

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Cabinet
7 November 2017

Subject: **MAKING A DIFFERENCE GRANTS**

All Wards
Portfolio Holder for Leisure : Councillor Mrs B S Fortune

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 In July 2017 Cabinet agreed to re-invest £125,000 of windfall revenue savings back into the community and create another one-off 'Making a Difference' community grants scheme. £25,000 was allocated directly to the five community libraries in Bedale, Easingwold, Great Ayton, Stokesley and Thirsk. The remaining £100,000 was allocated to finance the 2017/18 Making a Difference Grants Fund.
- 1.2 Applications to the fund were to be considered by elected members from each of the five sub-areas and prioritised against a £20,000 budget allocation (£100,000 across all five areas).
- 1.3 The grant scheme was launched on 17 July 2017 with a closing date of 30 September 2017. Overall 51 applications were received requesting a total of £338,600.
- 1.4 Five decision making panels made up of elected members from each of the sub-areas convened in October to consider the applications and to assess their merit against the grant criteria (Annex B). Each decision has been documented and a final set of recommendations is presented at Annex A.
- 1.5 On 9 June 2016 Cabinet approved a Making a Difference grants scheme for 2016/17. In Annex A of the report it was stated that the projects must be delivered between 1 July 2016 and 31 March 2017. This statement was inaccurate and should have reported that the projects must be delivered between 1 November 2016 and 31 July 2017. The purpose of this notation is to formally record this correction.

2.0 LINK TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- 2.1 The Making a Difference grant criteria stipulate that all projects must contribute to at least one of the Council priorities.

3.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:

- 3.1 The risks associated with this scheme are minor. However it is essential that the agreed decisions are documented in the event that they are challenged – although there is no appeals process against the decisions taken.
- 3.2 Where there is a recommendation to award less than the amount of grant funding requested, each panel has considered the impact of this to ensure the project, or the funded element of the project, is still viable.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND EFFICIENCIES:

- 4.1 Grant allocations have not exceeded the £100,000 budget for Making a Difference grants.

- 4.2 All the grants awarded will be to legitimate, constituted bodies with their own bank accounts and they will be required to submit proof of expenditure before payments are released.
- 4.3 All grant holders are informed that the grant cannot be increased under any circumstances and terms and conditions are signed to this effect.
- 4.4 In order to ensure good accounting practice it is proposed that any future Making a Difference grants scheme is aligned to the fiscal year.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 Each grant holder must adhere to a set of terms and conditions. This ensures the grant is spent correctly, that any legal requirements are met, that the grant is properly publicised and Hambleton District Council is acknowledged accordingly, and that the grant is closely monitored.

6.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES:

- 6.1 The Making a Difference grants are open to all eligible organisations that are not-for-profit, formally constituted, possess a bank account and whose proposed projects will benefit the community in Hambleton.
- 6.2 The awarded grants take into account equality and diversity to ensure that the schemes and their benefits are open to all members of the community.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 7.1 It is recommended that:-
- 1) the grants proposed in Annex A of the report are approved;
 - 2) the retrospective amendment to the timescales reported in the Cabinet report of 9 June 2016 is approved as stated in paragraph 1.5 of the report;
 - 3) future Making a Difference grant programme timescales are considered and aligned with the fiscal year.

PAUL STAINES
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Background papers: Making a Difference Grant application process and criteria 2017

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE GRANT – PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL

Bedale

Project Name	Organisation	Amount requested	Amount recommended
Church roof repairs	St John the Baptist Church Leeming	£10,000	£2,500
Ground-care equipment	Thornton Watlass Cricket Club	£3,228	£2,500
Village Hall refurbishment	Crakehall Village Hall	£4,100	£2,500
Play area provision	Crakehall with Langthorne Parish Council	£16,000	£2,500
Playing field regeneration	Snape with Thorpe Parish Council	£5,600	£2,500
Refurbishment project	Leeming Bar Community Hub	£3,675	£2,500
Town signage	Bedale and Villages Community Forum	£5,400	£2,500
Vibrant Bedale	Bedale and Villages Community Forum	£3,000	£2,500
Total			£20,000.00

