

# GRANTS COMMITTEE AGENDA



**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2006**

**at 4:00 p.m.**

**in Committee Room “C”**

**MEMBERS: GRANTS COMMITTEE:**

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond,  
Councillors Jackson and Payne.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

**3. MINUTES**

3.1 To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2005

**4. KEY DECISIONS**

4.1 None

**5. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

- 5.1 Play Opportunities Pool Award 2005/2006 – *Director of Children’s Services*
- 5.2 Community Pool 2005/2006 – *Director of Adult and Community Services*
- 5.3 NRF Community Safety Grants Pool – *The Head of Community Safety and Prevention*

**6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- 6.1 None
- 6.2 None

**7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**EXEMPT ITEMS**

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

**8. KEY DECISIONS**

- 8.1 None

**9. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

- 9.1 None

## GRANTS COMMITTEE

10th January 2006



**Report of:** Director of Children's Services

**Subject:** PLAY OPPORTUNITIES POOL AWARD 2005/2006

---

### SUMMARY

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides detail of an application to the Play Opportunities Pool for 2005/2006 and seeks approval for levels of grant award.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

Proposed award for a Play Opportunities Grant to the Voluntary Sector is as follows:-

|                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| St Luke's Little Angels | £1,000.00        |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>£1,000.00</b> |

This leaves £504.43, available to distribute.

#### 3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Committee has responsibility for determining the levels of grant award made to the voluntary sector.

#### 4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key.

#### 5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Grants Committee, 10th January, 2006.

#### 6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

To approve grant aid to one group totalling £1,000.00.

**Report of:** Director of Children's Services

**Subject:** PLAY OPPORTUNITIES POOL AWARD 2005/2006

---

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to consider a grant award rising from an application from a community group to provide play services in 2005/2006.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Grant aid totalling £18,000 annually is available to community groups and voluntary organisations to enable them to provide play opportunities throughout the year, thereby complementing the Authority's play provision. Provision of play grants also enables groups to provide play to meet local needs, especially in areas of disadvantage, to assist local people on limited income.
- 2.2 Grant awards are used as a contribution towards the cost of a play opportunity, with the Authority's funding acting as a magnet to attract match funding.
- 2.3 At a meeting of the Grants Committee on 25th February, 2005, Members approved grant aid to 7 groups, totalling £15,995.57. An additional grant of £500.00 was approved by delegated powers to a further group, therefore leaving a balance of £1,504.43
- 2.4 One further application has been assessed with a request from the Grants Pool for funding towards purchasing toys and equipment.
- 2.5 The criteria used to assess applications are specific, as detailed in **Appendix 1**.

**3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 Grant Aid up to £18,000 in total is available for 2005/2006 and approval of grant requests as identified in section 4 will leave a balance of £504.43 available for distribution at a later stage.

**4. APPLICATION**

- 4.1 Details of the group requesting funding is as follows:-

## 4.2 St Luke's Little Angels

4.1.1 The group has been established since September, 2005, and operates from St Luke's Church Community Hall, off Hart Lane. The group currently operates one morning a week between 9.15 am and 11.00 am, as a Parent and Toddler Group and currently attracts between 19 and 30 children and parents at the session. During the school holidays, the service also caters for older siblings to ensure continuity of the service provided.

4.1.2 The group provides limited play at present, which consists of borrowed toys and equipment from an existing group that operates on a Monday at the Hall and from toys brought in by parents. It is envisaged that both of these groups will join together and provide 2 sessions per week. It must be stressed that of the toys loaned to the group, many do need replacing.

4.1.3 The Young People and Play Co-ordinator, responsible for administering the grant, made a visit to the Club and engaged with the parents there. The Centre is large, warm and friendly with plenty of interaction between both parents and children. The activities are split into 2 rooms, one consisting of toys and the other craft materials for the children to use.

4.1.4 The parents have engaged the assistance of members from the Church group who make the refreshments for the group, which enables the parents to spend valuable play time with their children.

