

SAYAPATRI NEPALI CULTURAL GROUP – APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Executive Summary

The Sayapatri Nepali Cultural Group seeks to preserve and promote Nepali traditions, art and culture. The Group has applied for capital and funding of £7,100 as part of the Group’s aims to enlarge the activities provided by the Group towards dance classes for children and a regular coffee morning for elder Nepalese women. The funding covers a variety of costs, including capital purchases and ongoing costs of classes and room hire for large events.

A successful children dance class and adult English language class were previously run by the Group, until the funding provided by the Community Foundation of Surrey ended, and the Group’s members would like to re-start the classes along with the coffee morning. The Group has a number of professional dancers with much experience in teaching Nepalese dance for children. The coffee morning would enable the Group’s female members to share stories and provide opportunities for assistance with integrating into the society alongside help with matters such as form filling, GP appointments, and improving their understanding of the English language.

The Group has not sought any funding from alternative organisations to date. In considering the application, it is noted that the Group does not have a reserves policy or an equal opportunities policy. In addition, the Group has not registered with the Charity Commission, which makes clear that “Every unincorporated charity with a gross annual income of £5,000 or more is required by law to register with the Charity Commission. Once a charity reaches this threshold, it should register in the following financial year”.

Whilst this is a valuable community organisation and the good work undertaken is noted, it is not felt that the application justifies the Council taking on what appears the majority of the costs incurred by the Group, with the revenue funding constituting a new, ongoing level of support by the Council. A similar application was received for the 2017/18 financial year and it is felt that the Group’s costs should be balanced against the income from membership fees and entrance charges for events staged each year, and that assistance could be requested from the Council’s Community Development and Engagement team to identify external sources of funding. It is therefore recommended that the application is not supported. However, it would be worthwhile the Group liaising with the Maybury Centre as they are likely to run a Nepalese group for the local community.

Recommendations

The Executive is requested to:

RESOLVE That no grant be awarded.

Reason for Decision

It is not considered that the application justifies the Council meeting the anticipated revenue costs based on expectations of increased membership and participation.

The Executive has authority to determine the above recommendations.

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Background Papers:

2019/20 Application Form.

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1.0 Summary of Application	
1.1 Status and Aims	<p>The organisation was established in 2006. Its aims are to protect, preserve and promote Nepali traditions and culture in the UK. Sayapatri Nepali Cultural Group is stated to be a non-political, non-religious and non profit-making community group.</p> <p>Its objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect, enrich and promote the Nepali art and culture. • To identify or cause to identify the importance of Nepali art and culture in Nepali and non-Nepali society. • To maintain the coordination and cooperation between/among the Nepali institutions or association set up in the international level to carry out the different programs relating to the social and public interest. • To engage with other ethnic cultural and social organizations to maintain multiculturalism and promote international brotherhood. • To carry out different types of works in different sectors in regard to interest and the matter of common concerned of Nepali residing in UK, Nepal and other international Nepali society. • To operate the Institution as non-religious, non-political and non-profit motive institution. • To unite youth forces scattered in Nepali society and motivate them to carry out different works to promote Nepali culture and society. • To carry out various types of works to maintain the social harmony and coherence in the Nepal society. • To carry out the miscellaneous works supportive for educational and social upliftment.
1.2 Employees	None.
1.3 Volunteers	14, whose activities include managing the Group and arranging events. A number of the volunteers are dancers and musicians. Voluntary activities are carried out in Woking, such as a dance class for children and a free adult English class in Maybury.
1.4 Clients/Users	<p>30, comprising:</p> <p>20 male</p> <p>10 female</p> <p>0 disabled</p> <p>30 ethnic minority</p> <p>20 resident in Woking</p> <p>3 aged 5-10</p> <p>5 aged 11-18</p> <p>12 aged 19-65</p> <p>1 aged 65+</p>

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	No charge is made to the users for the events held. Users are the members who use the resources of the Group, such as musical or cultural dresses and electrical equipment such as a laptop and printer.
1.5 Members	<p>90, comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 70 male 20 female 0 disabled 90 ethnic minority 50 resident in Woking 10 aged 11-18 60 aged 19-65 20 aged 65+ <p>There are three different categories of membership – life, general and honorary.</p>
1.6 Sum Requested	£2,500 (Capital) and £4,600 (Revenue)
1.7 Project	<p>The grant is to be applied to a children’s dance class and a coffee morning for elder Nepalese women. The Group would like to restart its dance class which had been held at the Maybury Centre. The coffee morning would enable social interaction and could lead to some English classes being arranged.</p> <p>The Group would like to purchase equipment for the dance class and coffee morning, office stationery and use the remainder of the funding towards a trip for coffee morning participants to a historical site.</p>
1.8 Cost breakdown:	<p>The following capital costs have been provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stationery - £400 Dance costumes - £1,000 Laptop and printer - £600 Sound system - £500 Total - £2,500 <p>The following revenue costs have been provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hire Hall Dance Class (2 hours per week) - £1,300 Coffee Morning (1 hour per week) - £650 Venue for two large performances - £500 Trip to historical venue - £1,500 Promotional Materials - £250 Administrative Costs - £400 Total - £4,600
1.9 Community Benefit	The Group estimates that around 20 children and families would benefit from the dance classes where both children and parents will participate, and around 30 elder women would benefit from the coffee morning session.

