

**BRIDGNORTH TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY 17th MAY 2022**

LJ/2022

11th May 2022

Grant Recommendation Report

AGENDA ITEM 18 – 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. Bridgnorth Twinning Association. The grant request is for £3,500 to contribute towards the costs associated with the Twinning Festival being held between 2nd and 6th June 2022. Bridgnorth are hosting the visit of it's 2 Twinned Towns (Schrobenhausen in Germany and Thiers in France). The application provides a breakdown of anticipated expenditure. The grant does not appear to obviously 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.
7. It should be noted that there is a civic element of Twinning; the Town Council has signed the twinning arrangements. The Twinning association does carry out (under some informal but historic proxy arrangement) the administration and the function of

maintaining and fostering good relations on behalf of the Town Council that would otherwise require council staff to undertake. Indeed, for many years there has been a specific line in the grant funding of the Council's budget to provide financial support to the association for the very activities that it is now applying. In preparing the grants budget, discussion amongst councillors suggested a large increase in the grants budget (£25k) and for the Twinning Grant to be wrapped up in that as a whole.

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 £21,210.
9. It is not necessary to approve the amount requested (a lower or even higher fee might be proposed).

RECOMMENDATION

10. It is recommended that:

- a. The grant application for Bridgnorth Twinning Association be considered.



Lee Jakeman
Town Clerk