4.1.5 The cost that the group have determined to provide the service for the year is as follows:-

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Room Hire               | £112.25   |
| Refreshments            | £100.00   |
| Start Up Equipment/Toys | £1,807.11 |

4.1.6 In addition to the Play Opportunities Grant, the organisation has raised enough funds to pay for the rental of the Hall for the next 12 months. The group has also raised an additional £40.00 through the sale of the children's portraits taken by an official photographer. The generation of income each week, averaging £15.00 per week is from the charge made to parents, which is £1.00 per child, with an additional 50p per sibling, a proportion of this income is used to provide refreshments and the purchase of art and craft materials.

4.1.7 The group is open to any parent and attracts parents from across the town. The parents who run the group are committed and already have financial systems in place to ensure the smooth running of the group. The group is also covered by the insurance of the Church, in which the service is provided.

4.1.8 A contribution of £1,000.00 has been recommended to enable the group to purchase identified play items within their wish list.

4.3 To summarise, the proposed award is as follows:-

St Luke's Little Angels

£1,000.00

## **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are requested to approve a grant award totalling £1,000.00 for St Luke's Little Angels.

CONTACT OFFICER: Danielle Swainston, Early Years Manager

### Background Papers

Children's Services Department, Play Opportunities Monitoring File.



## **HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL** **PLAY OPPORTUNITIES POOL** **CRITERIA**



### **NOTES FOR APPLICANTS**

***Before completing the application, please read the following notes carefully.***

#### **1. Aim of the Play Opportunities Pool**

The aim of the Play Opportunities Pool is intended to provide a resource to enable organisations to co-ordinate and develop play opportunities in local areas to meet local needs.

The provision will complement those schemes provided by the Local Authority, at present, and address gaps in service delivery.

#### **2. Types of Projects Which can be Funded**

The types of projects and activity which can be funded fall into the following areas:-

- ★ Out of School Care/Holiday Care/Playschemes.
- ★ Playgroups.
- ★ Planned Activity Sessions.
- ★ Special Needs.
- ★ Parent and Toddler.

### **3. Priorities for Support**

There are likely to be more applications than resources available. To assist in prioritising applications, the following elements will be considered and finance may be targeted towards:-

- ★ Areas of disadvantage.
- ★ Assistance in reducing crime levels.
- ★ Improve the value of play.
- ★ Encourage integration.
- ★ Children with special needs.
- ★ Ethnic minorities.
- ★ Safe play provision.
- ★ Provision of interesting, stimulating opportunities.

### **4. Awards**

The award will be granted once a year, therefore, if you are requesting funding for more than one project, this needs to be indicated and detailed on your application form and a full programme and timetable provided.

Age range for which grant funding is applicable is 0-16 years of age. There will be no ceiling limit on grants, however, you may not receive your full request.

Payments of grants will be staggered, dependent upon when your project(s) will operate.

### **5. Other Requirements**

To ensure that a high quality of play and childcare provision is being provided you must meet, depending upon the service delivered some, if not all, of the following requirements:-

- ★ Must operate in a voluntary capacity.



- ★ Must be constituted.
- ★ Suitable premises from which to operate.
- ★ Correct ratio of staff/volunteers to children.
- ★ Current valid registration certificate if providing for children under 8.
- ★ Staff recruitment and vetting procedures.
- ★ Police screening checks.
- ★ Implement good codes of practice.
- ★ Identify age range.
- ★ Attend appropriate training workshops.

Evidence of the above will be required as part of the terms and conditions, should your application be successful.

**6. Items Not Eligible for Funding**

- ★ Core costs to your organisation.
- ★ Catering.
- ★ Admission fee for young people.
- ★ Gifts/prizes/parties.

**7. Alternative Funding**

Grant aid may not be approved when funding could be available from a more appropriate or alternative source.

**8. How to Apply**

**8.1 Completion of Application Form**

The application form is simple to complete. PART 1 asks for details about your organisation, why it was set up, what it does and where it meets. PART 2 asks for more details on the specific project or activities for which you are seeking grant aid. You must provide as much information as possible on the project including a breakdown of costs, without this information, your application cannot be processed.

