

South Chichester County Local Committee
Community Initiative Funding – Urgent Action
June 2020
Report by Director of Law and Assurance

Ref: SC03(20/21)
Key Decision: No
Part I
Electoral Divisions: All in SC CLC area

Recommendation

1. That the following awards be made from the South Chichester CLC Community Initiative Fund:

West Sussex Crowd

- 514/SC – The Academy of Gym, ‘Please help mat our gymnastics club!’, up to £950 towards purchasing and fitting extra safety matting to help widen the club’s member participation.
- 545/SC – Parents and carers Support organisation, ‘Fun for children with disabilities’, up to £750 towards playteam staff salary and resources to deliver a four-week virtual playscheme.
- 571/SC – My Sisters’ House Women’s Centre, ‘Drop-in for help, support & safety’, up to £950 towards the cost of employing an extra complex needs worker for a 9-month period.

Microfund

- 517/SC – Selsey Community Forum, ‘Stroke Club’, £600 for venue hire to hold 12 annual sessions for pilot ‘Stroke Club’.
- 542/SC – Bognor and Chichester Voice Self-Advocacy Group, ‘Enabling virtual meetings’, £300.00 for purchasing 10 tablets for members use enabling virtual group meetings. This award is subject to JWAAC also granting £300 to ensure the overall project cost of £600 is awarded.

2. That the following applications are **declined**, and no award be made from the South Chichester CLC Community Initiative Fund:

- 559/SC – BrightRide, ‘Cycling without age Chichester’, towards purchasing a trishaw bicycle to transport two elderly/isolated passengers at a time. Declined because there is limited information on the applicant and how operation of the scheme would be sustained.
- 566/SC – Ceol Song Music CIC, ‘Music for Wellbeing in Chichester Schools’, for venue hire and delivering music-making workshops at two local schools. Declined because previously South Chichester CLC have declined allocating funds to school related activities as they can be supported by schools if they so choose.

- 569/SC – Pawa Resident Community Forum (PAREC-FORUM), 'Multi-language hotline and remote support', for training and meals delivery to vulnerable people. Declined as this could be better supported by other established groups.

1. Background and Context

- 1.1 The Community Initiative Fund (CIF) is a County Local Committee (CLC) administered fund that provides assistance to local community projects. Bids should show evidence of projects which can demonstrate community backing, make a positive impact on people's wellbeing and support [The West Sussex Plan](#).
- 1.2 The terms and conditions, eligibility criteria and overall aim of the CIF have been agreed by all CLC Chairmen and these can be found on the County Local Committee pages of the West Sussex County Council website using the following link:
http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/your_council/meetings_and_decision-making/county_local_committees/community_initiative_funding.aspx
- 1.3 For projects to be considered for funding they must upload their project idea to the West Sussex Crowd (www.westsussexcrowd.org.uk) funding platform and pitch to the Community Initiative Fund.
- 1.4 Effective from 8 February 2019, the County Council's Community Initiative Fund budget was reduced from £280,000 per year to £140,000 per year, following a decision taken by the Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities. It was approved that this proposal be included in the Governance Committee review of County Local Committees with implementation of savings to be delayed until the review has been completed. Therefore, it was agreed that the 2019/20 CIF budget be provisionally reduced to £140,000, subject to the outcome of the Governance Committee review of CLCs on 25 November 2019. This decision was supported by the Governance Committee.
- 1.5 Effective from 12 June 2019, the Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities took a decision to introduce a Micro Fund following feedback received from groups relating to small projects. Applications to the Micro Fund are intended for projects with a total cost of up to £750 as an alternative to crowdfunding and pitching to CIF via West Sussex Crowd. As with crowdfunding pitches, Micro Fund applications are considered the CLC meetings for a decision. CLCs were advised to allocate up to 30% of their budget to Micro Fund applications, although this is discretionary.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 That the Committee considers the pitches and/or applications for Community Initiative Funding as set out in Appendix A.

