



Report of the Strategic Director of Place to the meeting of Bradford South Area Committee to be held on Thursday, 15 July 2021.

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Subject:

2020/21 BRADFORD SOUTH CONNECTING PEOPLE GRANTS

Summary statement:

This report details the Connecting People Grants awarded from applications received prior to the 4 January 2021 deadline.

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1. SUMMARY

This report details the Connecting People Grants awarded from applications received prior to the 4 January 2021 deadline.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Connecting People fund was a combination of the Youth and Community Chest Budget and the Innovation Fund administered by the Council's Stronger Communities Service, which provided a chance to support community groups seeking to connect lonely and isolated people and improve wellbeing in communities across Bradford South, as well as addressing new and emerging tensions and inequalities, many brought about by the pandemic.

The grant was used to support organisations in working towards one of the four pillars of the Bradford Integration Programme – "Getting Involved - Generating and connecting people to opportunities to participate in community and civic life and strengthening leadership."

2.2 Applications which met the criteria outlined in Appendix I were considered from groups, organisations and individuals contributing across a broad spectrum of initiatives, to the wellbeing and development of communities within Bradford South.

2.3 A Ward Officer, within the Bradford South Area Co-ordinator's Office, assessed the received applications and prepared Officer Recommendations.

2.4 The applications from each Ward were sent to the individual Ward Councillors with a request for comments, which informed the decision making process.

2.5 The Area Co-ordinator, under delegated powers, was responsible for making decisions on the received applications. These decisions were made following guidance received from the Grants Advisory Group, whose membership is the Chair, Deputy Chair and Opposition Spokesperson of the Area Committee.

2.6 Decisions on Youth and Community Chest applications are currently made four times a year, following the closing dates of 31 May, 31 August, 31 October and 31 January. However the Innovation Fund and therefore the Connecting People fund was a one-time only opportunity.

2.7 It is also possible, when decisions need to be taken outside the formal process, that the Area Co-ordinator can decide on an application having consulted individually the Members of the Grants Advisory Group.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 The wide range of projects outlined in Appendix 2 were awarded grants to a value of £10,000. This has enabled projects costing £14,648 to proceed which will benefit communities across Bradford South.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

4.1 Financial

Whilst the grants awarded at the Grants Advisory Group meeting held on 19 January 2021 were £10,000 (see Appendix 2), this has enabled projects and activities costing £14,648 to take place.

4.2 Staffing

Support is provided from within the Area Co-ordinator's Office by officers from within existing resources.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

There are no significant risks arising from the proposed recommendations in this report.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

There is no legal requirement for the Council to provide small grants for the benefit of local communities.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

In awarding Connecting People Grants, special consideration is given to particular disadvantaged groups including the elderly, people with disabilities, youth, ethnic minorities and people who are unemployed. In addition, special consideration is given to particular areas i.e. inner city areas and Social housing estates.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Connecting People Grants enabled local initiatives to be supported, thus encouraging groups and individuals to undertake activities that improve the social, economic and environmental well being of their communities.

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

Greenhouse gas emissions and wider environmental impacts will be a consideration in assessing applications.

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

A number of the projects supported are either directly or indirectly concerned with improving community safety within local communities.

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

There are no direct Human Rights implications arising from the recommendations below.

7.6 TRADE UNION

There are no implications for Trade Unions.

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

Connecting People grants were awarded to projects and activities that support communities within the Great Horton, Queensbury, Royds, Tong, Wibsey and Wyke Wards.

7.8 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS (for reports to Area Committees only)

Connecting People grants are awarded to projects and activities that support priorities within the Bradford South Ward Plans.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

9. OPTIONS

9.1 That the report be noted.

9.2 There is only one option as the purpose of the report is to inform on the allocation of Connecting People Grants.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the wide range of applications from groups, organisations and individuals across Bradford South are noted and welcomed.

10.2 That the Bradford South Area Co-ordinator's Office continue to ensure the effective allocation of the Youth and Community Chest budget and other funding by providing appropriate advice and support to applicants.

11. APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 Current Criteria for applications

APPENDIX 2 Summary of Grants awarded 13th June Grants Advisory Group.

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

APPENDIX 1 CRITERIA FOR APPLICATIONS

1. Applications will only be considered from groups/organisations that either operate in, or benefit people who live in, the Bradford South Constituency area.
2. Applications will be considered to assist community-based activities that will be of benefit to the community, and where the activity could not go ahead without financial assistance.
3. Activities should aim to support the health of individuals and community by focussing on:
 - Connecting isolated and lonely people through e.g. befriending schemes
 - Community based bereavement support
 - Covid secure methods of improving wellbeing e.g. walking groups and other physical activity
 - Debt, benefit and housing advice
 - Sharing info and signposting to other sources of help.
 - Nutrition and physical health
4. Special consideration will be given to particular target groups including the elderly, disabled, youth, ethnic minorities, unemployed and to particular communities (eg inner city areas, estates, etc.) and to new starts and innovatory schemes.
5. Bids from new groups or previously unfunded groups will be positively encouraged.
6. Grants may be used to complement other sources of funding. Bradford South Area Co-ordinator's Office expects organisations to make every effort to be self-supporting and will favour grants where other money has been secured.
7. The maximum allocation from the Connecting People Fund would not exceed £1,000 for any individual project.
8. Projects should not contravene Equality Legislation (ie, no discrimination of membership on grounds of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, pregnancy, disability, age or gender reassignment).
9. The organisation should be a non-profit making voluntary organisation where membership is open.
10. Grants cannot be awarded for events/purchases that have taken place before the application deadline dates. i.e. retrospective payments.
11. No group that has applied for and received funding in consecutive years should automatically assume that funding will continue. Each application will be treated on its merits.
12. Groups/organisations should normally expect only one grant per financial year.
13. The Fund cannot be used in support of religious or political activities, or capital expenditure exclusively connected with such activities.

14. The Fund is not normally used to enable fundraising for a secondary body, unless within the terms of a loss guarantee.
15. Groups/organisations must ensure that all statutory (and/or legal) Health and Safety requirements are complied with and, where appropriate, advice must be obtained and followed.

APPENDIX 2

SUMMARY OF GRANTS AWARDED –January 4 2021 DEADLINE

WARD	ORGANISATION NAME	PURPOSE OF GRANT	TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	AMOUNT OF AWARD
Great Horton	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust – BUD project	To purchase plants and pots for a 12 week gardening project in Great Horton Village Hall	£2,652	£800
	Lidget Green Healthy Living Centre	To help with costs to run and set up 12 community walks led by a qualified walk leader as well as sessions to provide access to health services and advice.	£890	£890
Queensbury	Russell Hall Primary School	To help with costs to set up a foodbank at the school for residents and pupils	£1,000	£1,000
	Queensbury Scout Band	To assist with costs to run a number of music workshop recruitment events	£560	£500
	Queensbury Tunnel Society	To assist with costs to create a memorial for the 10 men that lost their life's whilst building the Queensbury Tunnel	£1,338	£1,000
Royds	Friends of Harold Park	To assist with costs to launch an app to facilitate interactive activities in the park for families.	£1,500	£1,000
Tong	BHT Early Education & Training	Assist with the costs to launch 3 different baby and toddler groups in Holme Wood	£1,014	£1,000
	Bierley Community Association	To help with costs to re-launch a older peoples exercise group	£2,750	£1,000
Wibsey	Bradford Organic	To help with costs to	£965	£965

	Communities Service (BOCS)	run and set up a walking group project for 8 weeks		
Wyke	Low Moor Local History Group	To assist with costs to produce two books on Low Moor to share with the Community.	£845	£845
Great Horton, Royds, Wibsey and Wyke	Royds Community Association	To assist with running costs for an art project for local residents working with the befriending team.	£1,000	£1,000
Total			£14,648	£10,000