8.2 Enclosures

The form asks that you submit the additional information listed whenever possible. Please indicate as much as you can, if you do not, this will result in the processing of your application being delayed.

8.3 What Happens After I Have Posted the Form?

When the application is received in the Children's Services Department, you will be sent an acknowledgement by the Youth People and Play Co-ordinator. In due course, you will be contacted by Children's Services Department staff, who will advise you on the processing of your application and when you are likely to receive a decision.

8.4 Play Opportunities Pool Monitoring

If you have any questions about completing this form or need advice or support in developing an appropriate play opportunity or how to progress with your application, please contact the Children's Services Department in Hartlepool, Tel: 01429 523411 and ask for the Young People and Play Co-ordinator.

Please return your completed form and enclosures to:-

Tracy Liveras  
Young People and Play Co-ordinator  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
Children's Services Department  
Suite 7  
Municipal Buildings  
Church Square  
HARTLEPOOL  
TS24 7EQ

## GRANTS COMMITTEE

10th January, 2006



**Report of:** Director of Adult and Community Services

**Subject:** COMMUNITY POOL 2005/2006

---

### SUMMARY

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Members of applications to the Community Pool and to seek approval for recommended grant awards from remaining funds.

To request approval for the change of use of a grant awarded to Headland Future Ltd. in the 2004/2005 financial year.

To inform Members of an underspend of the grant awarded to Central Residents Association in the current financial year and to request accrual of the remaining grant into the 2006/2007 Community Pool budget.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The Community Pool budget has been set at £404,600 for the 2005/2006 financial year. To date, including those supported from the specific activities allocations, 28 groups have been supported. The balance of the Community Pool, available for distribution today, totals £24,572.

At this meeting, 2 applications are being presented for consideration. The applications are from Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency and The Wharton Trust. Both groups have been awarded funding in this financial year, but have made supplementary applications because they have budget shortfalls which could result in them being unable to maintain the delivery of their core services and a threat to the organisation's viability.

Recommendations are being presented as follows:-

| <b>Organisation</b>                     | <b>Amount Requested</b> | <b>Amount Recommended up to</b> |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency | £23,000                 | £19,572                         |
| The Wharton Trust                       | £5,000                  | £5,000                          |

Grant awards to the levels shown will leave the grant pool fully expended for this financial year.

Approval is requested for the change of use of a grant that was awarded to Headland Future Ltd. in the 2004/2005 financial year for the installation of a hoist at their Abbey Street premises to enable people with a disability to access the upper floor of the building and the gym facility. A change of use has been requested because the gym equipment has been relocated to the Active Centre, where it is more accessible to the community as a whole. Approval has been requested to utilise the grant to undertake lift repairs at Abbey Street to ensure continued compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act and to maintain the gym equipment at the Active Centre.

Information is provided relating to Central Residents Association and the situation which has resulted in an underspend of the grant, £15,000 awarded to them in the current financial year.

Approval is requested to accrue the balance of the unspent grant, £11,635.53 into the 2006/2007 Community Pool to ensure that Community Pool resources are retained for the benefit of the voluntary sector.

**3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

The Grants Committee is responsible for determining the level of grant awards from the Community Pool to the voluntary sector.

**4. TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-key decision.

**5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Grants Committee to determine awards at meeting, 10th January, 2006.

**6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

Members of the Grants Committee are requested:-

1. To approve grant awards to 2 groups, which total £24,572. This will fully expend the remaining Community Pool 2005/2006 budget.
2. To approve the change in use of a grant of £4,453, awarded to Headland Future Ltd. in the 2004/2005 financial year for the installation of a hoist at their Abbey Street premises to enable the group to service the lift on their premises and maintain the gym equipment which has been relocated in the Active8 centre.
3. To approve the accrual of the balance of a grant awarded to Central Residents Association in the current financial year.