Easingwold

Project Name	Organisation	Amount requested	Amount recommended
Easingwold Outdoor Centre	First Easingwold (Forest of Galtres) Scout Group	£3,500	£3,500
Helperby Village Hall Phase II works	Helperby Village Hall CIO	£10,750	£2,500
Boundary works	Alne Cricket Club	£3,722	£3,722
Moor End Nature Reserve	Sutton on the Forest Parish Council	£13,000	£2,778
Play park improvements	Raskelf Parish Council	£2,500	£2,500
Facilities development	Easingwold Cricket Club	£10,000	£5,000
Total			£20,000.00

Northallerton

Project Name	Organisation	Amount requested	Amount recommended
Purchase of new floodlights	Northallerton Town Football Club	£9,204	£4,700
'Be Active Be Healthy'	Northallerton & Dales Mencap	£3,800	£3,800
Cowtons Community Enterprise	East Cowton Parish Council	£13,000	£8,000
Northallerton 880 Community Festival	Northallerton & Village Community Forum	£3,500	£3,500
Total			£20,000.00

Stokesley

Project Name	Organisation	Amount requested	Amount recommended
Storage and outside equipment	Great Ayton Bowls Club	£2,512	£2,500
Activity equipment	Battersby Junction Community Association	£4,834	£2,500
Watson Scout Centre	North Yorkshire County Scout Council	£3,299	£3,000
Clubhouse refurbishment	Stokesley Sports Club	£7,500	£6,500
Accessible hall door	Ingleby Cross Village Hall	£3,300	£3,000
Potto Village Signs	Pride in Potto	£2,625	£2,500
Total			£20,000.00

Thirsk

Project Name	Organisation	Amount requested	Amount recommended
Ground-care equipment	Hillside Rural Activities Park	£2,700	£2,500
Making Time at the Clock	The Clock (Yorkshire) Ltd	£13,261	£10,000
Dementia Day Care Service	Thirsk, Sowerby and District Community Care Association	£3,450	£2,500
Accommodation renewal at Carlton Lodge	North Yorkshire Youth Ltd	£3,824	£2,500
Thirsk and Sowerby Festival	Thirsk Town Council	£3,000	£2,500
Total			£20,000.00



Making a Difference Grant 2017-2018: Guidance Notes

The following guidance notes are designed to help assess each grant application on its relative merits, identify how well each project helps support the Council's four priorities and how each project demonstrates value for money. The principal of the grants programme is that it makes a genuine difference to the quality of life for residents of Hambleton. These notes help determine which applications will make the most difference.

Factors to consider

- **Impact on the community**

Each applicant has been asked to explain what difference their project will make. Consider which project(s) will have the greatest impact to the quality of life for residents.

- **Evidence of need.**

Applicants have been asked to demonstrate a genuine community need for the project. This could be evidenced in a Parish Plan, an Area Partnership Community Plan or through user group consultation.

- **Council priorities**

Each application must meet at least one of the Council's priorities:

- Driving economic vitality
- Enhancing health and wellbeing
- Caring for the environment
- Providing a special place to live

- **The percentage of the total project cost applied for**

The maximum grant available is 75% of the total project cost with the expectation that the applicant will secure *at least* 25% of the project cost from other fundraising activity. Those with a smaller percentage may represent better value for money.

- **The number of beneficiaries supported per Council £1**

Each applicant has been asked to estimate how many people will benefit should the application be successful. The lower the cost per beneficiary, the greater the community benefit per capita and may offer greater value for money depending on the type of project.

- **The long term impact of each project**

Some projects are short term pilots that provide an immediate response to an acute need, whilst others are capital projects that that will bring long term benefit beyond the lifespan of the grant programme. Consider which project(s) will have the biggest long term impact.