

FULL COUNCIL

Date: 19 March 2024

Title: Grant applications

Purpose of Report:

To consider the grant applications received from:

- a) CLOKS
- b) Illuminations Majorettes
- c) Ilminster Diamond Majorettes

Recommendation:

- A) Members resolve to approve the grant for **£XXX** for CLOKS from the 2023-24 Grant budget/unallocated reserves.
- B) Members resolve to approve the grant for **£XXX** for Illuminations Majorettes from the 2023-24 Grant budget//unallocated reserves.
- C) Members resolve to approve the grant for **£XXX** for Ilminster Diamonds Majorettes from the 2023-24 Grant budget/unallocated reserves.

Background

- 1. Members have a Resources Grant budget of **£10,000** of which **£9,344** has been allocated so far this financial year in grants to Ilminster Carnival Committee, Ilminster Youth Football Club, Ilminster Ukulele Club, Horton Cross Nursing Home, the Quakers, Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley, Citizens Advice Somerset, Ilminster Library and Harlequin Carnival Club.
- 2. There is **£656** remaining in the budget. Any unallocated funds will be returned at the end of the financial year to General Reserves.
- 3. If Members wish to approve grants for more than the **£656** that remains in the budget then Members can resolve to take any additional funds from Unallocated General Reserves.
- 4. The applicants have completed the requisite application forms which have been appended to this report for Members to consider. A copy of the applications and all other information provided can be viewed by Members at the Town Council Office prior to this meeting.
- 5. In order to be open and transparent an Administration Officer is the Grants Secretary at CLOKS. This officer has not been involved in the processing of this application, a different Administration Officer has checked the application to ensure that it meets the conditions of the grant policy.

Report

A) CLOKS (Appendix 14A)

6. Information provided by CLOKS application.

CLOKS is a youth theatre group providing an affordable way for young people aged 8 – 18 to sing, act, dance and become involved in all aspects of theatre. It is run by a group of volunteers who work together to make a safe and fun environment for children.

Our members come from Ilminster, Chard and the surrounding areas to join us for rehearsals each Saturday. We currently have 43 members with a waiting list, there is over a quarter of the children come from Ilminster and surrounding villages. We do 2 performances a year and raise money throughout the year to help with subsidised subs, hall hire, Costumes and stages.

Our application is to help obtain enough funds to give our principles a mic, we currently only have 2, which is sometimes frustrating for the children and the audience. We are hoping to raise enough money to obtain 4 more mics, giving the children more confidence and giving them the boost as if it were a professional stage. The children benefit so much from the group, giving them valuable life skills for their future lives.

7. CLOKS have contacted officers to advise that there is an error on their application form and the percentage of children who are members of CLOKS that come from Ilminster is 5% not 25% as originally stated.
8. Members **RESOLVE** to approve a grant of **£XXX** for CLOKS from the 2023-24 Grant budget/unallocated reserves or may have a different resolution for this application.

B) Illuminations Majorettes (Appendix B)

9. The Illuminations Majorettes are a troupe of 22 youth members, they meet weekly at the Parish Rooms
10. Members pay a sub which goes towards running costs.
11. The majorettes have applied for a grant of **£440** to purchase new carnival outfits for their members, this represents **50%** of the total cost of **£880**.
12. The application form states that part of the grant may be used towards running costs, I have advised the applicant that we do not cover running costs so any grant approved by Members can solely be used for the purchase of carnival outfits.
13. Members resolve to approve the grant for **£XXX** for Illuminations Majorettes from the 2023-24 Grant budget/unallocated reserves or may have a different resolution for this application.

C) Ilminster Diamonds Majorettes (Appendix C)

14. The Ilminster Diamond Majorettes are a troupe of 15 youth members, they meet every Wednesday at the Ile Youth Club.
15. Members pay a sub which goes towards running costs and costumes.
16. The majorettes have applied for a grant of **£500** to purchase new batons for their members, a total cost of **£1140**.
17. As a troupe the majorettes are judged on the way they look, on style, uniformity and skills. If they all have the same batons, this will encourage confidence and precision.
18. The troupe fundraise by entering Carnivals and various events including IMEX and Party On The Park.
19. Members resolve to approve the grant for **£500** for Ilminster Diamonds Majorettes from the 2023-24 Grant budget/unallocated reserves or may have a different resolution for this application.

Vicky Freeman
Administration Officer
March 2024