**Report of:** Director of Adult and Community Services

**Subject:** COMMUNITY POOL 2005/2006

---

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of 2 applications to the Community Pool and to seek approval for grant awards from remaining funds.
- 1.2 To request approval for the change of use of a grant awarded to Headland Future Ltd. in the 2004/2005 financial year.
- 1.3 To inform Members of an underspend of the grant awarded to Central Residents Association in the current financial year and to request the accrual of the balance of the award into the 2006/2007 Community Pool budget.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Community Pool provides financial assistance to community groups and voluntary organisations with preference given to those based in the town and delivering services or support to the residents of Hartlepool. However, where there is no local provider, or there is a need for a specialist expertise, then support to organisations based outside the town is considered.
- 2.2 Resources are targeted to vulnerable sectors of the community and to those areas of the town with the highest levels of disadvantage and to those organisations delivering effective and appropriate services that complement the Authority's strategic aims.
- 2.3 Grant aid awarded is generally provided as a contribution towards the core costs of an organisation's operation and in many instances helps to match other funding streams.

**3. COMMUNITY POOL 2005/2006**

- 3.1 The budget available for 2005/2006 is £404,600. Within this budget, an allocation of £16,500 was made for specific activities, including Directed Lettings and Youth Grants. The applications for the Directed Lettings allocation were presented to the Grants Committee on 6th July, 2005. As a result the reorganisation of the Local Authority, the £12,000 allocated for Youth Grants has been transferred to Children's Services to be administered by the Youth Service.

- 3.2 Allowing for these allocations, the balance of the budget available for distribution to other applicants was £388,100.
- 3.3 To date, Members have approved grant awards to 31 groups and allowing for specific activity allocations, this totals £385,945 leaving a balance of £18,655 as a contingency. However, the budget available for distribution at this meeting has been increased, as a result of an underspend on the Directed Lettings allocation of £500 due to a reduction in demand; the return of funding paid to ADT Alarm Company on behalf of Central Residents Association due to the overpayment of an invoice in the 2004/2005 financial year and £503 underspend on a strategic reserve of £8,000 the bulk of which £7,497 was committed previously.
- 3.4 There has also been a return of the first instalment of the grant awarded to the Workers Educational Association on 28th April, 2004 for the Racial Equality Development Initiative Project Worker. The group were unable to achieve the outputs that were identified as part of the terms and conditions of the grant award and have responded to a request to return the first instalment of the grant, £4,500 which has been returned to the Community Pool. The outstanding balance of the award was not paid out to the group and was used for the benefit of other groups in the 2004/2005 financial year.
- 3.5 Taking into consideration all of the above, the balance available for distribution today amounts to £24,572

#### 4. CONSIDERATION OF AWARDS

- 4.1 As part of the assessment process, applications have been categorised to ensure that financial support is maintained to those groups providing services that complement the Authority's strategic aims and objectives. Groups have been categorised as follows:-
- (i) **Providers of Services:** those groups providing services that directly complement the services provided by the Local Authority. Groups providing services that require a specialist expertise.
  - (ii) **Resource Centres:** groups providing a range of support services for the benefit of local community groups and individuals, including dissemination of information, support with fundraising and advocacy in relation to the issues affecting the voluntary sector.
  - (iii) **Community Development/Capacity Building Services:** groups working with local groups and individuals at grass roots level, assessing the need and enabling groups/individuals to meet those needs.
  - (iv) **Other groups:** all other groups who do not fall into the other 3 categories, but provide invaluable services for the benefit of Hartlepool residents.

**5. GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR 2005/2006**

- 5.1 Applications received for consideration at this meeting and the category to which they relate are as follows:-

| <b><u>Organisation</u></b>              | <b><u>Category</u></b> | <b><u>Request</u></b> |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency | (ii)                   | £23,554               |
| The Wharton Trust                       | (ii)                   | £5,000                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            |                        | <b>£28,554</b>        |

- 5.2 As Members will appreciate, the total of requests exceeds the resources available for distribution.
- 5.3 Members will be aware that the 2 applications presented at this meeting are from groups who have already been supported with grant aid from the Community Pool in this financial year. Each of the applicant organisations has identified a shortfall in their budget for core running costs in the current financial year. This being the case, the organisations are at risk of not being in a position to meet their own aims and objectives and not be able to achieve the prescribed outputs conditional with the first grant, thereby jeopardising the Council's previous financial investment.

