

1ST GOLDSWORTH PARK SCOUT GROUP – APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Executive Summary

The 1st Goldsworth Park Scout Group is based at the Generation Centre, which is a vibrant, multi-purpose building on Goldsworth Park. It is the base for over 400 Guides and Scouts aged between six and eighteen years old during weekday evenings, along with other user groups during the daytimes and weekends.

To make safe and prolong the durability of the surrounding paths and pavements of the Generation Centre, which members of the public have access to, the Group is applying for a capital grant of £15,000 towards the cost of replacing the paving. The Group states that parents and hirers of the building have remarked on the need for repairs, to make it safe for all users, adding that visually it appears unkempt and could deter new users. By improving the accessibility of the Generation Centre this will enable the wider community to access the building safely.

Taking into account the consultee comments, it is proposed that the application be supported. For capital applications, the Council would ordinarily look to fund up to 50% of the funds requested, unless exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated. In the case of the application by the 1st Goldsworth Park Scout Group, it is recommended that the level of grant is set at 50% of the capital costs up to a maximum of £7,500, subject to the presentation of invoices.

Recommendations

The Executive is requested to:	RESOLVE That a grant of 50% of the costs up to a maximum of £7,500 be awarded from the Community Fund towards the paving work.
Reason for Decision	The proposed work to the paving area will improve the appearance and safety of the access to the Generation Centre.
Legal Authority	S19 (Misc. Provisions) Local Government Act 1976
Conditions	<p>Accounts. The Organisation must submit audited accounts for the year in which the grant is awarded, including an income and expenditure account and balance sheet. Please note that accounts for other years may also be required.</p> <p>Monitoring Information. The Organisation must submit monitoring information as a measure of its achievements. Failure to provide details will jeopardise the award. E-mail requests will be sent to the applicant on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>Publicity. Where possible, the Organisation is required to publicise the support received from Woking Borough Council, including on all literature and leaflets produced.</p> <p>Payments. Unless exceptional circumstances exist all invoices must be received quarterly with details of the costs incurred and monitoring</p>

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	<p>information for the previous quarter.</p> <p>Payment Period. Final quarter claims must be made by the second week in March. Unclaimed awards will not be available at a later date unless exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated to the Council before the end of the award year.</p> <p>Joint Working. WBC expects the Organisation to engage positively on health and wellbeing multi-agency joint work affecting Woking. Groups which refuse may place their Council support at risk, e.g. grant, concessionary rent and other assistance.</p> <p>Invoices / Receipts. In order to claim an element of the funding, the Organisation must submit paid invoices or receipts relating to equipment purchased or services provided.</p> <p>Venue Hire. Woking Borough Council has a duty to ensure that publicly-owned venues and resources do not provide a platform for extremists and are not used to disseminate extremist views. This duty extends to organisations that work with the local authority so this includes recipients of any grants from Woking Borough Council. If you hire out your venue/s you should ensure you have good processes in place for record keeping and checking if they are an appropriate group to be making the hire arrangements. The following are some of what should be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic details should be recorded to include speakers address, mobile phone number & organisation details.• Has the identity of the speaker been confirmed & is their organisation bona fide? Are they known to you?• Is the speaker from the area? Are they UK citizens or from overseas & will they travel specifically for this event?• Consider checks on the internet to confirm the status of speaker to include website, YouTube or social media sites.• How many people are likely to attend (check previous or similar events either locally or online).
Performance Indicators	<p>Publicity. The Organisation to advise how the Council's support has been publicised over the last quarter.</p> <p>Statement of Use. The Organisation to provide a statement stating the use to which the grant money has been put.</p>

The Executive has authority to determine the above recommendations.

Background Papers:

2019/20 Application Form.

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Date Published:

4 December 2018

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1.0 Summary of Application	
1.1 Status and Aims	<p>1st Goldsworth Park Scout Group was formed in 1978/9. Its aim is to provide the 'Scouting for All' plan which is focused on four strategic objectives: Growth, Inclusivity, Community Impact and Youth Shaped.</p> <p>The Group's main activities include enabling young people to learn and experience life skills through a series of weekly meetings along with camps, expeditions and other events over a number of years. The majority of children fall within the six to fourteen age bracket.</p>
1.2 Employees	None.
1.3 Volunteers	<p>Twelve.</p> <p>The volunteers lead the Group, organise the activities and provide coaching and support to the young people to help them achieve their top awards. The volunteers are supported through digital tools, programme resources and training in practical scouting skills.</p>
1.4 Clients/Users	See below.
1.5 Members	<p>79, comprising:</p> <p>62 male</p> <p>17 female</p> <p>79 resident in Woking</p> <p>41 aged 5-10</p> <p>21 aged 11-18</p> <p>16 aged 19-65</p> <p>1 aged 65+</p> <p>Youth members are charged termly subscriptions at £38 per term.</p>
1.6 Sum Requested	£15,000 (Capital)
1.7 Project	<p>The purpose of the grant application is to make good the paving areas and surrounding paths to the Generation Centre, which members of the public also have access to. At present, the area is potentially unsafe as there are a number of uneven surfaces. In addition, the Group reports that it is visually not in keeping with the local shopping parade as the children's play area has recently been refurbished.</p> <p>It is stated that by making the access safer it would increase the wider community use of the Generation Centre whilst improving the entrance.</p>
1.8 Cost breakdown:	The Group expects the cost of the block paving to range from £12,500 to £20,000. The Group has sought an estimate from the Council for the paving, adjusting ironworks and miscellaneous repairs which equates to £20,000.
1.9 Community Benefit	There are many families who are indebted to the work of the Guides and Scouts associations, as without this facility the local children

