

# GRANTS AND DONATIONS

## AGENDA ITEM No. 7

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**MEETING:** POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
**DATE:** 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024  
**REPORT BY:** TOWN CLERK

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### 1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to highlight the current position on the Council's various Grants and Donations Budgets for the 2024/25 financial year and to set out for the consideration of Members any requests for grants and donations received since the previous meeting.

### 2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 The Council currently has the following grants and donations budgets in place for the new 2024/25 financial year:-

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Remaining Funds</b>
Grants and Donations Budget	£5,000	£2,565
Community Benefit Fund	£8,156	£7,156
Community Events Grants Budget	£5,000	£1,550

- 2.2 In considering any grant and donation requests this year, Members will need to take into consideration the limited grants funds available and the need to ensure that the available funds stretch as widely as possible and across the full financial year.
- 2.3 A schedule showing the current position on each grants fund is attached at Appendix 1.

### 3.0 Grant and Donation Requests

- 3.1 Since the last meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee, three grant and donation requests have been received, as detailed below:-

a) **Rotary Newton Aycliffe**

#### **Summary of the Donation Request**

A donation request has been received from Rotary Club of Newton Aycliffe for a donation of £450 to support the cost of their annual Model Railway Exhibition in March 2025.

The donation request is to assist with the costs of room hire and accommodation for some of the exhibitors.

The total cost of the room hire and accommodation is £900 and a donation of £450 has been requested.

Full details of the donation request are included in the letter attached at Appendix 2, along with the constitution and accounts of the Rotary Club.

## **Officer Comments**

The application meets the criteria set out in the Council's Grants and Donations Policy as it is from a constituted local organisation providing services directly to the local community.

A grant application form has not been completed as the request is for an amount of less than £1,000.

The attached letter includes full details of the donation request and the need for the grant. The constitution and accounts of the Rotary Club have been provided.

The Council has previously provided financial support towards the costs of this popular community event.

Members may wish to take the above guidance into account when considering this donation request.

### **b) Missed a Beat – Application for a Donation**

#### **Summary of the Donation Request**

A donation request has been received via a letter from the newly established local charity; Missed a Beat.

The charity is requesting a donation from the Council of £700 towards the cost of purchasing a defibrillator and associated equipment and cabinet, to be installed at West Cemetery and Simpasture Pavilion.

The letter is attached at Appendix 3 along with some supporting information about the charity.

#### **Officer Comments**

The application meets the criteria set out in the Council's Grants and Donations Policy as it is from a local charity providing services in the Parish.

A grant application form is not required in relation to this request as the donation is less than £1,000 in line with the Council's Policy.

The attached letter includes full details of the request and the need to raise funds, including a breakdown of the costs involved.

Members may recall that the request to install the defibrillators at West Cemetery and Simpasture Pavilion was considered by the Council at the Recreation Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> October.

It was requested that the Council agreed in principle to facilitate the request and, authorise officers to undertake further discussions with the Missed a Beat Foundation to investigate the implications and costings.

This was on the basis of the Council providing the building locations and funding any infrastructure adaptations e.g. to the electrical supply, and installation, and the Missed a Beat Foundation supplying and funding the defibrillator and cabinet and committing to their ownership, insurance, and future maintenance.

It was resolved at the meeting that:

- i) *It is agreed, in principle, to facilitate the request and officers are authorised to undertake further discussions with the Missed a Beat Foundation.*
- ii) *Officers are authorised to progress the request subject to the Council providing the building locations and funding any infrastructure adaptations e.g. to the electrical supply, and undertaking the installation, and the Missed a Beat Foundation supplying and funding the defibrillator and cabinet and committing to their ownership, insurance, and future maintenance.*

Members may wish to take the above into account in considering this donation request i.e. that the Council has already committed to paying for the adaptations to the electricity supply to the two buildings and installation costs.

If a donation is agreed, it is recommended that this is funded from the Grants and Donations Budget.

**c) Husqvarna Charity Fundraiser for the Sick Children's Trust  
– Request for a Raffle Prize**

**Summary of the Donation Request**

A donation request has been received via email, from a representative of local business Husqvarna, who are raising funds for a national charity; The Sick Children's Trust and have requested the donation of a raffle prize.

A copy of the donation request is attached at Appendix 4.

**Officer Comments**

Whilst the charity for whom the funds are being raised is a national charity, the business and staff undertaking the fundraising are locally based and whilst there is no clear link between the charity and the parish, although it could be argued that the charity provides services across the country, including Great Aycliffe.

For these reasons it is considered that the request meets criteria of the Council's Grants and Donations Policy.

The Sick Children's Trust are a registered charity and their accounts are fully up to date on the Charity Commission website.

The donation request is for a raffle prize and would normally be offered by way of a voucher for a meal at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex or a fourball voucher for the Oak Leaf Golf Complex.

The attached email and supporting information include full details of the request and the need to raise funds, on behalf of both the fundraiser and the charity itself.

If agreed, the value of the prize would be charged to the Grants and Donations Budget (with the corresponding credit being made to the sports or golf complex budget).

Members may wish to take the above guidance into account when considering this donation request.

#### **4.0 Letters of Thanks / Post Grant Questionnaires**

4.1 A post-grant questionnaire has been received from St Elizabeth's Church and this is attached at Appendix 5.

#### **5.0 Staffing Implications**

5.1 None.

#### **6.0 Financial Implications**

6.1 As highlighted earlier, the following balances are available in the Council's various grants and donations funds:-

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Available Funds</b>
Small Grants and Donations Budget	£2,565
Community Benefit Fund	£7,156
Community Events Grants Budget	£1,550

#### **7.0 Crime and Disorder Implications**

7.1 None.

#### **8.0 Equal Opportunities Implications**

8.1 Applications for grants and donations will be considered on an equal and consistent basis in line with the requirements of the Council's Grants and Donations Policy.

#### **9.0 Environment, Biodiversity and Climate Change Implications**

9.1 The Community Benefit Fund is available to fund to environmental projects and grant and donation requests.

#### **10.0 Risk Assessment**

10.1 It is not considered that the matters contained in this report pose a risk to health and safety of staff or to the financial or public standing of the Council to a degree that a risk assessment should be appended to this report.

#### **11.0 General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**

11.1 Is any personal or sensitive data required for this proposal which may have any implications for GDPR? **NO**

11.2 A privacy impact assessment has been appended to this report which has considered the relevant impact on privacy matters and how these will be dealt with.

11.3 The forms will be stored securely and shredded after 12 months.

## **12.0 Recommendations**

12.1 It is recommended that Members:

- (i) Receive the report.
- (ii) Consider the donations requests from:
  - Rotary Club of Great Aycliffe
  - Missed a Beat
  - Husqvarna
- (iii) Receive post grant questionnaire from St Elizabeth's Church.