**6. HARTLEPOOL VOLUNTARY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (HVDA)**

- 6.1 HVDA was established in 1986 since which time it has consistently provided a wide range of support and development for the voluntary/community sector in Hartlepool. In the period from April 2004 to March 2005, HVDA has carried out the following work for the benefit of the voluntary/community sector in Hartlepool:-

- \* Work with volunteers: the volunteer centre has recruited 244 volunteers, some of which have been placed with 43 groups and 10 other agencies such as schools. 80 volunteers have gone on to training and 30 have found paid employment. The Millennium Volunteers project targets young people aged 16-25 and has supported 405 volunteers, some of which have been supported with 41 groups and 21 other agencies. HVDA's work with the Hartlepool Community Network supported 66 volunteers as members of the partnership/fora.
- \* Supporting and developing voluntary and community groups: 44 groups received intensive support and a further 176 groups were given advice and support, including assistance with securing funds from external sources for 33 groups amounting to £257,975.
- \* Building links between groups and developing partnerships with other agencies: HVDA has secured the involvement of the VCS as equal

partners in decision-making processes such as Neighbourhood Action Plans, Neighbourhood Consultative Fora and the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund as well as many other partnership and sub-groups. HVDA's work in this area has been recognised by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister as an example of good practice.

- \* The distribution of funding through Community Chests: the Neighbourhood Renewal Community Chest and Community Learning Chest, New Deal for Communities Community Chest, Neighbourhood Renewal Fund Men's Health Chest and Primary Care Trust Health Inequalities Fund – providing access to funding for small scale activities. In 2004/2005, a total of 287 group awards were made and a total of £383,930 paid out.
- \* Promoting the role/value of the VCS: publicising the work and value of the VCS directly, via the HVDA database on the web and by the production of a range of newsletters.
- \* Initiating research: HVDA has mapped voluntary sector views and priorities, feeding them in to the decision making process.
- \* Community Cohesion, Diversity and marginalized groups: HVDA supports groups who advocate on behalf of marginalized communities and provide services to vulnerable people, including the Salaam Centre, the Bangladeshi Cultural Association, Hartlepool Asian Association, Hart Gables (gay and lesbian group) Hartlepool Access Group and Hartlepool Carers.

6.2 All of this work has carried on into the current financial year with HVDA already in the current year supporting 74 groups, assisting 14 of them to raise £482,457 from external sources for their activities. However, this work is now under threat as HVDA have a shortfall in core funding for the current financial year, mainly due to the demise of European Regional Development Funding, which came to an end in December.

6.3 Additional grant aid has been requested amounting to £23,334. This relates to expenditure for the period January – March 2006 and is as broken down as follows:-

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| ➤ 2% salary costs of Manager's post  | £730.06   |
| ➤ 25% salary costs of Resources and Regeneration Officer post  | £7,258.75 |
| ➤ 16% salary costs of Project Development Officer post   | £4,645.60 |
| ➤ 25% salary costs of Administration Assistant post  | £3,653.75 |
| ➤ 25% salary costs of Office Administrator post  | £4,166.75 |
| ➤ Contribution towards running costs, including heating lighting, stationery, fax and internet charges, travel | £2,732.00 |
| ➤ Contribution towards the cost of workshops and events  | £318.00   |
| ➤ Small items of equipment   | £50.00    |