- 2.2 Pledges can be considered in the preparation and fundraising stage. When considering pitches in the preparation stage, decisions are subject to the applicant receiving full verification from locality and starting fundraising by the end of the financial year.

3. Resources

- 3.1 For the 2020/21 financial year, South Chichester CLC had a total of £13,300.00 available for allocation, of this **£11,550.00** is still available for allocation. Details of awards made in the current program and previous financial year are included in Appendix B.
- 3.2 There are five crowdfunding pitches in fundraising stage for consideration by the Committee, with a combined crowdfunding target (amount left to raise) of £26,136.00.

There are three Micro Fund applications for consideration by the Committee, with a total project cost of £2,065.20.

Pitches are available to view at www.westsussexcrowd.org.uk and also outlined in Appendix B along with applications.

Factors taken into account

4. Consultation

- 4.1 Before a project can be added to the West Sussex Crowd it must be eligible for the [Spacehive](#) platform, and then before beginning crowd funding must be verified by [Locality](#). This involves inspecting the project to make sure it's viable and legitimate. The Democratic Services Officer, in consultation with the local County Councillor, will preview all projects that have then gone on to pitch to the Community Initiative Fund to ensure they meet the criteria.
- 4.2 District and Borough Council colleagues are consulted on whether applicants have applied to any funds they administer. In addition, some CLCs have CIF Sub Groups that preview pitches and make recommendations to the CLC.

5. Risk Management Implications

- 5.1 There is a risk in allocating any funding that the applicant will not spend some or all of it or that it might be spent inappropriately. Therefore, the terms and conditions associated with CIF provide for the County Council to request the return of funds.
- 5.2 Projects that do not reach 95% of their funding target on The West Sussex Crowd within their project timescales, will not receive any funds. Any pledges made to unsuccessful projects will therefore be returned to the CLC CIF allocation and be detailed in Appendix B.

6. Other Options Considered

- 6.1 The Committee do have the option to defer or decline pitches but must give valid reasons for doing so. If they defer a project they need to take into account the timescales for the project and whether a deferral would allow the CLC to pitch at the following meeting.

7. Equality Duty

- 7.1 Democratic Services Officers consider the outcome intentions for each pitch. It is considered that for the following pitches, the intended outcomes would:

- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it; and
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

The CLC in considering any pitch should be alert to the need to consider any equality implications arising from the bid or the way the money is to be used if any are indicated in the information provided.

8. Social Value

- 8.1 The Community Initiative Fund's eligibility criteria requires applicants to explain how their project will support one or more of the County Council's priorities as set out in [The West Sussex Plan](#).

9. Crime and Disorder Act Implications

- 9.1 The applications for decision contain projects that will positively benefit the community and contribute toward the County Council's obligations to reduce crime and disorder and promote public safety in section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

10. Human Rights Act Implications

- 10.1 The County Council's positive obligations under the Human Rights Act have been considered in the preparation of these recommendations but none of significance emerges.

Tony Kershaw

Director of Law and Assurance

Contact: Natalie Jones-Punch, Democratic Services Officer – 033 022 25098

Appendices

Appendix A – Current pitches for consideration by the Committee
Appendix B - Summary of awards made in 2020/21 and 2019/20

Background Papers:

West Sussex Crowd pitches –

<http://www2.westsussex.gov.uk/ds/clc/sc/sc150620cifbackcrowd.pdf>

Micro Fund applications -

<http://www2.westsussex.gov.uk/ds/clc/sc/sc150620cifbackmicro.pdf>

Decision SSC8 18/19 -

<https://westsussex.moderngov.co.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=494>

Decision SSC02 19/20 -

<https://westsussex.moderngov.co.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=611>

Agreed



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Katharine Eberhart

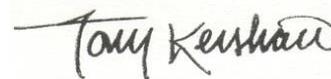
Director of Finance and Support
Services

.....See Email approval below

Cllr Simon Oakley

Chairman
South Chichester County Local
Committee

Action Authorised



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Tony Kershaw
Director of Law and Assurance

Date.....19/06/2020.....

