and they currently have approximately 18 ladies training with them. As part of this club expansion, they are looking to offer every member, ladies and men, a personalised team jacket to show their affiliation to the club.

Costs included in the application are match day kit, uniform jackets, pitch hire, equipment, affiliation and insurance.

151. The benefits of the project include:

- A feeling of inclusion and being part of the club;
- Opportunity for women to take part in football.

152. Local Ward Councillors were consulted on the application and comments were received from all three Councillors:

“Given that the other applications all relate to improvements of existing facilities or services, I feel that the amount requested by DPC FC is excessive”

“Having read the grant application form I cannot support this application as it stands at the moment Football should be supported but at adult level I feel it should also be invested in by the players themselves by fund raising”

“Sadly I can’t support thisI cannot see how the prices which have been quoted can be justified in any way. If this application was for £1000 I would feel more inclined to give my support”.

153. The application of £1,500 is for 13.1% of the total cost of £11,423.

154. The Panel scored this scheme at 20 and recommends that the application be declined.

155. The application did not score highly enough to be awarded a grant. Local Ward Councillors were not supportive of this application, due to the high amount being requested, and the Panel recommends that the Council’s Sports Development Officers work with the club to provide advice going forward relating to possible linking with other clubs and seeking advice from the Leicestershire FA.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Community Facilities Grants Summary

Appendix 2 - Community Grants Summary

Appendix 3 - Equality Impact Assessment

APPENDIX 1

Round 1 2021/22 - Community Facilities Grants Summary

Opening Budget 2021/23 - £150,300

**Balance remaining after this round:
£130,300**

Applicant	Project description	Amount applied for (£)	Total project cost (£)	Total score	Recommendation
Grant ref 1280 Soar Valley Bowls Club	Heating, low-energy lighting and refurbishment of toilets	20,000	40,000	43.2	Approve up to £10,000
Grant ref 1287 Leicestershire and Rutland Youth Sailing Association	Refurbishment costs, disabled access	10,377	20,753	42.7	Approve up to £10,000
Grant ref 1284 Yogi Divine Society UK	Refurbishment of Thurmaston Old School Community Centre	20,000	160,000	25	Decline

APPENDIX 2

Opening Budget 2021/22 - £50,000

Round 1 2021/22 - Community Grants Summary

Balance remaining after this round: £20,600

Applicant	Project description	Amount applied for (£)	Total project cost (£)	Total score	Recommendation
Grant ref 1274 Sileby District Guiding	Play / Sports Equipment	500	500	29.4	Approve up to £500
Grant ref 1275 The Baldwin Trust	Recruiting and training new volunteers	5,000	5,000	22.2	Approve up to £750
Grant ref 1276 Rectory Wildlife Gardeners	Accessible seating	4,660	5,460	24.4	Approve up to £1,400 for accessible seating
Grant ref 1277 New Life Community Church	Family Support worker	3,960	4,660	30.4	Approve up to £3,900
Grant ref 1278 Peter Le Marchant Trust	Mental Health & Well-being project	5,000	20,000	23	Approve up to £1,200 for additional boat running and servicing costs associated with additional trips

Grant ref 1279 Albert Street Artists	General running costs	4,470	5,470	23.4	Approve up to £1,200, and VCS Development Officers to continue to provide support
Grant ref 1281 Leicestershire Youth Sailing Association	Volunteer training courses / qualifications and equipment	4,355	4,355	25.8	Approve up to £2,500 towards volunteer training courses / qualifications
Grant ref 1282 PACE	PACE Camp	5,000	15,770	27	Approve up to £2,000
Grant ref 1283 PCM Loughborough (Polish Community Centre)	Healthy Body, Healthy Mind Project	5,000	12,358	29.4	Approve up to £4,000
Grant ref 1285 Quetzal	Counselling for survivors of childhood sexual abuse	4,598	4,598	27.8	Approve up to £1,750 towards the costs associated with supporting, retaining, training and providing the clinical supervision to the volunteer counsellors
Grant ref 1286 FC Seagrave	Coaching qualifications and football goals	3,415	5,391	29.8	Approve up to £2,700
Grant ref 1290 Go-Getta CIC	Loughborough Youth Motivators	5,000	5,000	30.6	Approve up to £5,000
Grant ref 1291 Barkby United Cricket Club	New furniture / oven for club house	4,378	11,423	27.4	Approve up to £2,500 for new furniture / oven only

Grant ref 1273 Steps Conductive Education Centre	Installation of new heating system	1,500	7,822	19	Decline
Grant ref 1288 Outwoods Edge Primary School PTA	Bike shelter and outdoor play equipment	3,250	9,946	19.8	Decline
Grant ref 1289 Above and Beyond	Phoenix Youth Group	5,000	5,000	Not scored	Decline – invite to meet with Officers
Grant ref 1292 Thurmaston DPC FC	Start-up costs for Ladies' Football Team	4,550	11,423	20	Decline

Charnwood Borough Council

Equality Impact Assessment 'Knowing the needs of your customers and employees'

■ Background

An Equality Impact Assessment is an improvement tool. It will assist you in ensuring that you have thought about the needs and impacts of your service/policy/function in relation to the protected characteristics. It enables a systematic approach to identifying and recording gaps and actions.