- 6.4 Resources are not available to approve a grant at the level requested, therefore Officers are recommending that resources be targeted to areas of the groups operation that particularly support the strategic objects of the Community Strategy in terms of Strengthening Communities and those which are at greatest risk. Accordingly, Members are requested to approve a grant of up to £19,527 as a contribution towards the following:-

|                                |   |           |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Project Development Officer    | 16% Salary Costs<br>January – March 2006      | £4,645.00 |
| Resources Regeneration Officer | 15% Salary Costs<br>January- March 2006       | £4,355.00 |
| Administration Assistant       | 25% Salary Costs<br>January- Mar 2006         | £3,654.00 |
| Office Administrator           | 25% Salary Costs<br>January- March 2006       | £4,167.00 |
| Premises Costs                 | Contribution to Costs<br>January- march 2006  | £1000.00  |
| Fax/internet                   | Contribution to Costs<br>January-March 2006   | £462.00   |
| Stationery/postage             | Contribution to Costs<br>January – March 2006 | £1,244.00 |

- 6.5 The balance of the shortfall in core costs for the 2005/2006 financial year will be taken from the reserves which HVDA hold, as recommended by The Charities Commission. HVDA currently have reserves of approximately 3 months running costs and redundancy costs, however, the organisation's own target is to hold reserves of 4 months' running costs and redundancy costs. If their application for funding is refused. they will have to take the full amount of the shortfall from their reserves. which could have a detrimental effect on their financial planning.
- 6.6 **Grant aid of up to £19,527 is recommended as a contribution towards the 2005/2006 core costs of Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency.**

## 7. THE WHARTON TRUST

- 7.1 The Wharton Trust exists to provide social development and recreational activities and courses for all members of the community of all ages. Operating from The Annexe, a building which is leased from the Borough Council, the Trust's main activities are a Community Library facility, which has approximately 2,000 members and the Work Link project, which provides support to the local community with accessing employment and training.
- 7.2 The Wharton Trust also hosts a comprehensive programme of adult education courses and provides facilities for local groups and residents to meet.
- 7.3 During this financial year, the Trust have been unable to secure sufficient funding via grant aid to cover their operational costs, to compensate, internal

income has been increased by maximising the rental potential of the premises. The building is now heavily used by the Adult Education Department, who are providing much needed rental income and have also provided capital funding to ensure that the building complies with DDA regulations.

- 7.4 Officers from Adult and Community Services Department have provided support to The Wharton Trust in relation to the management and financial affairs of the organisation, which has included attendance at monthly Committee meetings and sub groups and provision of ongoing support with the implementation of financial systems and the day-to-day running of the Trust.
- 7.5 However, The Wharton Trust have identified a shortfall in funding required to meet their core operational costs for the current financial year, January to March 2006. The Wharton Trust have made application to the Community Pool for £5,000 as a contribution to core costs, including the salary costs of a full time Project Development Officer and 2 part-time Resource Assistants.
- 7.6 The Wharton Trust has had financial difficulties and does have some outstanding debt to the Borough Council, however, a payment plan is in place to repay outstanding monies.
- 7.7 At the request of The Wharton Trust, the terms of the lease on The Annexe have been varied, on a temporary basis, to allow them to carry out the cleaning of the building. The cleaning contract the Council had with the Neighbourhood Services Department has been cancelled; the group have made their own arrangements for the cleaning of the building with the intention of reducing costs and the group's liability to the Council.
- 7.8 The Wharton Trust have been actively working to secure their future; applications for funding have been submitted to other funders for the 2006/2007 financial year. If this application was approved, it would allow The Wharton Trust the opportunity to carry on into the new financial year, by which time, it will become evident whether or not the group have been successful in accessing funding for 2006/2007.
- 7.9 **Members are requested to approve a grant of £5,000 as a contribution towards the core costs of The Wharton Trust.**

## **8. OTHER ISSUES**

### **8.1 Headland Future – Variation in Terms of Grant Awarded 2004/2005**

- 8.1.1 Headland Future provides social, recreational and educational opportunities for young people aged primarily 13 – 19 years of age through a safe secure environment with the purpose of enhancing the lives of the young people involved.

