



Report

Officer: Amee Plimmer - Business Administrator
Date: 15th March 2023
Meeting: Town Council - 21st March 2023

Christians Against Poverty Bridgnorth Grant Application

Aim

- To discuss the grant application received from Christians Against Poverty Bridgnorth.

Background

- The Town Council has a policy on grant applications with the following eligibility criteria:
 1. *Applications should demonstrate a need for seed, crisis, or hardship funding.*
 2. *Applications should contain sufficient information to allow an objective decision to be reached by the Town Council.*
 3. *Applications should be for local community groups.*
 4. *Where applications will also benefit non-Bridgnorth residents, evidence should exist that demonstrates other sources of appropriate funding are being or have been pursued.*
 5. *Applications should not be considered for retrospective grants.*
 6. *Applications from groups that have recently received a Town Council Grant should demonstrate an overriding or particularly novel reason.*
 7. *Applications should cover activities to which the Town Council has a legal power to contribute.*
- *In exceptional circumstances The Town Mayor can exercise some discretion when considering whether an application is eligible for consideration that does not readily fall within the guidance criteria. Examples may include:*
 1. *National charities that are conducting activities in the Town, primarily for the benefit of the residents.*
 2. *Participation in civic events.*
- All grant applications will be put to Town Council, regardless of whether they are recommended or not.
- Full applications will be distributed separately as they contain sensitive information, not suitable for the public domain

Discussion/Comment

- Christians Against Poverty is a national organisation whose aim is to help those in financial difficulty.
- The Bridgnorth branch is a new division of the Bridgnorth Community Trust.
- The Bridgnorth CAP debt centre was launched in 2021 and is run by volunteers.
- The grant funding would be used to double the clients from 24 to 48 per annum.



- Their application states that after the first year of having an increased client base, the following years will then be funded by fundraising.

Finance

- The amount requested is £3,600.
- The application states that 25% of their participants are from Bridgnorth.
- There is £16,607 left in the grants budget for this financial year.
- Between August 2022 and March 2023, the group received income of £7,605 from donations and appeals
- Their expenditure was £5,414, for 24 clients, volunteer expenses and appeal expenses, leaving them with a surplus of £2,192.

Recommendation(s)

- It is recommended to award Christians Against Poverty Bridgnorth with £900.
- Out of the 24 additional clients, it is estimated that 25% are Bridgnorth residents. Therefore 25% of the funding requested is £900.