

Committee:	Cabinet	Date:
Title:	Allocation of Grant Funding (Sports Provision Major Projects)	Thursday 1 September 2022
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Armstrong, Portfolio Holder for Sports, Leisure and the Arts	
Report Author:	Sue Hayden – Community Development Officer	Key decision: Yes

Summary

1. Cabinet is asked to approve two grant applications which have been considered against the Council's Grant Allocation Policy (Sports Provision – Major Projects)

Recommendations

2. That Cabinet awards the following grants
 - a. Newport Sports Committee the sum of £100,000 for the provision of a Multi-Use Games Area
 - b. Great Dunmow Town Council the sum of £100,000 for the provision of a Multi-Use Games Area. The grant to be released once the remaining funding requirement has been raised.

Financial Implications

3. There is budget provision of £150,000 for the current year and £105,000 rolled over from 2021/22 which can be allocated to support enhanced sports facility provision. Any underspend can be allocated to budget provision for year 2023/24

Background Papers

4. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author.
 - Application form from Great Dunmow Town Council
 - Application form from Newport Sports Committee

Impact

- 5.

Communication/Consultation	Grant availability was advertised on the UDC website and open to applicants
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	throughout the Uttlesford District.
Community Safety	Sports participation improves pro-social behaviour and reduces crime and anti social behaviour.
Equalities	The allocation is open to all residents/sports facilities throughout the district
Health and Safety	No impact
Human Rights/Legal Implications	The Council has the powers to award grants to organisations using its general power of competence in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011
Sustainability	No impact
Ward-specific impacts	All
Workforce/Workplace	Communities Team

Situation

6. The sports grant scheme was open to application from 1 April to 30 June 2022.
7. A total of seven applications were received and applying the Grant Allocations Policy criteria the Newport and Dunmow schemes were deemed suitable for funding. The applications for each are attached at the end of this report.
8. The applications, and reasons why, they did not progress were:
 - a. Arts Centre Dunmow – Replacement boiler – did not fit the criteria. Grant awarded from Ward Members Initiatives by Dunmow Councillor.
 - b. Debden C of E Academy – Climbing and balance equipment and outdoor gym equipment – did not fit the criteria as deemed to be play equipment rather than sport. Applicant will be advised to apply to the Community Project Grant.
 - c. Great Chesterford Bowling Club – replacement of toilets. Application ran in tandem with Community Project Grant, which they successfully received required funding from.
 - d. Thaxted Rangers Youth FC – purchase goals and money for pitch rental. Out of scope of the grant. Passed to Active Essex to seek funding.

- e. Walden United – Newly formed team applying for equipment, kit and getting the club off the ground. Out of scope of grant. Passed to Active Essex to seek funding.
9. The two recommended schemes are similar and therefore it was felt appropriate to recommend allocating the same level of grant to each. Newport Sports Committee has already obtained the rest of the funding whereas Great Dunmow Town Council still needs to resource a further £50,000 to enable the project to progress. If approved the Great Dunmow Town Council grant award will only be released once all other funding is in place.
 10. It is expected that the organisations will have signed agreements with Contractors and work started before 20 March 2023. Any extension to this date will need to be made in writing and have the agreement of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services.
 11. The grants will be the subject of a Service Level Agreement and payment(s) will be made in line with the Council's Grant Allocation Policy (Sports Provision – Major Projects) and the terms of the SLA.
 12. With the remaining £55,000 it has been proposed that a new scheme be advertised to assist community groups in funding feasibility studies, legal costs etc. to develop sporting projects in the district. Any money not allocated by 30 December 2022 will be rolled over into 2023/24

Risk Analysis

13.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Allocation of grants to projects does not secure their implementation	2	2	A grant will be subject to grant conditions in accordance with the major sports grant policy

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.