- 8.1.2 The youth project known as Abbey Street Project has adopted a non-prescriptive, flexible approach to working with young people, which encourages motivation and participation amongst young people and has led to a wide range of services being offered.
- 8.1.3 The Abbey Street facility is also used by other members of the community; accommodation is available for private hire (discounted rates are offered for community groups) other facilities can be accessed on a sessional basis, i.e. gym and IT facilities.
- 8.1.4 In the 2004/2005 financial year, Headland Future were awarded a grant of £4,453 from the Community Pool for the installation of a hoist on the second floor of the Abbey Street. The hoist facility was required to allow full disabled access to all areas, including the multi-gym facility.
- 8.1.5 However, due to operational difficulties and a lack of community demand for the multi-gym facility, the hoist was not installed.
- 8.1.6 Headland Future have forged a partnership with the Salvation Army and Headland Development Trust to form the Active8 Centre Partnership, which has been established to manage a dedicated health and fitness centre on the Headland to provide a range of health solutions for residents of all ages.
- 8.1.7 The gym equipment that was originally housed at the Abbey Street facility has been relocated into the Active8 Centre in order to allow for community use to be maximised. Since the relocation of the equipment, usage has increased with 28 new members joining the centre to make use of the facilities.
- 8.1.8 As the multi-gym facility has been relocated elsewhere, Headland Future recognise it is not necessary to install the disabled hoist and have requested that the terms of the grant be varied:-
- (i) to enable the group to undertake lift repairs at their Abbey Street premises, allowing full disabled access throughout the Abbey Street facility and to ensure compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act;
  - (ii) to carry out routine maintenance of the gym equipment at the Active8 Centre to ensure access for local residents.
- 8.1.9 Members will be aware that Headland Future have recently overcome financial difficulties by reviewing their operation and reshaping the organisation accordingly and have subsequently re-mortgaged their premises to secure their future. Therefore on balance, Officers feel that the right decision would be to recommend that the request to vary the terms of the grant be approved. However, Members could see fit to request the repayment of the grant, which could be returned to the Community Pool for the benefit of other groups.

- 8.1.10 **Members are recommended to approve the variation of the terms of the grant awarded to Headland Future in the 2004/2005 financial year as requested and detailed in paragraph 8.18.**

## 8.2 **Central Residents Association (CRA) Accrual of 2005/2006 Award**

- 8.2.1 At the meeting of the Grants Committee on 24th February, 2005 Members approved an award of £15,000 for Central Residents Association.
- 8.2.2 The grant was approved as a contribution towards the salary costs of a Manager and an Administrator's post. Monthly payments have been made in respect of the Administrator's post, however, due to financial and operational difficulties, CRA have not been in a position to employ a Manager and, as a result, have not been in a position to draw down all of the funding approved for the current financial year.
- 8.2.3 It has become apparent that CRA are no longer in a position to continue trading and have declared themselves '*voluntarily insolvent*'. This being the case, the balance of the grant, amounting to £11,635.53 awarded for the 2005/2006 will not be paid out.
- 8.2.4 It is proposed that the balance of the grant be accrued into the 2006/2007 financial year. This will ensure that Community Pool resources are retained for the benefit of the voluntary sector.
- 8.2.5 **Members are requested to approve the accrual of the balance of the 2005/2006 award to Central Residents Association £11,653.53 into the 2006/2007 Community Pool budget.**

## 9. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The balance available for distribution today is £24,572. If Members approve the recommendations within paragraph 10, totalling £24,572, the Community Pool budget 2005/2006 will be fully expended.

## 10. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are requested to:-

1. Approve the following awards:-
 

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| (i) Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency | £19,527 |
| (ii) The Wharton Trust                      | £5,000  |
2. Approve the change of use of the grant awarded to Headland Future as detailed in the body of the report.

3. Approve the accrual of the balance of the award made to Central Residents amounting to £11,635.53 made to Central Residents Association in this financial year, towards the 2006/2007 Community Pool budget.

CONTACT OFFICER: John Mennear, Acting Assistant Director (Cultural Services)

### Background Papers

Applications to the Community Pool 2005/2006.

Letter from Headland Future Ltd., 14th November, 2006.

