

Northern Rother District Councillor's Report – September 2022

Community Grants

1. The Council's Community Grants Scheme (CGS) makes provision for up to £130,000 per annum to be made available to community groups or organisations that meet the grants criteria of Rother District Council's (RDC) CGS.
2. The Community Grants Panel has delegated authority to award grants up to £1,000. One application was awarded in Round 1 for these small grants to The Archive Resource Centre for £1,000.
3. Round 1 of the Rother CGS for 2022/23 closed on 30 June 2022. Five applications were received requesting £65,435 in total. The Panel met on 28th July 2022 and have recommended awards for five applications.
4. Cabinet is asked to consider the following applications for funding from the Council's CGS as set out in Table 1.

Applicant	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
1. Brede Parish Council	£11,000	£11,000
2. Fairlight Parish Council	£5,060	£5,060
3. Northiam Village Hall	£10,500	£10,500
4. Rye Harbour Sailability	£8,875	£8,875
5. Winchelsea Beach Community Assoc.	<u>£30,000</u>	<u>£30,000</u>
Total:	£65,435	£65,435

Table 1: Grants Panel Recommendations

5. Should Cabinet agree with the Panel's recommendation to award the applications as set out above, this will result in a maximum of £65,435 being awarded in Round 1. This leaves £59,565 for grants for the Round 2, 2022/23 opening on 1 October 2022 and closing 15 December 2022 (£5,000 is ring-fenced each year for the small community grants scheme).
6. Members were reminded that conditions are applied when awarding the grants which include that full funding is obtained in advance of any Rother payments being made and that RDC is acknowledged in any publicity and promotional material associated with these projects. Other specific conditions will also be applied to grants as appropriate.

Small Grants Scheme

7. Members are reminded that small grant applications are accepted all year round. Applicants are encouraged to make applications through the online application process. Support and advice can be accessed through Rother Voluntary Action (RVA) and it is recommended applicants contact RVA before the submission of an application. A balance of £4,000 remains for applications for 2022/23.
8. It should be noted that all applications are to be driven by community support, and need to have an element of match funding, whether their own contributions or at least funding applications submitted to the total value of the project. This is to demonstrate it is fully costed, funded and ready to go. Applicants are strongly encouraged to seek funding from Parish and Town Councils.
9. Further information is available via the CGS section of the Council's website:

<https://www.rother.gov.uk/benefits-grants-and-funding/community-grants-scheme/>

Councillors Martin Mooney & Tony Ganly