

ABINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

Report to	COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting date	1 March 2022
Report author	Deputy Town Clerk / RFO
Agenda item	9

GRANTS DETERMINATIONS

1. **Purpose of this report**

1.1 Presentation of the grant applications received for approval.

2. **Summary**

2.1 The following grant applications have been received for consideration by the Committee:

Abingdon Concert Band	£500
ATOM Festival	£1,200
Oxfordshire Play Association (OPA)	£1,000
<u>The Friends of Abingdon Civic Society</u>	<u>£1,500</u>
Total	£4,200

2.2 Your officers have assessed each of the applications against the council's objectives. The grant scoring sheet for each application is attached.

2.3 There is sufficient budget remaining in the annual community grants fund (413/4251).

3. **Action required**

3.1 Members are requested to make a recommendation on the approval of these grants. This will then be considered at the next council meeting, on 30 March 2022.

4. **Link to strategic plan and objectives**

4.1 The objective being met is number 4: *To work with community partners to support those who are vulnerable and in need and to create opportunities to increase social inclusivity.*

5. **Background**

5.1 **Abingdon Concert band** have successfully applied to the town council for the following grants:

Feb 2012	£400	contribution - Guildhall hire for concert
March 2014	£500	contribution - replacement music scores
Sept 2014	£250	contribution - Guildhall hire for concert
Nov 2015	£250	contribution - replacement music scores
Feb 2017	£300	contribution - new music scores
Feb 2019	£400	contribution - new music scores
Feb 2020	<u>£300</u>	contribution - new music scores
Total awarded	<u>£2,400</u>	

5.2 **ATOM Festival** have been awarded the following grants:

November 2017	£1,000	contribution – festival of science
September 2018	£1,000	contribution – festival of science
December 2019	£1,000	contribution – festival of science
March 2021	<u>£600</u>	contribution – festival of science
Total awarded	<u>£3,600</u>	

5.3 **Oxfordshire Play Association** have been awarded the following grants:

June 2015	£500	contribution - play and activity day
May 2016	£1,000	contribution - play and activity day
May 2017	£800 (£1,000)	contribution - play and activity day
May 2018	£1,000	contribution - play and activity day
May 2019	£400 (£1,000)	contribution - play and activity day
March 2021	<u>£400</u> (£1,000)	contribution - play and activity day
Total awarded	<u>£4,100</u>	

(Where the full amount applied for was not awarded, the amount which was applied for is shown in brackets).

5.4 When the previous application was considered, members requested further information from OPA regarding how Abingdon *families in need* particularly benefitted from the event. This information was subsequently provided by OPA and the application was then reconsidered at the next meeting and the grant of £400 was approved.

5.5 **The Friends of Abingdon Civic Society** have previously received the following grants:

May 2016	£700 (£900)	contribution - Heritage Open Day
Feb 2017	£1,000	contribution - Community Free Space
May 2017	£700	contribution - Heritage Open Day
Feb 2018	£800 (£1,000)	contribution - Community Free Space
Feb 2019	£1,000 (£1,165)	contribution - Community Free Space
May 2019	£900	contribution - Heritage weekend
Sept 2020	<u>£800</u> (£1,000)	contribution - Heritage weekend
Total awarded	<u>£5,900</u>	

(Where the full amount applied for was not awarded, the amount which was applied for is shown in brackets).

6. **Key information and options**

6.1 Members are required to consider the grant applications and choose one of the following options for each grant application:

- (i) Award the grant request in full
- (ii) Award partial amount of the grant request
- (iii) Refuse the grant request and confirm reason for this decision
- (iv) Request further information from applicant and defer decision to future meeting.

6.2 The table below compares the four applications:

Applicant	Project	Total cost of project	Grant applied for	Total score	Score to grant applied for
Abingdon Concert Band	New music scores	£500	£500	9/28	$9/£500 \times 100 = 1.8$
ATOM Festival	Science and Technology festival	£13,535	£1,200	11/28	$11/£1,200 \times 100 = 0.92$
OPA	Play and Activity Day	£4,500	£1,000	11/28	$11/£1,000 \times 100 = 1.1$
The Friends of Abingdon Civic Society	Walks leaflets	£3,000 - £3,500	£1,500	12/28	$12/£1,500 \times 100 = 0.8$

6.3 The intention of calculating the *score to grant applied for* is to allow a comparison which considers both the financial request and the ways in which the project can meet the aims and objectives of the council. A higher score suggests that the grant offers better value for money than a lower scoring application.

6.4 In these four cases the calculation results in similar scores implying that all the applications considered here would have similar benefits for the council in meeting their aims and objectives, and similar financial outlays.

7. **Climate change/green implications**

7.1 As part of the Grant Scoring process the green implications of each application are considered and are reflected in the final scorings. None of the four applications considered in this report demonstrate any positive or negative impacts on the climate emergency.

8. **Financial/budget implications**

8.1 The budget for community grants for 2021/22 is £20,000 (413/4251), of which £9,155 remains available to award. This is the last meeting in the financial year and any unspent element of the budget shall be transferred to the general fund and will not be available to fund any further community grants. A new budget of £20,000 shall be available from 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023.

8.2 In light of funds available, it is recommended that all four applications are successful and awarded in full.

9. **HR implications**

9.1 Due to the community services and events officer's heavy workload in relation to the platinum jubilee, the report has been compiled by the deputy town clerk. It is expected that this shall revert to the correct officer.

10. **Supporting papers and appendices**

10.1 [Abingdon Concert Band](#)

10.2 [ATOM Festival](#)

10.3 [Oxfordshire Play Association](#)

10.4 [The Friends of Abingdon Civic Society](#)

10.5 [Grant Scoring Criteria](#)

Susan Whipp
Deputy Town Clerk / RFO
16 February 2022