## **GRANTS COMMITTEE**

10<sup>th</sup> January 2006



**Report of:** The Head of Community Safety & Prevention

**Subject:** NRF COMMUNITY SAFETY GRANTS POOL

---

### **SUMMARY**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To seek approval to allocate a proportion of the NRF Community Safety Grants Pool to a project.

#### **2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

The report outlines the process and criteria for allocation of the NRF Community Safety Grants Pool. The grant application for consideration is described.

#### **3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

Grants Committee has responsibility for grant approvals over £500.

#### **4. TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-Key

#### **5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Cabinet Grants Committee

#### **6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

Approval of grant application.

**Report of:** The Head of Community Safety & Prevention

**Subject:** NRF COMMUNITY SAFETY GRANTS POOL

---

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek approval to allocate a proportion of the NRF Community Safety Grants Pool to a project.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Safer Hartlepool Partnership currently coordinates the Community Safety Grants Pool. It is awarded by Hartlepool Borough Council to allow community groups access to a fund whereby they can tackle local community safety problems.

- 2.2 There are four Objectives of the Grant: -

1. To contribute to the objectives of the Crime, Disorder and Drugs Strategy 2005-2008
2. To encourage greater involvement in local community activities
3. To help community groups to improve their local neighbourhood
4. To support any other activities by which local groups can contribute to the regeneration of their local area

- 2.3 The NRF Community Safety Grants Panel recommends projects for funding based on the following criteria: -

1. The degree to which the project contributes to achieving one of the primary objectives contained in the crime, disorder and drugs strategy
2. The number of resident benefiting
3. The value for money offered by the project
4. The extent to which the needs being addressed are not been covered by other projects
5. The ability of the organization to deliver the project
6. The extent to which the project supports or strengthens a community group
7. Whether the project is new or innovative
8. Whether or not the project would be likely to go ahead at the time, in the place or the extent proposed without assistance

- 2.4 All projects are considered first by NRF Community Safety Grants Panel, which comprises six Community Network representatives, supported and advised by officers from the Police and Community Safety section.
- 2.5 Several projects under the £500 maximum grant threshold have already been approved in 2005/06 and are already benefiting the local community.

### **3. PROJECT FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 Members are asked to consider the project set out in paragraphs 3.2 below.
- 3.2 Owton Manor West Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Project
  - 3.2.1 The Owton Manor West Neighbour Watch and Residents Association (OMWNW and RA) has submitted an application to fund a pedestrian access gate, a bin bay and various repairs to the Manor West Centre at Brierton Lane shops.
  - 3.2.2 The NRF Community Safety Grants Panel considered this scheme at its meeting on 15 October 2005.
  - 3.2.3 The Grants Panel agreed with OMWNW and RA that the project would benefit the welfare and safety of the residents of the flats above the shops and also to staff, customers and visitors to the various outlets.
  - 3.2.4 The project will meet all the objectives of the fund. OMWNW and RA will measure the success of the project by the level of crime and anti-social behaviour taking place in the area after the project is implemented. They estimate that the project would benefit approximately 1000 residents.
  - 3.2.5 The funding sought from the NRF Community Safety grants pool is £3084.82. This is above the maximum grant (£500) which can be recommended by the Grants Panel or approved by the Director of Regeneration and Planning Services, using his delegated authority.

### **4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 4.1 The NRF Community Safety grants pool has a budget of £15,000 in 2005/06. Applications totaling just over £2,650 have already been approved.
- 4.2 A further three applications have been received which total just over £3,300. These will be considered at the next meeting of the Panel.
- 4.3 There is sufficient budget remaining to approve this application.



**5.        RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1        Members are recommended to approve the application for £3084.82 towards the cost of a pedestrian access gate, bin bay and various repairs to the Manor West Centre at Brierton Lane shops.

Contact officer:        Alison Mawson, Head of Community Safety & Prevention

Background papers

Individual bid to NRF Community Safety Grants Panel on the 15<sup>th</sup> October 05.