



Report

Officer: Ros Williams – Deputy Town Clerk
Date: 17th May 2023
Meeting: Town Council – 23rd May 2023

Northgate Swimming Club

Aim

- To discuss the grant application received from the Northgate Swimming Club.

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

- Funding is requested to support the club recover from Covid-19 and fund new equipment.
- Covid had a detrimental effect on the club as both income and members were lost.
- Swimming has a profound impact on the children's emotional health and wellbeing and supports the development of peer support across all ages of swimmers and from all schools in the area.
- The grant funding is to be used to purchase new equipment which will be of benefit to the wider Bridgnorth community and users of the swimming pool at the Leisure Centre.



- Additional grant funding is being sought from other areas.

Finance

- The group have applied for a grant of £1,000.
- There is £13,686 in the grants budget for this financial year.

Recommendation(s)

- It is recommended to award Bridgnorth Swimming Club with a grant of £1,000.
- The £1,000 would fall under the bracket of 'hardship' funding