

Report to Cabinet

Report reference: C/033/2006-07.
Date of meeting: 4 September 2006.



Portfolio: Community Wellbeing.

Subject: Grant Aid 2006/07 - King Harold Day Society.

Officer Contact for Further Information: Chris Overend (01992 564247).

Democratic Services Officer: Gary Woodhall (01992 564470).

Recommendation:

That funding from the Grant Aid Scheme totalling £2,500 be awarded to the King Harold Day Society.

Background:

1. Applications for Grant Aid funding are normally considered and determined by the Portfolio Holder for Community Wellbeing but in this instance the Portfolio Holder, being a Waltham Abbey Town Councillor, currently Mayor and, in addition an acquaintance of some of the officers working for the applicant group, has referred the application on to Cabinet, for determination.
2. King Harold Day Society arranges an annual event in Waltham Abbey to raise the awareness of the local heritage and history connected with Waltham Abbey. The above amount will be used to purchase some permanent interpretation boards.

Statement in Support of Recommended Action:

3. The application from King Harold Day Society for a major grant, as set out in Appendix 1, was deemed worthy under the terms of the Grant Aid Scheme in the amount stated in Column 3 and for the reasons set out in Column 4.

Other Options for Action:

4. Options considered in terms of the grant aid application were for the approval (if so the amount concerned), deferral or refusal of the application. There were no other options for consideration within the Community Wellbeing Portfolio as the only transfer of funds, which is possible, is from the various Voluntary Sector Assistant Budgets.

Consultation Undertaken:

5. Discussions with applicant group and with Officers.

Resource Implications:

Budget Provision: £92,310 set aside for long term, village hall and major grants in 2006/07. Consideration to be given to transfers between different elements at a later stage if necessary. Prior to the production of this decision sheet, the total remaining within grant aid funds was £47,840 (See Appendix 2 attached). If the application now being put forward is approved in the amount suggested this would leave £45,340 in the Grant Aid Scheme for the consideration of applications during the remainder of the 2006/07 financial year.

Personnel: From existing resources.

Land: Nil.

Community Plan/BVPP Ref: Reference to Sections within the 'Community Wellbeing and Leisure' themes and reference to further development of Social Inclusion initiatives in the 2006/07 Best Value Plan.

Relevant Statutory Powers: Local Government Act 1972 Section 137; Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision Act) 1976 Section 19.

Background Papers: Application for grants together with supporting information from group concerned.

Environmental/Human Rights Act/Crime and Disorder Act: Nil, although an application which is of benefit 'environmentally' and otherwise meets the grant aid criteria may receive favourable consideration.

Key Decision Reference (if required): N/A.

GRANT AID APPROVALS - 2006/07

Column 1 Group	Column 2 Nature of Application	Column 3 Amount Approved £	Column 4 Comments
King Harold Day Society	For Interpretive Boards explaining various historical aspects around Waltham Abbey	2,500	<p>Assists BV Plan by enhancing the special character of the location of the interpretative boards and provides and promotes opportunities for everyone to take part in cultural activities held in the District.</p> <p>The Grant Aid Scheme 3 Year Ruling* does not apply in this instance as the purchase of interpretative boards is a separate developmental aspect of a previous approval.</p>

* The three-year ruling is aimed at discouraging repeat applications from the same group relating to precisely the same approval given on a previous occasion. It states that where applicants have received a grant in the preceding years they would not be eligible to reapply within the three-year period unless the project is extremely urgent or the application relates to a separate developmental aspect of an existing scheme. The application from King Harold Day Society falls into this latter category.

GRANT AID SCHEME 2006/07

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS as at 1 August 2006

Total Expenditure as at 31. 7.06		44,470
Amount Remaining at Present		47,840
Amount Remaining if Applications Approved as per Appendix 1		45,340