

Committee: FULL COUNCIL

Date: 25 January 2022

Title: Grant – Green Ilminster

Purpose of Report

For members to consider a grant application from Green Ilminster

Recommendation:

Members resolve to award a grant of £500 to Green Ilminster to support the Ilminster Share and Repair initiative.

Report:

1. Green Ilminster have approached the Town Council to request a grant to help support the “Share and Repair” initiative that they are setting up at 18 Silver Street, Ilminster.
2. Whilst Green Ilminster have yet to set up a formally registered organisation, they are in the process of looking into which type of organisational structure would best suit them. This may in fact be a Community Interest Company but they are holding meetings with SPARK Somerset shortly to discuss this further.
3. Three members of Green Ilminster are taking on responsibility for the project and have a separate Bank Account in the Name of Green Ilminster.
4. Documents (**Appendix 12A**) have been provided to officers that indicate that they have held activities to raise their own funds as well as applying for additional Funding from the Minster Church (£500), SSDC (£2,000) and from a Just Giving Page (£455). They are looking for a £500 grant from the Town Council.
5. Green Ilminster anticipate that the project will benefit the Ilminster Community by encouraging a more ecologically friendly way of existing. The intention is that this will be achieved through sharing skills and knowledge to reduce the number of items thrown away.

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6. Volunteers will be asked to assist with showing people how to fix and repair items that they might otherwise have thrown away. In return they are asking for donations to help the project survive and expand.
7. Additional benefits of this will enable people to socialise at a time when there have been real concerns over the past two years with people isolated from their local communities. It will also benefit those people who are on low incomes and for whom the opportunity to recycle and repair items may be welcomed.
8. They are also looking to establish a supply of equipment and tools that can be loaned out when they are only going to be used occasionally by people but which can then be returned ready for loaning out to others in the community.
9. As part of their setup costs they are looking to create an online presence to help to publicise the initiative. As part of this they are looking to create and maintain a website for the project.
10. The town council currently has allocated £6,722 leaving a balance of £3,278 of the £10,000 that has not been allocated in the 2021-22 budget for Grants this financial year. In addition to this there is also £5,000 available in the Open Spaces budget for awarding to organisations should the council so wish to do so in response to an application.
11. It is for members to resolve to award a grant of £500 to Green Ilminster to support the Ilminster Share and Repair initiative.

Mark Tredwin
Town clerk
January 2022