

## **POLICY, GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

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**Date:** Monday 26 July 2021

**Title:** Grants

**Contact Officer:** Deputy Town Clerk – Adam Clapton

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### **Background**

The Town Council's discretionary grant awards policy was amended at the previous meeting of this committee (minute no. F299 refers) with bi-annual dates set for applications.

### **Current Information**

The next date for consideration of grants should be the meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021 but two applications have been received with tight timescales, ahead of the amended policy being published on the Council's outlets. It is therefore reasonable to consider them at this meeting.

Members should note that once this policy and application dates have been published, there should be no deviation from future dates.

### Witney Carnival 2021 Update

Members should note that this event was cancelled by the organisers. Therefore, the allocated budget of £2,600 has been returned to the grants budget (4100/407).

The following applications have been received for consideration at this meeting:

### Rotary Club of Witney

The request is for £500 to enable the Rotary Club to hold a successful Witney Colour Run community/charity event on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August. Several of the Club's usual sponsors have been unable to support due to the impact of COVID. Please see application for further details.

### Baby-bonding Sessions

The request is for £300 to enable free baby-bonding sessions, usually offered at a charge by the applicant to 10 sets of newly expectant parents. Please see application for further details.

The Committee should note that if either applicant is successful, these should be noted at the next meeting when grants are considered – funds being allocated from the existing budgets shown below.

Members may also consider that the request for Baby-bonding sessions should be considered as a Youth Services opportunity – the Youth Funding Grant launching in August\*

\*Subject to ratification of the Stronger Communities decision on this item.

### **Environmental impact**

There is no known environmental impact pertaining from the contents of this report.

### **Risk**

In decision making Councillors should consider any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

The Council has a policy and criteria for which it uses to award its grants to ensure public funds are allocated and used appropriately.

The Council has the General Power of Competence (GPC) which generally these grants are awarded under.

### **Financial implications**

- The budget for discretionary grants (4100/407) for the financial year currently stands at £11,605.69 (this includes £2,600 returned to the fund which was allocated to Witney Carnival).
- The budget for the Youth Funding Grant for 2021/22 is £30,000.

### **Recommendations**

Members are invited to note the report and;

1. Consider the requests for funding as detailed in this report and the attached grant applications.