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	<p>would suffer as a result of not being able to join the organisations. The Woking District Guide and Scout Groups are all oversubscribed and keeping the facility at Goldsworth Park in a safe and good standard will benefit many generations to come. The Guides and Scouts are run by volunteers who have Executive Committees, who fundraise and manage such events as community litter picks around the area. A bi-annual working party day is also held to carry out building maintenance such as gutter clearing, painting the external doors and window frames, keeping the building in good working order.</p> <p>This project will impact on the safety of all the building's facilities which makes a huge difference to people's lives. The Generation Centre was built over 30 years ago with the wellbeing of the wider community of Goldsworth Park at its heart. Many young people rely on community buildings to take part in structured activities, and therefore access to the Generation Centre should be kept safe for such use.</p>
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2.0 Financial Background	
2.1 Budget	<p>At the time of the application, the Group held £13,275 in the bank.</p> <p>The Group has advised that it does not hold a budget for 2019/20 but expects income and expenditure to be in line with its most recent set of accounts, as set out below.</p>
2.2 Accounts	<p>The Group has submitted accounts for 2017/18 which show an income of £11,269 (£6,817 in 2016/17) against expenditure of £9,975 (£4,071 in 2016/17), resulting in a surplus of £1,294 (a surplus of £2,746 in 2016/17). The sum of £13,275 was carried forward at the end of the 2017/18 year.</p>
2.3 Support over the past five years	New application.

3.0 Assessment of Application		
3.1 Key Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Constitution ○ Registered Charity ○ VAT Registered ○ Equal Opportunities Policy ○ Safeguarding Policy ○ Reserves Policy ○ Quality Mark ○ Other funding sources pursued ○ Other support by the Council ○ Fundraising ○ Two quotes 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regular monitoring provided previously 	N/A
<p>3.2 Consultee Comments</p>	<p><u>Sylvie Marshall, Community Development Manager</u></p> <p>The application is to make safe and prolong the durability of the surrounding paths and pavements of the Generation Centre, which members of the public have access to, the Group is applying for a grant towards the cost of replacing the paving. Parents and hirers of the building have remarked on the need for repairs, to make the area safe for all users, adding that visually it appears unkempt and could deter new users. Temporary repairs have been made to the worst areas; however the paving now needs to be professionally replaced.</p> <p>The location of the Generation Centre is on a main access footpath route from the shopping parade to the local recreational facilities around Goldsworth Park Lake. By improving the accessibility of the Generation Centre this will encourage potential new users and also enable the wider community to access the building safely.</p> <p>Due to the level of community benefit if the paving were to be repaired I would recommend the support of the application and that a grant be approved in line with the Council's policy for capital applications.</p>	
<p>3.3 Assessment</p>	<p>The 1st Goldsworth Park Scout Group is based at the Generation Centre. It is the base for over 400 Guides and Scouts aged between six and eighteen years old during weekday evenings, along with other user groups during the daytimes and weekends. The Scout Group offers membership to the community with access suitable for young people, stating that nearly 10% of the children in the Goldsworth West Ward live on or below the poverty line. Therefore they rely on organisations such as the scout group to provide a safe and happy environment for learning new skills.</p> <p>The Group has applied for financial assistance of £30,000 to cover the costs of replacing paving around the Generation Centre. The work will make safe and prolong the durability of the surrounding paths and pavements of the Generation Centre. Current paving is in a state of disrepair and work is needed to make the area safe for all users. Temporary repairs have been made to the worst areas, though the paving is now in such a condition that it needs to be professionally replaced.</p> <p>The location of the Generation Centre is on a main access footpath route from the shopping parade to the local recreational facilities around Goldsworth Park Lake. By improving the accessibility of the Generation Centre this will enable the wider community to access the building safely.</p> <p>Taking into account the consultee comments, it is proposed that the application be supported. For capital applications, the Council would ordinarily look to fund up to 50% of the funds requested; and so it is recommended that a grant of up to £7,500 be awarded, subject to the presentation of invoices.</p>	

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