

Eden District Council

Executive

21 July 2020

Eden Community Fund Recommendations

Portfolio:	Communities
Report from:	Assistant Director Community Services
Wards:	All Wards
OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To seek approval for the award from the Eden Community Fund of Grants to the five projects set out in Appendix A.

2 Recommendation

It is recommended that a grant from the Eden Community Fund is agreed for each of the five projects set out in Appendix A, to a total of £41,500.00.

3 Report Details

- 3.1 The Eden Community Fund is the Council's community grant scheme. It was established in 2013-2014 to support and develop community initiatives within Eden District. The Eden Community Fund combined three previous grant schemes, the Community Fund, Rural Infrastructure Fund and Village Hall Grant. The Rural Infrastructure Fund was discontinued after 2013-2014.
- 3.2 A total of £110,000.00 is available for the Eden Community Fund in the current financial year 2020/2021.
- 3.3 The Eden Community Fund Partnership Panel Held a virtual meeting via Skype on the 8 June 2020 to assess six applicants against set criteria and make recommendations for the award of grants. The Partnership was chaired by the Communities Portfolio Holder and consisted of representatives from Action with Communities in Cumbria, Penrith Action for Community Transition, Inspira and individual community representatives.
- 3.4 Of the six applications considered, five were recommended for funding and one was deferred to a future funding round as it was felt that more information was needed before a decision could be reached.
- 3.5 All five recommended applications and their applicants have been checked to ensure they meet the criteria for eligibility for the Eden Community Fund.
- 3.6 The criteria for assessing applications to the Eden Community Fund are as follows:
- Delivers wide Community Benefit;
 - Contributes to locally identified community needs and priorities;

- Demonstrates value for money;
- Has ability to measure success of a project or event; and
- Has ability to demonstrate equality of opportunity and the elimination of discrimination.

4 Policy Framework

4.1 The Council has four corporate priorities which are:

- Sustainable;
- Healthy, safe and secure;
- Connected; and
- Creative

4.2 This report meets the Connected and Creative corporate priorities.

5 Consultation

5.1 The recommendations within this report reflect the recommendations of the Eden Community Partnership Panel.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial and Resources

6.1.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2019-2023 as agreed at Council on 7 November 2019.

The £110,000 Eden Community Fund 2020/2021 is drawn from the Community Fund Budget.

6.2 Legal

6.2.1 Applicants are required to sign a declaration before their application can be considered, in doing so they agree that:

- They have authority from their group to make the application;
- They understand and agree to the criteria;
- The information they provide is correct at the time of submission;
- They will submit a Project Completion Report along with the required documentation; and
- They have appropriate insurance cover.

6.3 Human Resources

6.3.1 There are no human resource issues associated with this report.

6.4 Statutory Considerations

Consideration:	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Equality and Diversity	Applicants are asked to provide details of arrangements for those with access or mobility difficulties to participate in projects, and to outline how they will actively involve all sections of the community, including those from different backgrounds. An Equal Opportunities policy is requested as part of required documentation
Health, Social Environmental and Economic Impact	The provision of the Eden Community Fund grants has a direct benefit on the social, environmental and economic well-being of the organisations and communities who are awarded grants.
Crime and Disorder	There are no crime and disorder issues associated with this report.
Children and Safeguarding	There are no children or safeguarding issues associated with this report.

6.5 Risk Management

Risk	Consequence	Controls Required
That there is insufficient monitoring of paid grants.	Grants are not used for their intended purposes.	Grants are managed in accordance with the agreed criteria of the grant. Grants are paid in two stages – 75% on approval from Executive and 25% on receipt of the project completion form and accompanying documentation.
Organisation dissolves for some reason following the award of Grant.	Reputational harm to the Council.	Financial checks are undertaken in order to reduce this risk.
Organisations may disagree with decision.	Limited reputational risk to the Council.	Decisions are made in accordance with established criteria.

7 Other Options Considered

- 7.1 The Executive is free to decide to approve or not approve all or any of the recommended grants as it sees fit in accordance with the criteria set out at paragraph 3.6 above.

