

ABINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

Report to	Community Committee
Meeting date	4 June 2024
Report author	Democratic Services Officer
Agenda item	6a

GRANTS DETERMINATION REPORT

1. Purpose of this report

1.1 Presentation of grant applications received for consideration by the committee.

2. Summary

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

Friends of Abingdon Civic Society – Heritage Open Days	£1,700
Friends of Abingdon Civic Society – Unit 24	£2,600
Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire	£2,000
Lowland Rescue Oxfordshire	£4,320
Mental Health Natters	£5,000
One Planet Abingdon	£6,000
Racial Equality Group	£500
<u>The Abingdon Passion Play</u>	<u>£1,000</u>

Total **£23,120**

2.2 The applications have been assessed against the council's objectives and a grant scoring sheet for each application is provided with the committee reports.

2.3 The budget available in the annual community grants fund (406/4886) for 2023-24 is £30,000.

3. Action required

3.1 Members are requested to determine these grant applications.

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

4.1 The objective being met is: '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 The following groups have been awarded grants by the town council before:

Friends of Abingdon Civic Society – Heritage Open Days

2013-14	£600
2014-15	£600
2015-16	£700
2016-17	£700
2017-18	£700
2019-20	£900
2020-21	£800
2022-23	£1,250
2024-24	£2,200

Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire

2019-20	£500
2020-21	£1,000
2023-24	£2,000

One Planet Abingdon

2023-24	£5,000
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Racial Equality Group

2022-23 (as Racial Justice Group)	£1,500
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The Abingdon Passion Play

2012-13	£300
2014-15	£500
2018-19	£500

5.2 The following groups have not been awarded grants by the town council before:

Lowland Rescue Oxfordshire
Mental Health Natters

6. **Key information and options**

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

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

6.2 The table below summarises each application:

Applicant	Project	Total cost of project	Grant applied for	Total score	Score to grant applied for (score/grant applied for x 100)
Friends of Abingdon Civic Society	Heritage Open Days 2024	£2,400	£1,700	13	$\frac{13}{1700} \times 100 = 0.76$
Friends of Abingdon Civic Society	Unit 24	£2,600	£3,500	12	$\frac{12}{2600} \times 100 = 0.46$
Home-Start South Oxon	Home visiting services for vulnerable families	£50,000	£2,000	10	$\frac{10}{2000} \times 100 = 0.5$
Lowland Rescue Oxon	Mental health support for rescue workers	£6,480	£4,320	8	$\frac{8}{4320} \times 100 = 0.185$
Mental Health Natters	Support for vulnerable families	£20,000	£5,000	13	$\frac{13}{5000} \times 100 = 0.26$
One Planet Abingdon	One Planet Living Festival	£10,002	£6,000	17	$\frac{17}{6000} \times 100 = 0.28$
Racial Equality Group	Play in support of Black History Month	£800	£500	16	$\frac{16}{500} \times 100 = 3.2$
The Abingdon Passion Play	Play	£20,000	£1,000	8	$\frac{8}{1000} \times 100 = 0.8$

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.

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.

8. **Financial/budget implications**

8.1 The budget for community grants for 2024-25 is £30,000 (406/4886). Any unspent element of the budget at the end of the civic year shall be transferred to the general fund and will not be available to fund any further community grants.

8.2 If the grants applied for are awarded in full the remaining community grant budget for this year would be £6,880.

Andy Crick
Democratic Services Officer
29 May 2024