

**BRIDGNORTH TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022**

LJ/2022

19<sup>th</sup> April 2022

**Grant Recommendation Report**

AGENDA ITEM 12 – Grant Applications

AIM

1. To consider any grant applications received since the previous Town Council meeting.

BACKGROUND

2. The Town Council has a policy on Grant Applications.
3. The grant application(s) have been assessed against the criteria and a recommendation has been made by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Town Mayor.
4. All grant applications whether recommended or not are to be placed on the Town Council agenda.
5. The complete applications will be distributed to councillors separately as they include copies of bank statements or personalised data that are not considered appropriate to be in the public domain.

DISCUSSION

6. Sustainable Bridgnorth. The grant request is for a contribution of £500 to costs for a Green Festival in the Castle Grounds on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022. The application does not specifically identify any of the cost associated with the festival (we do know that one of the costs will be to hire Castle Grounds and that cost is £128), so it is not known whether the Council is being asked to pay for the full costs or some of the costs. The grant does not appear to meet the crisis or hardship criteria of the Grant Policy (it has some of its own funding available). Furthermore, the group is not new and does not appear to meet the seed funding element of the grant policy either; they have been undertaking awareness activities previously, presumably, so this will not be the first such event that they have co-ordinated. However, it might be argued that this is a much more significant event and could pass the 'novel' test of the Grant Policy. The grant application appears to be doing something worthwhile however, it is stretching the limits of the Town Council's Grants Policy.

7. Crucial Crew. The Grant request is for a contribution of £1,290 to provide safety and awareness courses for youngsters who are about to leave primary school. The aim is to raise awareness of issues which might affect their health and wellbeing. The application provides significant detail as to the planned expenditure and identifies sources of funding for the event other than the Town Council. The level of grant funding requested does seem to be somewhat proportionate to the number of Bridgnorth residents attending. The overall cost of the event is estimated to be circa £17K. The application does not obviously satisfy the crisis or hardship funding elements. The Grant Policy and the event is a regular event (excluding the pandemic years) and is therefore not considered to fit in to the 'seed funding' element of the Grant Policy – it is not new or novel. However, it might be argued that with the event having not occurred for a couple of years and that with the uncertainty of some costs then, a grant might be eligible on the basis of 're-seeding' i.e. getting it up and running again and creating a balance that means the following year's event can be planned with some certainty.

## FINANCIALS

8. The Town Council has a budget line for grant funding 'Grants Other' (Cost Centre 120 Nominal Ledger 4800) which has a current balance of £25k.
9. These are the first requests in the current financial year:
- a. Sustainable Bridgnorth - £500
  - b. Bridgnorth & South Shropshire Crucial Crew - £1,290
10. It is not necessary to approve the amounts requested

## RECOMMENDATION

11. It is recommended that:
- a. The grant application for Sustainable Bridgnorth be considered.
  - b. The grant application for Bridgnorth & South Shropshire Crucial Crew be considered.



Lee Jakeman  
Town Clerk