



PART A:	MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS
REPORT TO:	POLICY AND RESOURCES
DATE:	19 JUNE 2014
REPORT OF THE:	HEAD OF ECONOMY AND INFRASTRUCTURE JULIAN RUDD
TITLE OF REPORT:	COMMUNITY GRANTS
WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To agree proposals for the operation of the Community Grant scheme.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that:

- (i) The Community Grant Scheme as outlined becomes operational; and
- (ii) Policy and Resources Committee appoint a Community Grants Working Party to recommend projects for grant support to Policy and Resources Committee on a bi-annual basis.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 To enable Council to invest in appropriate small-scale, community-based projects.

4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

4.1 There are no significant risks.

5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION

5.1 The scheme delivers on Council Aim 4: Active Communities.

5.2 Consultation has taken place with the 2013/14 Community Grants Working Party to ascertain if any changes in criteria or operational practice are required. No changes were recommended by the Chairman.

5.3 The recommendations made in this report are consistent with the recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee through the review of support for the

voluntary and community sector.

REPORT

6.0 REPORT DETAILS

- 6.1 Budgetary provision of £45,000 has been made to operate a Community Grants scheme in 2014/15.
- 6.2 In 2013/14, a Community Grants scheme was operated, with 29 projects receiving funding. Projects covered diverse areas including:
- Sports and recreation (such as playing fields, sports groups)
 - Health and social care (such as counselling or support for older people.)
 - Community Buildings (village halls)
 - Heritage and local interest (such as WW1 memorial book).
- 6.3 The scheme was well received by community groups, enabling small-scale, community-based schemes to come to fruition and larger schemes to attract match funding. All projects had some element of match funding. It was oversubscribed at each funding round.
- 6.4 The Community Grants Working party met twice in the year to consider applications and make recommendations to Commissioning Board.
- 6.5 Following consultation with the Community Grants Working Party, it is proposed to continue this process with the Policy and Resources Committee in 2014/15 and beyond (NB the availability of funding for Community Grants in 2015/16 and beyond will be determined through Budget setting and the allocation of any other appropriate resources).
- 6.6 The draft application form for the Community Grants in Annex B.
- 6.7 The proposed timescale of the process during 2014/15 is:

Application closing date	Community Grants Working Party meet	P&R Decision
Round 1 29 August 2014	W/B 8 September 2014	25 September 2014
Round 2 2 nd January 2015	W/B 19 January 2015	5 February 2015

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The following implications have been identified:
- a) Financial
£45,000 is allocated to the Community Grants scheme in the 2014/15 budget. The allocation of funding towards a Community Grant scheme in subsequent years will be considered as part of setting the Council's budget.
- b) Legal
A grant agreement, in the form of a grant offer letter is made with each award, to ensure that the funding is spent on the approved project.

8.0 NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 The date of the Community Grant Working Party will be confirmed by its Chair. The grant will be launched as soon as possible to ensure community groups have time to develop their projects in time for the first round in September 2014.

Julian Rudd
Head of Economy and Infrastructure

Author: **Jos Holmes, Economy and Community Manager**
Telephone No: 01653 600666 ext: 240
E-Mail Address: jos.holmes@ryedale.gov.uk