

Grampound Community Fund Panel
Meeting Tuesday 2 June 2015
To consider applications for grants
Minutes

In attendance

Chairman: Geoff Hodgson
Bryan Coode, Bob Egerton, Peter Hardaker, Dean Jenkins, Roger Paynter, Jane Sloan
Observer: Andrew Budd, Grantscape

Apologies

None

Introductions

Andrew Budd of Grantscape was introduced to the panel and to the applicants. Andrew spoke briefly about Grantscape, it being a charity, and its role in facilitating the distribution of grants for community projects. He gave a synopsis of the grants that have been distributed through the Grampound Community Fund since its inception in 2014.

Minutes of meetings in 2014

The minutes of the two meetings of the panel held on 29 May 2014 and 22 July 2014 were noted.

Declarations of interest in applications to be considered

Bob Egerton: trustee of Grampound Village Hall.

Jane Sloan: trustee of Grampound Village Hall.

Dean Jenkins: Grampound Parish Councillor.

Roger Paynter: Grampound Parish Councillor.

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.

Statement by chairman

The chairman explained that each applicant would be allowed 5 minutes to present their proposal and then there may be questions from panel members. After the 6 presentations and questions, the panel would debate the merits of each application before making proposals for the allocation of grants. Lots were drawn for the order of presentations and the order was: W.I., Parish Council, Multi Academy Trust, Village Hall for the Putting Grampound on the Map project, Village Hall, Bowling Club.

W.I. – provision of a defibrillator

Annette Egerton presented on behalf of the W.I. She explained how a W.I. member learned about the installation of a defibrillator in Gorran after the tragic death of a resident there from a heart attack and how it was felt that a defibrillator might have saved him. They had also researched the provision of several defibrillators

across the Roseland. It is proposed to purchase and install a machine in Grampound in a cabinet to be fitted to the outside of the village hall. The project would include training a number of volunteers. Support letters from other village organisations were shown to the panel along with an example of the leaflet distributed across Tregony to advertise the fact that there are two defibrillators in that village. The total cost of the project in Grampound would be £2,100 and a grant of this amount was sought.

Dean Jenkins expressed the view that, as a physician himself, he was persuaded by the evidence of the potential benefit of these machines. Roger commented that his own life had been saved by a defibrillator.

Grampound Parish Council – restoring the chime to the town hall clock

Peter Wootton spoke on behalf of the parish council. The town hall was an iconic building within Grampound. The clock had been installed 121 years ago and had been maintained since then by Smiths of Derby. At the most recent inspection, the parish council were advised that the striking mechanism had failed and would need complete replacement. This project would give back the town hall's voice. The total cost of this would be £1,725 and a grant of £1,500 was sought towards this.

Geoff Hodgson commented that he felt that the chime of the clock was an essential part of village life.

Multi Academy Trust – storage facilities for use in the hall

Mark Taylor spoke on behalf of the Multi Academy Trust. He explained the current situation where trying to get chairs, tables and other equipment in and out of the storage cupboards in the hall was very difficult because of the limited space. It is proposed to purchase three racks of industrial shelving plus two table trolleys. These will radically improve the use of space within the cupboards and will allow hall users a much improved experience. The total cost would be £700 and a grant for this full amount is being sought.

Bob Egerton commented on his own experience of getting tables and chairs in and out of the current storage.

Grampound Village Hall – Putting Grampound on the map

Simon Fann opened the presentation on behalf of the village hall. The proposal is for a living history in 3 parts: research; production; legacy. The local residents of all generations will contribute to the project. Richard Pryor explained how it would help to bring the Old Tannery site into the village properly. It will help to keep the heritage of the village alive. Cat Lake explained how the production would take people back in time to 1948. It would be a family event for locals and visitors alike. There would be a professional cast and writers. Kieran Clark explained the legacy and digital work. This would include QR codes around the village that could be used to access location specific material such as historical images. The Heritage Centre would benefit from the creation of this new material. The total cost of the project is £4,000. A grant of £600 is being sought from this fund. Simon explained that it would be helpful to have flexibility on the funding in the event of the other grant application to FEAST not being successful.

