

COMMUNITY GRANTS PANEL

Background Information

In previous years the Council has allocated a percentage of the New Homes Bonus (NHB) funding it received to the NHB Community Grants Scheme. However, funding from Central Government for NHB has reduced for 2021/22 and there is no certainty around its provision in future years. Therefore, for 2021/22 the Council was left with £12,000 to distribute within the community. Due to the exceptional circumstances the District has found itself in and continues to face due to the pandemic, it was agreed that an additional £68,000 from Covid grant funding should be combined with this figure to create a community grants budget for 2021/22.

For the financial year 2021/22 the Council has allocated £80,000 for a Community Grant Scheme. This Scheme will run for 12 months and be reviewed as part of the budget process for the financial year 2022/23.

The Community Grants Scheme will replace the NHB Community Grants Scheme but will follow the principles of that original scheme. These explanatory notes provide a summary of the new Scheme and should be read in conjunction with the Frequently Asked Questions document also available, together with the application form and the timeline for applications.

All documents are available on the Council's website.

The purpose of this meeting is to give each applicant an opportunity to respond to any questions and points of clarification from Members, in order for the Panel to consider whether each application is:

- a) appropriate and
- b) meets the criteria set down in the Community Grants Scheme and detailed in the relevant application form.

A brief summary of each application is also attached to this agenda, but it should be noted that each Member of the Panel has had the opportunity to scrutinise the completed detailed applications outside of this meeting. These will also be available at the meeting should Members wish to make reference to them.