

Board/Committee:	GRANTS SUB BOARD
Date of meeting:	Thursday, 7 December, 2023
Title:	Heritage Fund Application
Author:	Head of Corporate Policy and Community Safety
Status:	For Recommendation

Purpose

To provide a summary of the two applications received to the Heritage Fund in this funding period in order that members can determine if they wish to award grant funding for the proposal as set out in this report.

Recommendation

That the Board:

- Consider the applications outlined in the report.

1.0 Background

1.1 Members will recall at the Policy and Organisation Board of 30th November 2022 that the Council agreed to set up a new Heritage Fund to offer grants to local community projects for up to £50,000. The Grants Sub Board has awarded grants from this fund in its first two rounds.

1.2 This report summarises the two applications made to the Heritage Fund since the September Grant Sub Board meeting. Any application received after the published Board Agenda deadline may be submitted as a late item.

1.3 The Heritage Fund has five funding priorities and applicants are asked to identify how their project will address at least one of them.

- Removing property from the 'Heritage at Risk' register
- Enhancing the townscape or setting of a heritage asset
- Improving sustainability and tackling climate change
- Creating employment or a sustainable future use
- Enhancing public access or interpretation

1.4 Heritage Fund guidance advises that strong applications demonstrate:

- A strong evidence of need
- Evidence that the proposed approach is likely to achieve the desired outcomes
- The project does not contain high revenue costs that cannot be sustained long term
- A lasting benefit can be achieved
- It meets more than one of the five funding priorities
- Match funding is provided
- Public benefit outweighs any private gain.

2.0 Report

2.1 The fund is open for full applications for local heritage projects of up to £50,000, as well as Development Grants of up to £5,000 to assist in putting bids together.

2.2 After the awards made from the March, June and September Boards, Accounts has confirmed **£162,069** available in the Heritage Fund for this round.

3.0 The D Day Fellowship

3.1 This local association based in Alverstoke aims to educate and inspire interest in Gosport's local D-Day landings history from a local perspective by providing information and presentations to local groups, schools and through heritage events.

3.2 It is seeking **£5,000** or 12.5% of the total cost for a Gosport D-Day Memorial at Stokes Bay. If successful, the award will be allocated to the groundworks fund for the £40,000 project anticipated to be completed between April and June 2024.

3.3 The fellowship submitted a planning application in October to create a new D- Day memorial that combines the existing Canada Memorial, the Mulberry Harbour one and the D-Day one into one site. A computer drawing submitted with the application shows a semi-circle featuring six benches as main features of the proposed memorial. This means moving the Canada and the Mulberry Harbour memorials to the new site.

3.4 The consultation period on the planning application is currently open and the conservation, heritage and ecology reports are pending. Letters of objection to the proposed memorial have been received.

3.5 Due to objections being received, the Development Management Team have advised that a decision on the planning application is likely to go to the Regulatory Board.

3.6 The Fellowship has submitted various quotes for the landscaping and stone work required for the memorial and quotes for the benches., most elements exceeding £5,000. As it is not a registered charity nor Community Interest Company VAT may be payable if the trader/company completing the works has a turnover of more than £85k

3.7 The Fellowship has applied to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) and while it will not support its application for 75% of total project costs it has suggested that the fellowship align elements of its application with the NLHF current funding categories. That is why any award from the Heritage Fund would go toward groundworks.

3.8 The Fellowship said it is also applying to GVA Community Grant, Hampshire County Councillors Grants, corporate sponsorship and crowd funding, but has not reported any match funding achieved to date.

3.9 The Fellowship maintains the proposed D-Day Memorial meets the fund's "enhancing public access or interpretation" priority by utilising an area of land to bring people together to learn about and take pride in its local D-Day history and enhancing accessible information about it through its

outreach to schools, local groups and participation in community heritage events.

4.0 Nest & Anchor Events Limited - Anchored in Gosport Project

4.1 This is a company limited by guarantee (13881689) based in Fareham that provides and hosts events and bespoke markets and is seeking **£8,687.40** or 50% of the total cost of the Anchored in Gosport Project to regenerate Gosport High Street and the market delivery.

4.2 The company currently has a contract with the Council to operate and manage the weekly High Street market and deliver eight event markets in a 12 - month period. This project is not part of that contract, but has identified a need to build more narrative around the heritage of the market.

4.3 The Anchored in Gosport project is within the High Street Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) will support the HAZ legacy and is supported by Historic England through the High Street HAZ project team.

4.4 The application states the High Street market is considered to be a heritage asset in its own right. Gosport's charter to hold markets dates back to 1158 when Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester, bestowed on the village of 'Gods-port' three market-days in each week in consideration of kindness shown to his brother, King Stephen, who, in a voyage from Normandy, landed here after a storm.

4.5 It aims to produce a digital exhibition linking the past to the present through quarterly magazine and a monthly online blog that will highlight the heritage of Gosport town centre, promote stories and experiences of local independent businesses and bring the heritage of the market into the 21st century by giving an online presence and platform for all its traders.

4.6 This project will include photography, digital creation and a story-telling narrative and aims to have an exhibition at the Imagination Refinery that can be enjoyed by all.

4.7 The amount requested is to deliver two magazine runs and exhibitions with 30 blogs to accompany each magazine run. Each magazine run will cost £4,343.70. The breakdown of costs is:

- 2 x 6 hours per independent article x 15 articles per magazine @ £25 per hour = £4,500 (Fixed) (1 hour research, 1 hour interview, 1 hour photoshoot, 1 hour edit, 2 hour write up including social media and blog post, content creation for social formats per article)
- 2x Printing and Publication Costs (500 x 20 page magazines) = £2,670 per magazine
- 2x A0 Spotlight canvas for exhibition = £58.50 per print x 15 Prints = £1,517.40

Total = £8,687.40

4.8 Anchored in Gosport aims to meet four of the five funding priorities of the fund:

Enhancing the townscape or setting of a heritage asset - showcasing the town centre as a heritage asset and bringing people back into it.

Improving sustainability and tackling climate change- promoting shop local and using walking and cycling route to support sustainability and

climate change

Creating employment or a sustainable future use- the project supports growth and regeneration and makes Gosport a more inviting place to trade and work.

Enhancing public access or interpretation- residents will have accessible information about the local market history, current business community as well as signposting to business support and start-ups.

4.9 If funding is secured, the project will run from January to December 2024. The company has secured match funding in terms of own resources and other grants to produce two further magazine runs of this project – making four issues in a 12 month period.

5.0 Risk Assessment

5.1 There will always be an element of a risk when issuing grants to a third party organisation. The Council have financial and legal due diligence measures in place to ensure that the risks are minimised and will not issue any grants until the Council is satisfied that these measures have been satisfied.

5.2 The Grant Agreement forms are part of the measures to ensure the money is used for the purposes set out in the application and agreed by the Sub-Board.

6.0 Conclusion

6.1 This report summarises the two applications made to the Council's Heritage Grants Fund and received by the Grants Officer in time for this report.

Financial Services comments:	Contained within this report
Legal Services comments:	The are no required legal comments as the basis of policy application is outlined in this report and vests with the Sub- Board
Equality and Diversity:	Heritage Fund application form template and accompanying guidance has been reviewed by the Council's Equality & Diversity Lead Officer
Climate Change implications:	Non applicable
Crime and Disorder:	Non applicable
Corporate Plan:	Each application can contribute to the five strategic priorities particularly in this case empowering our residents
Risk Assessment:	Contained within this report
Background Papers:	Heritage Grant Guidance
Appendices:	Appendix 1 Table of applications received to date
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