8 Reasons for the Decision/Recommendation

- 8.1 Five applications are recommended for approval as outlined in Appendix A. All were considered by the Eden Community Fund Partnership Panel and were recommended for support.
- 8.2 One application was deferred as the Eden Community Fund Partnership Panel felt they needed more information before a decision could be reached.
- 8.3 The applications are recommended for support as the Council has historically supported community groups and organisation that meet both the Eden Community Fund criteria and Council Plan priorities.

Background Papers:

Appendices: **Appendix A – Eden Community Fund Recommendations
First Tranche 2020/2021**

Contact Officer: **Kate Giergiel – Leisure and Communities Support Officer
Tel: 01768 212 459**

Appendix A: Eden Community Fund Recommendations:**Total funds available for 2020/21: £110,000.00****Total committed in First Tranche 2020/21: £41,500.00****Remaining Balance: £68,500.00**

Ref	Project / Event	Project	Outcome (Approved, Declined or Deferred)	Requested	Total cost of project	Partnership Assessment	Recommended	Balance
ECF330	Crosby Ravensworth Parish Tree Group 2020/2021 planting (deferred from Feb 2020)	Crosby Ravensworth Parish Tree Group	Approved	£10,000.00	£30,912.00	The partnership recommend that this application is awarded the full amount requested as the tree planting would result in clear environmental benefits such as carbon sequestration and reduction of flood risk. In addition this project had a high level of community involvement and volunteer opportunities. The panel recommended that the Tree Group set out a plan for the ongoing maintenance of the trees and consider who would accept liability for the trees in the long term in the case of injury or damage.	£10,000.00	£100,000.00
ECF335	Redevelopment of Shap Memorial Park (deferred from Feb 2020)	Shap Community Action Group	Approved	£10,000.00	£83,998.80	The partnership recommend that this application is awarded the full amount requested, worthwhile project to provide new play facilities within a valuable community area in Shap. Award subject to submitting a confirmed funding profile.	£10,000.00	£90,000.00

Ref	Project / Event	Project	Outcome (Approved, Declined or Deferred)	Requested	Total cost of project	Partnership Assessment	Recommended	Balance
ECF336	Warcop Parish Hall Storage Extension Scheme (deferred from Feb 2020)	Warcop Parish Hall Trustees	Approved	£10,000.00	£38,301.00	The partnership recommended that this application is awarded the full amount requested. The panel commented that they were pleased to see the issue of storage addressed by the village hall as it improves the experience of using the hall for community groups.	£10,000.00	£80,000.00
ECF337	Lady Anne's Costume Display Project	Appleby Textile Group	Deferred	£10,000.00	£12,706.66	The panel supported this application in principle but felt that a number of issues needed to be clarified before funding could be allocated. More detail was required about the printed material which was going to be used for and, if it was going to be for sale, where the display case was going to be stored when not on tour. More detail about community involvement and the benefits to the people of Eden, specifically where the dress and case were going to tour in Eden.	0.00	£80,000.00
ECF338	Calthwaite Junior Football Club- Grounds renovation	Calthwaite Junior Football Club	Approved	£10,000.00	£73,000.00	The panel supported this application and recommended that it is awarded the full amount requested. The panel appreciate the wider community benefit of this project that draws in participants from both the immediate area and wider district.	£10,000.00	£70,000.00

Ref	Project / Event	Project	Outcome (Approved, Declined or Deferred)	Requested	Total cost of project	Partnership Assessment	Recommended	Balance
ECF339	Repairs to the EDC public toilet roof	Garrigill Village Hall	Approved	£1,500.00	£3,125.00	The panel supported this application and recommended that it is awarded the full amount requested. They noted however that the application form was not very detailed and that while there was sufficient evidence to support a small scale application such as this, an application for a larger project would require substantially more detail.	£1,500.00	£68,500.00

Total Requested

£51,500.00

Total Awarded

£41,500.00

Remaining Balance

£68,500.00