Roger asked about safety issues on the public highway with the anticipated large numbers attending the event. He was assured that all proper procedures would be in place to ensure that there would be no danger to participants.

Grampound Village Hall – noticeboard

Mark Taylor presented on behalf of the village hall. The proposal is for a high quality notice board to be erected outside the village hall. The current system of allowing sundry notices to be stuck on to the glass doors of the hall was messy and unsatisfactory. A proper notice board would allow the removal of these notices and the use of the new board will primarily be for the village hall and other organisations within the parish to advertise their events more systematically. The total cost is £300 and a grant of £260 is being sought.

Grampound Bowling Club – improvements to walkways around the green

Jim Durnford presented on behalf of the bowling club. He explained how the club had been formed in 1927; it is flourishing and has 42 members, mostly from within the parish. The club undertakes its own fundraising throughout the year and it provides regular assistance and training for school children. It is proposed to replace the grass surround walkways on 3 sides of the green with a concrete pathway. The current situation presents health and safety issues, particularly when it is wet and particularly with the age group of many of its members. The proposed project would provide a permanent solution to a long-running problem. If successful in the bid, the project would be implemented at the end of this bowling season, i.e. about October. The estimated total project cost is just over £9,000 and a grant of £7,500 is being sought.

It should be noted that the total amount applied for in respect of the above projects is £12,660. There is £15,000 available this year from the Fund.

Debate of the applications and proposals

Defibrillator. Geoff Hodgson spoke in favour of the W.I.'s defibrillator project. Others were supportive. Bob Egerton proposed, seconded by Dean Jenkins that a grant of £2,100 be awarded, in line with the application.

Town Hall clock. Panel members felt that the chime of the clock was an integral part of the village. Peter Hardaker proposed, seconded by Geoff Hodgson, that the grant of £1,500 be given to the parish council for this project.

Multi-Academy Trust. Bob Egerton proposed and Dean Jenkins seconded that we support the grant application of £700.

Grampound Village Hall. The panel members were supportive of the proposal. There is a possibility that FEAST funding will not be available. Geoff Hodgson proposed, seconded by Bob Egerton, that we support the development of the proposal and award a grant of £600. It was agreed that, if the FEAST funding is unavailable, the applicant should advise the community fund panel and it would consider an application for a larger amount; this could be done by email around the panel members. Peter Hardaker proposed the above method, seconded by Dean Jenkins.

Grampound Village Hall. Dean Jenkins proposed and Peter Hardaker seconded that the grant of £260 be awarded for the notice board.

Grampound Bowling Club. Jane Sloan proposed and Geoff Hodgson seconded that the bowling club be awarded the full amount of £7,500.

Review of funding criteria

The issue of the lower and upper limits on applications was discussed. Bob Egerton said that there may be, in future years, the desire to put monies into a much larger project that could, for example, require a large proportion of the grant monies over

a few year time period. However, there were no indications that this was an immediate problem.

Geoff Hodgson spoke in favour of having a more modest lower limit that might encourage applications from some small village organisations.

The issue of supporting revenue funding as well as project funding was discussed. It was agreed that this might be a good idea but there were dangers to it.

It was proposed as follows: for next year, the criteria would be a minimum amount of £150, a maximum of 50% of the total grant monies for that year (which is likely to be more than £7,500 next year because of carry over of some monies from this year). It was also confirmed that organisations would not be barred from applying in two consecutive years; and that they could put in more than one application in the same year.

It was also agreed that the panel should consider being more flexible in the future on the upper limit for a grant, and also to consider the possibility of supporting revenue funding projects. However, further thought needs to be given before changing the criteria and the panel would meet again in the autumn to debate this issue, date to be advised in due course.

Next meeting

Meeting of the panel to discuss possible changes in grant criteria in autumn 2015, date to be confirmed.

Meeting of the panel to consider 2016 grant applications to be in June 2016, date to be confirmed.