

SCRUTINY ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE	COMMUNITY FOCUS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	22 JUNE 2023	5

COMMUNITY PROJECTS FUND

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

The Fylde Community Projects Funds awards grants between £300 to £2000 for groups which are based in Fylde or work exclusively with people who live in the Borough. The fund supports projects which promote or enhance the environment, encourage cohesive communities, or promote the economy.

£20k per annum is provided each year for this fund as a part of the annual budget setting process. Each year a summary report is made to this committee outlining the awards made in the previous financial year. This report outlines awards made during 2022/23.

SOURCE OF REFERRAL FOR SCRUTINY

Deputy Chief Executive, Tracy Manning

WHY IS THIS MATTER BEING PLACED BEFORE COMMITTEE FOR SCRUTINY?

The Committee, at its November 2018 meeting, resolved to receive an annual report in awards made from the fund.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Tracy Manning, tracy.manning@fylde.gov.uk

INFORMATION NOTE

COMMUNITY PROJECTS FUND 2022/23

1. In 2022/23 the council allocated £20k to the Community Projects Fund.
2. The Community Projects Fund comprises two amounts, a larger fund for bids from £300-£2000, with bidding usually split over three rounds and a smaller fund with bids up to £300.
3. Bids from the larger fund are usually awarded following a meeting of a Panel comprising the Mayor of Fylde with police and community representatives together with the Deputy Chief Executive. The smaller fund is determined through electronic discussion and agreement. However, during the coronavirus pandemic all bids received were reviewed electronically which had the advantage of a freer flowing process for applications, and as a result has continued.
4. Of the £20,000, £14,215 was allocated to the larger fund against a projected budget of £16,500 and £2,644 was allocated to the smaller fund against a projected budget of £3,500. However, there is flexibility across both funds to ensure that as many organisations as possible are offered support and if the smaller fund proves to be more popular again in the current financial year, there may be an adjustment of the allocation across both funds with a lesser amount allocated to the larger fund, and an increased amount to the smaller fund. All applications must provide an equal amount of match funding in cash or in-kind.
5. There will be a publicity campaigns to promote the fund during the year including more generic promotions and also others focusing on successful applicants to generate interest from other community organisations. The Community Development Officer will also promote the fund to organisations within the community.
6. The successful bids for the larger fund in 2022/23 are shown below:

Name of Group	Project	Amount
Lytham St Annes YMCA Football Club	Purchase of equipment to run weekly sessions	1000
Elswick in Bloom	Planting	2000
Heartbeat North West Cardiac Care	Defibrillator	450
Mythop Road Allotment Associatin	New fence and hedging for the East Side	975
Laugh Live Love	Warm hub equipment	1932
STEP	Container for huts	1551
Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee Gardens	Art mural for the gardens – equipment	550
St Annes Land Yachting Club	Equipment, mini yachts, helmets, gloves, goggles and waterproofs	1940
St Annes Kite Surfing Club	Equipment, lockers, surfing kites, helmets, wetsuits etc	1912
LSA Photographic Society	Laptop	405
Lytham in Bloom	Planting and equipment	1500
Total		£14215.00

7. The successful bids for the smaller fund in 2022/23 are shown below:

Name of Group	Project	Amount
Friends of Newton Community Park	Creation of picnic area	300
Freckleton Football Club	Barriers for pitch safety	300
Friends of Squires Gate Station	Purchase of two black intermediate bulk containers	294
8 th Lytham St Annes Scouting Group	Tents and pioneering equipment	300
Lytham Heritage Group	Prizes and art vouchers	300
Lytham Performing Arts	Identification lanyards	300
Ansdell in Bloom	Obelisks for the large planters in Ansdell	300
Warton Street Coronation Street Party	Contribution towards road closure	250
Friends of St Annes Station	Photos for 150 th anniversary	300
Total		£2644

8. For the larger fund, monitoring forms are sent out after 6 months asking for feedback on how the money was spent and what difference it has made. For the vast majority of the projects, it is too early to have heard back from the groups, however historically many of the comments received is that the funding makes a big difference to the community groups in achieving delivery of their projects.

FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM

Contact Jo Collins, joanne.collins@fylde.gov.uk