

ABINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

Report to	Finance, Governance and Asset Management Committee
Meeting date	9 January 2024
Report author	Democratic Services Officer
Agenda item	11

GRANT APPLICATIONS FROM ONE PLANET ABINGDON

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To consider two grant applications from One Planet Abingdon.

2. Summary

2.1 One Planet Abingdon submitted two grant applications to the Community Committee on 28 November 2023. The amounts requested exceeded the community grants budget so the Community Committee referred the applications to this committee as, if approved, a budget would need to be identified.

3. Action required

3.1 The committee is asked:

- (i) to determine these applications,
- (ii) if approved, to identify a budget for each of them.

4. Link to strategic plan and objectives

4.1 This refers to all of the town council's following key objectives:

1. To respond effectively and speedily to the climate emergency.
2. To develop a resilient, sustainable town which will provide a home for residents now and in the future.
3. To manage the Council's assets efficiently and effectively to meet for the needs of the community now and in the future.
4. To work with community partners to support those who are vulnerable and in need and to create opportunities to increase social inclusivity.

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5. **Background**

5.1 One Planet Abingdon submitted two grants to the Community Committee on which met on 28 November 2023. The requests were as follows:

2023-24 £10,000

2024-25 £35,000

5.2 The amounts requested would exceed the community grants budget for the current financial year, which is £30,000 and of which £10,385 remains available.

5.3 Following consultation between the Chairs of the two committees, it was agreed (minute C71/23) to refer the two grants to this committee.

6. **Key information and options**

6.1 One Planet Abingdon has been supported by the town council since 2021, with the provision of the café space beneath the County Hall Museum. The town council has agreed to provide this space to One Planet Abingdon until 2027.

7. **Climate change/green implications**

7.1 Support for One Planet Abingdon may be considered to offer support for the town council's stated support for action to address the climate emergency.

8. **Financial/budget implications**

8.1 The requests for funding are a significant amount and cannot be funded using the community grants budget as this will remove this option for other groups in Abingdon. If either or both requests from One Planet Abingdon are agreed, the committee will need to identify an existing budget line or agree to a new budget for this.

8.2 If the requests are approved separate to the community grants budget, the committee may need to consider whether the support offered will be a single payment or whether there will be an ongoing commitment.

9. **HR implications**

9.1 There is no impact on staffing.

10. **Supporting papers and appendices**

10.1 None.

Andy Crick, Democratic Services Officer
21 December 2023