From: Simon Oakley <simon.oakley@westsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 16 June 2020 15:40
To: Jeremy Hunt <jeremy.hunt@westsussex.gov.uk>; Jamie Fitzjohn <Jamie.Fitzjohn@westsussex.gov.uk>; Louise Goldsmith <louise.goldsmith@westsussex.gov.uk>; Carol Purnell <Carol.Purnell@westsussex.gov.uk>; Mike Magill <Mike.Magill@westsussex.gov.uk>; Pieter Montyn <pieter.montyn@westsussex.gov.uk>
Cc: Rachel Allan <Rachel.Allan@westsussex.gov.uk>; Natalie Jones-Punch <Natalie.Jones-Punch@westsussex.gov.uk>; Jack Bacon <Jack.Bacon@westsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: South Chichester CLC - CIF Decision

Good afternoon all

Mindful that we have £11,550 left with two CLC's to go, the need to address applications related to immediate Covid activities, I suggest the following:

Micro Fund bids:

Stroke Club - £600

Self Advocacy Group - £300, subject to JWAAC also awarding £300 to fully fund the project cost of £600

PAWA/PAREC – Nil.

Crowdfunding bids:

Academy of the Gym - £950

PACSO - £750

Brightride – Nil

Ceol Song Music CIC – Nil

My Sisters House - £950

Should I not hear anything different by 9am tomorrow (Weds 17th), then these would be the decisions/pledges.

Regards

Simon Oakley
Member for Chichester East Division, West Sussex County Council,
WSCC No. 033022 24535.
e-mail: simon.oakley@westsussex.gov.uk .

From: Rachel Allan <Rachel.Allan@westsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 12 June 2020 12:14
To: Simon Oakley <simon.oakley@westsussex.gov.uk>; Carol Purnell <Carol.Purnell@westsussex.gov.uk>; Jamie Fitzjohn <Jamie.Fitzjohn@westsussex.gov.uk>; Louise Goldsmith <louise.goldsmith@westsussex.gov.uk>; Jeremy Hunt <jeremy.hunt@westsussex.gov.uk>; Mike Magill <Mike.Magill@westsussex.gov.uk>; Pieter Montyn <pieter.montyn@westsussex.gov.uk>

Cc: Natalie Jones-Punch <Natalie.Jones-Punch@westsussex.gov.uk>; Jack Bacon <Jack.Bacon@westsussex.gov.uk>

Subject: South Chichester CLC - CIF Decision

Dear South Chichester CLC Members,

As you know, South Chichester CLC has recently pledged to/funded two COVID-19 related projects via Urgent Action prior to the CLC round.

Your CLC was due to take place next week (15 June) and so a decision of any remaining applications is now due.

Further to the cancellation of the next committee meeting, please see attached the eight funding applications and supporting documentation (Crowdfunding and Micro Fund) for your consideration - any decision made will be taken under the Urgent Action process.

To make Members aware, an additional crowdfunding pitch – '[Nourish the Nation-Community Covid-19](#)' has been **withheld** for future consideration at this point due to the group considering re-focusing their COVID-19 campaign. Spacehive and WSCC officers are working with the group and we will update the local member and Chairman when it is ready to be considered. Please find a link to the campaign page: www.spacehive.com/nourish-the-nation-community-covid-19

Please could you discuss these among yourselves and let Natalie Jones-Punch (copied into this email) have a final decision on all eight applications by midday on Tuesday 16 June.

Members should note specific application considerations:

- **514/SC – The Academy of Gym** – The Committee deferred this project at the March meeting pending further information surrounding Company and Financial status. This evidence has now been provided, please refer to page 3-10 of the attached Crowdfunding Application Pack.
- **571/SC – My Sisters' House Women's Centre** – project has also pitched to Joint Western Arun Area for funding consideration – the Chairman may wish to agree a matched pledge with the Chairman of JWAAC.

Kind Regards,

Rachel



Rachel Allan, Senior Advisor (Democratic Services), West Sussex County Council

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