■ Legislation- Equality Duty

As a local authority that provides services to the public, Charnwood Borough Council has a legal responsibility to ensure that we can demonstrate having paid due regard to the need to:

- ✓ Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- ✓ Advance Equality of Opportunity
- ✓ Foster good relations

For the following protected characteristics:

1. Age
2. Disability
3. Gender reassignment
4. Marriage and civil partnership
5. Pregnancy and maternity
6. Race
7. Religion or belief
8. Sex (Gender)
9. Sexual orientation

What is prohibited?

1. Direct Discrimination
2. Indirect Discrimination
3. Harassment
4. Victimisation
5. Discrimination by association
6. Discrimination by perception
7. Pregnancy and maternity discrimination
8. Discrimination arising from disability
9. Failing to make reasonable adjustments

■ **Step 1 – Introductory information**

Title of the policy	Community Grant and Community Facilities Grant.
Name of lead officer and others undertaking this assessment	Julie Robinson
Date EIA started	May 2021
Date EIA completed	May 2021

■ **Step 2 – Overview of policy/function being assessed:**

Outline: What is the purpose of this policy? (Specify aims and objectives)
<p>Charnwood Borough Council recognises the value and contribution of individuals, voluntary sector organisations and other community-led projects and the benefits they provide to the residents of Charnwood.</p> <p>Through our Charnwood grant schemes we provide a range of grants to help these organisations, groups and individuals access the funding support they need.</p> <p>Cabinet considers applications for funding for the Community Facilities Capital Grants and the Charnwood Community grants Scheme twice a year.</p> <p>It is the Councils aim to ensure the grants process is inclusive of all community groups and funding supports projects targeting individuals across a range of protected characteristics, as outlined in the Equality Act 2010.</p>
What specific group/s is the policy designed to affect/impact and what is the intended change or outcome for them?
<p>It is the Councils aim to ensure that the grants process is inclusive of all community groups and funding supports projects targeting individuals/ residents across a range of protected characteristics, as outlined in the Equality Act 2010.</p> <p>Analysis is therefore undertaken to ensure that the grants are distributed in a reasonable and proportionate manner.</p>
Which groups have been consulted as part of the creation or review of the policy?
<p>Evaluation takes place on successful applications to analyse whether there any gaps with regards to the protected characteristics in order to ensure the grants process is fair and equal to all. In particular analysis is undertaken to determine any barriers which may prevent specific community groups/ communities of interest from successfully applying or even applying at all to Charnwood Grants. The VCS Development officers also undertake consultation with a range of VCS organisations.</p>

■ **Step 3 – What we already know and where there are gaps**

List any existing information/data do you have/monitor about different diverse groups in relation to this policy? Such as in relation to age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy & maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation etc.

Data/information such as:

- Consultation
- Previous Equality Impact Assessments
- Demographic information
- Anecdotal and other evidence

- Analysis of previous Community Development & Engagement Grants, Loughborough Grants, VCS Covid-19 Recovery grants and Community Facilities Grants over the past few years

What does this information / data tell you about diverse groups? If you do not hold or have access to any data/information on diverse groups, what do you need to begin collating / monitoring? (Please list)

The analysis of grants data shows that a wide range of groups access the available funding and have supported a diverse range and have covered the protected characteristics of age, disability, Race, sex/gender, and sexual orientation.

The data in the main shows that the groups / organisations supported have no specific protected characteristic identified and are available for the wider community to access.

It is acknowledged that some of the approved grants are towards projects which support individuals with multiple characteristics and those projects supporting the wider community have a wide range of beneficiaries.

■ **Step 4 – Do we need to seek the views of others? If so, who?**

In light of the answers you have given in Step 2, do you need to consult with specific groups to identify needs / issues? If not please explain why.

Further equalities monitoring may be required for those projects which have applied and are deemed unsuccessful in order to identify any further issues or potential barriers.

However, at this stage of analysis it is felt the information currently held is sufficient to analysis trends and determine any barriers or negative impacts.

■ **Step 5 – Assessing the impact**

In light of any data/consultation/information and your own knowledge and awareness, please identify whether the policy has a positive or negative impact on the individuals or community groups (including what barriers these individuals or groups may face) who identify with any ‘protected characteristics’ and provide an explanation for your decision (please refer to the general duties on the front page).