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2.0 Financial Background	
2.1 Budget	<p>At the time of the application, the Group held £5,250 in the bank. The sum of £3,500 is reserved for the life membership fund which would be used to make a payment to the family of a member who passed away.</p> <p>No budget for 2019/20 has been included as part of the application.</p>
2.2 Accounts	The Group has submitted working accounts for 2017/18 which show an income of £7,934 against expenditure of £2,318, resulting in a surplus of £5,615. No balance sheet has been provided.
2.3 Support over the past five years	2017/18 – no grant awarded.

3.0 Assessment of Application																									
3.1 Key Information	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;"><input type="radio"/> Constitution</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;">Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Registered Charity</td> <td style="text-align: right;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> VAT Registered</td> <td style="text-align: right;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Equal Opportunities Policy</td> <td style="text-align: right;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Safeguarding Policy</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Reserves Policy</td> <td style="text-align: right;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Quality Mark</td> <td style="text-align: right;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Other funding sources pursued</td> <td style="text-align: right;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Other support by the Council</td> <td style="text-align: right;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Fundraising</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Two quotes</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Regular monitoring provided previously</td> <td style="text-align: right;">N/A</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="radio"/> Constitution	Yes	<input type="radio"/> Registered Charity	No	<input type="radio"/> VAT Registered	No	<input type="radio"/> Equal Opportunities Policy	No	<input type="radio"/> Safeguarding Policy	Yes	<input type="radio"/> Reserves Policy	No	<input type="radio"/> Quality Mark	No	<input type="radio"/> Other funding sources pursued	No	<input type="radio"/> Other support by the Council	No	<input type="radio"/> Fundraising	Yes	<input type="radio"/> Two quotes	Yes	<input type="radio"/> Regular monitoring provided previously	N/A
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3.2 Consultee Comments	<p><u>Sylvie Marshall, Community Development Manager</u></p> <p>The Sayapatri Nepali Cultural Group endeavours to protect, preserve and promote Nepali traditions and culture in the UK.</p> <p>Funding has been requested in order to re-start Children’s Dance classes and start a new “Nepalese Old Women” Coffee morning. The Group has requested £4,600 in Capital funding to purchase equipment, and £2,500 in revenue funding in order to run the above activities.</p> <p>In this instance I do not recommend that Sayapatri Nepali Cultural Group’s grant be supported financially, however I would recommend that the Group engage with the Council’s Arts and Cultural Development Officer and Funding Officer to see if any other forms of support or specific funding advice could be beneficial.</p> <p><u>Refeia Zaman, Senior Policy Officer</u></p> <p>Dance classes are usually self financing (i.e. paid for by the</p>																								

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	<p>participants). The Coffee morning, Schoolhouse already operates at the Maybury Centre providing opportunities for all different communities to meet up. It would be worthwhile liaising with the Centre as they are likely to run a Nepalese group for the local community.</p>
3.3 Assessment	<p>The application is from a Group which has been active in the Borough for some ten years providing traditional events for the Nepalese community living in and around the Borough. The application is seeking funding for a range of capital and revenue expenditure for 2019/20 towards dance classes and a regular coffee morning.</p> <p>A successful children dance class and adult English language class were previously run by the Group. However, none have been held since the funding awarded from the Community Foundation of Surrey ended, although the members would like to re-start the dance classes and coffee morning. The dance class for children is part of the Group's national culture and the Group has a number of professional dancers with much experience in teaching Nepalese dance for children.</p> <p>The coffee morning has been requested by the Nepalese female members of the Group to share stories and provide opportunities for assistance with integrating into society alongside help with matters such as form filling, GP appointments, and improving their understanding of the English language.</p> <p>The Group has not sought any funding from alternative organisations to date. In considering the application, it is noted that the Group has advised that it does not have a reserves policy or an equal opportunities policy. In addition, the Group has not registered with the Charity Commission.</p> <p>Whilst this is a valuable community organisation and the good work undertaken is noted, it is not felt that the application justifies the Council taking on what appears the majority of the costs incurred by the Group, with the revenue funding constituting a new, ongoing level of support by the Council. A similar application was received for the 2017/18 financial year and it is felt that the Group's costs should be balanced against the income from membership fees and entrance charges for events staged each year, and that assistance could be requested from the Council's Community Development and Engagement team to identify external sources of funding. It is therefore recommended that the application is not supported. However, it would be worthwhile the Group liaising with the Maybury Centre as they are likely to run a Nepalese group for the local community.</p>

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