

Grampound Community Fund Panel
Meeting Tuesday 13 June 2017
Grampound Village Hall at 7 p.m.
To consider applications for grants
Minutes

In attendance

Chairman: Dean Jenkins
Bob Egerton, Victoria Moorcroft, Roger Paynter, Jane Sloan, Shirley Turner
Observer: Andrew Budd, Grantscape

Apologies

Bryan Coode

Introductions

Dean Jenkins introduced the panel members and Andrew Budd from Grantscape. He explained that the running order for applicants would be drawn by lots and that each applicant would have 5 minutes to present their case. There was £15,739 in total available to be allocated this year.

Minutes of meetings

The minutes of the meetings of the panel held on 14 June 2016 and 24 January 2017 were noted.

Declarations of interest in applications to be considered

Bob Egerton: trustee of Grampound Village Hall, shareholder in shop.

Jane Sloan: Grampound Parochial Church Council, shareholder in shop.

Dean Jenkins: Grampound Parochial Church Council, shareholder in shop, member of shop committee.

Shirley Turner: Grampound Parish Council and shareholder in shop.

Victoria Moorcroft: children at the school.

Roger Paynter: none.

All of the above confirmed that they had no pecuniary interest in any of the organisations and that they felt able to consider the applications in an objective manner.

Grampound Community Shop: air conditioning unit

Tommy Tank, treasurer of the shop, explained the problem that the shop had with 4 units of fridges and freezers generating large amounts of heat. The excess heat had resulted in stock wastage and discomfort for staff and customers. 31,000 people visited the shop each year. The bid was for an air conditioning unit at a cost of £2,000 including installation. This would improve conditions in the shop and extend the life of the refrigeration units.

In response to questions from panel members, Tommy explained:

- If the shop received the major part of the funding bid, but not all of it, it is likely that it could proceed using some of their reserves.
- The cost of the unit was known, although the fitting cost was just an estimate.

Grampound Parochial Church Council: repairs to St Nuns Church

Keith Jones presented on behalf of the parochial church council. The church was an essential element in village life. The congregation had built up over the last few years by altering the style of services to suit more people. The total congregations this year until May were 421. The church building was in a sorry state with major works required. Damp walls were a big problem. Water comes down from the bellcot, the plaster needs removing, some pews are rotten, there is a hole in the roof. David Scott, specialist churches architect, has made recommendations for the works required. The total cost of renovation is approx. £50k. Fund raising to date has totalled nearly £28k. Applications have been made to a number of potential funds; some applications have been successful, some not, some are still awaited. It is intended that works will be carried out as and when funding materialises. This application is for £7,000.

In response to questions, Keith explained:

- The church is seen as being owned by the community.
- Having to maintain 2 churches in the parish adds to the burden.
- If St Nuns cannot be put right, it is in danger of closing.

Grampound School PFA: learning and reflection shed and sensory garden

Annie Abbott presented on behalf of the PFA. Last year's application related to the facilities in the Ham Field. This year, the bid is concentrating on facilities for the children within the school boundary. They would like to clear the small school courtyard and create a sensory garden, a quiet place for children. Various items are needed to make the space pleasant for all. In addition, there is a storage shed that needs clearing out and turning into a small learning space. There would be a writing station, outdoor blackboard etc. The total cost is estimated at £1,900. With a contribution from PFA funds of £100, this leave a bid amount of £1,800.

In response to questions from panel members, Annie explained:

- There are 70 children on the school roll. Including the nursery provision, there are 86 children on site.
- All school funding is tight and PFAs are being asked to fund more and more such as core items. However, this bid was for additional facilities that would improve the overall school experience for the children.
- The Ham Field is well used, but work is still needed to improve the on-site facilities.

Grampound Village Hall: new main lighting and stage lighting

Simon Fann explained the problems that the hall had with its present lighting system, with persistent operational failures despite a major refurbishment a few years ago; repairs are no longer an option. Electricity accounts for 30% of the hall's running costs. The total project cost is £13,500. A grant from the Council's Hall for Cornwall fund has secured £3,300. The hall can make a contribution from its own funds. This bid is for £7,500. The proposed lighting system would result in much lower energy bills, reduced carbon emissions etc. The project is supported by the parish council and by the artistic directors of theatre groups that use the hall. With the Hall for Cornwall closing for 18 months, Grampound Hall will be able to attract new business during this period.

In response to questions from panel members, Simon explained:

- The gear trays on the existing lights were changed 4-5 years ago, but there was serious concern about the wiring to the lights.
- If the bid was not funded in its entirety, the hall should be able to fund a greater share from its own funds.

Grampound Football Club: compact tractor and quadraplay

Allan Webb presented on behalf of the Football Club. The ground is used extensively by the club and others. It suffers from wear and tear and compaction and drainage issues. Using Allan's own car to pull the equipment is not good for the ground. The ground needs regular aerating. A suitable compact tractor and quadraplay equipment has been identified. The bid is for £6,400 towards a total project cost of £8,500.

In response to questions from panel members, Allan explained:

- The pitch was an asset to the whole community.
- Total spend to date on the refurbished pitch had been £80k.
- If the full amount was not available, it should be possible to acquire a second-hand tractor at lower cost.
- The football club leased the land at nil cost from the village hall, and the club carried out the regular maintenance at its own cost.

Debate by panel members on the applications and resolutions

Bob opened the debate by saying that he would like to support all the projects. All had indicated that they could proceed even if they were awarded less than their bid amounts. He would like all groups to receive something.

Shirley suggested that the school and the shop might get their total bid amounts with the other three bids receiving about £4k each.

Roger indicated that he thought the football club should receive a larger amount.

Victoria said that she thought that the hall was the most important facility to be supported.

Jane also felt that the hall was the community facility at the top of the priority list and that, although she was a member of the parochial church council, she felt that St Nuns could receive funding from other sources and so its bid might not be met to such an extent from this fund. She also felt that the football club was worthy of support.

Bob then proposed and was supported by other members as follows:

Grants to be awarded to organisations as follows:

- *Grampound PFA, £1,500*
- *Grampound Community Shop, £1,500*
- *Grampound Football Club, £4,000*
- *Grampound Village Hall, £6,000*
- *St Nuns Church, the balance estimated to be £2,739*

As a result of the resolutions, the total amount available this year of £15,739 was allocated.

Andrew Budd said that he hoped that the bids could be ratified by Grantscape board by about the end of June. Meanwhile, successful applicants could tell people that their bids had been recommended for approval by the community advisory

panel but that ratification from Grantscape should be awaited before proceeding with the projects.

Any other business

Andrew Budd said that Grantscape would like to bring forward the timescales in 2018. He said that the closing dates for applications would be 7 March 2018 with a panel meeting between 16 and 23 April 2018. Publicity for the fund could start in November 2017.