	Comments
Age	There is a reasonable proportion of grant funding awarded to projects relating to Age. Of the grants awarded, there is a reasonable proportionate spread between projects for older and younger people. The process has therefore created a positive impact in relation to the protected characteristic of Age.
Disability (Physical, visual, hearing, learning disabilities, mental health)	There is a reasonable proportion of grant funding awarded to projects relating to disability. In addition, it is acknowledged that some of the projects funded are cross- cutting and support individuals with multiple characteristics. Therefore, creating further positive impacts for people with disabilities. The process has therefore created a positive impact overall in relation to the protected characteristic of Disability.
Gender Reassignment (Transgender)	No projects have been specifically funded to support the protected characteristic of Gender Reassignment. The impact of this is neutral as there have been no applications to date. However, it is acknowledged that specific marketing / promotion of Charnwood Grants could take place where specific support groups etc. meet for further awareness raising.
Race	There is some grant funding awarded to projects relating to Race. In addition it is acknowledged that some of the projects funded are cross- cutting and support individuals with multiple characteristics.
Religion or Belief (Includes no belief)	Whilst Charnwood Grants do not specifically support religious groups / activities, it does provide funding to these groups who are delivering activities for the wider community. The impact is therefore neutral with regards to the protected characteristic of religion or belief with the acknowledged that wider benefits are created for the wider community.
Sex (Gender)	There is no specific grant funding awarded to projects relating to Gender. In addition, however, it is acknowledged that some of the projects funded are cross- cutting and support individuals with multiple characteristics. The process has therefore created a positive impact in relation to the protected characteristic of Gender.
Sexual Orientation	No projects have been specifically funded to support the protected characteristic of Sexual Orientation. The impact of this is neutral as there have been no applications to date. However, it is acknowledged that specific marketing /

	promotion of Charnwood Grants could take place where specific support groups etc. meet for further awareness raising.
Other protected groups (Pregnancy & maternity, marriage & civil partnership)	There has been some grant funding awarded to projects relating to these other protected groups, therefore the impact is positive. In addition, it is acknowledged that some of the projects funded are cross - cutting and support individuals with multiple characteristics. Additional targeted promotional work will be undertaken.
Other socially excluded groups (carers, low literacy, priority neighbourhoods, health inequalities, rural isolation, asylum seeker and refugee communities etc.)	The grants which focus on the wider community have a wide range of benefits, particularly for residents from priority neighbourhoods or areas of deprivation and hard to reach sectors of the community.

Where there are potential barriers, negative impacts identified and/ or barriers or impacts are unknown, please outline how you propose to minimise all negative impact or discrimination. Please note: a) If you have identified adverse impact or discrimination that is illegal, you are required to take action to remedy this immediately. b) Additionally, if you have identified adverse impact that is justifiable or legitimate, you will need to consider what actions can be taken to mitigate its effect on those groups of people.
No negative impacts or potential barriers have been identified. However, it is acknowledged that specific marketing / promotion of Charnwood Grants could take place for the protected characteristics of Gender Reassignment, Pregnancy and Maternity and Sexual Orientation.
Summarise your findings and give an overview as to whether the policy will meet Charnwood Borough Council's responsibilities in relation to equality and diversity (please refer to the general duties on the front page).
It is the opinion that the Charnwood Community grants scheme and the Community Facilities Grant scheme comply with Charnwood Borough Council's equality and diversity responsibilities. It will further promote equal opportunities and achieve positive outcomes.

Step 6- Monitoring, evaluation and review

Are there processes in place to review the findings of this Assessment and make appropriate changes? In particular, how will you monitor potential barriers and any positive/ negative impact?
Monitoring will continue on a quarterly and annual basis to assess the grant applications that are successful. Continuous monitoring and analysis will aim to identify gaps which may potentially highlight barriers or negative impacts towards specific community groups/ communities of interest. Further equalities monitoring will be explored for those projects which have applied and are deemed unsuccessful, for the further identification of issues or potential barriers.
How will the recommendations of this assessment be built into wider planning and review processes? e.g. policy reviews, annual plans and use of performance management systems.
Where barriers/ negative impacts are identified, the mitigating action and progress against this will be included within the relevant service plan.

■ **Step 7- Action Plan**

Please include any identified concerns/actions/issues in this action plan: The issues identified should inform your Service Plan and, if appropriate, your Consultation Plan			
Reference Number	Action	Responsible Officer	Target Date
001	Continue to monitor the Grants on a quarterly and annual basis to assess the grant applications that are both successful and unsuccessful.	J. Robinson	March 2022

■ **Step 8- Who needs to know about the outcomes of this assessment and how will they be informed?**

	Who needs to know (Please tick)	How they will be informed (we have a legal duty to publish EIA's)
Employees	✓	This EIA will be published on the Council's website.
Service users	✓	
Partners and stakeholders	✓	
Others	✓	
To ensure ease of access, what other communication needs/concerns are there?	✓	

Please delete as appropriate
I agree with this assessment / action plan
If <i>disagree</i>, state action/s required, reasons and details of who is to carry them out with timescales: N/A
Signed (Service Head): Julie Robinson
Date: 26.05.2021

[Please send completed & signed assessment to Vicky Brackenbury for publishing.](#)