

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive Member for Leisure and Community for Decision

Portfolio:	Leisure and Community
Subject:	Community Fund Application – Friday Night Club
Report of:	Director of Finance and Resources
Strategy/Policy:	Community Engagement Strategy
Corporate Objective:	Strong and Inclusive Communities

Purpose:

This report presents an application for funding under the Council's Community Fund Programme.

Executive Summary:

An application for community funding has been received from Mr Geoff Knipe, Chairman of Friday Night Club, for the sum of £4400.00 for the purchase of two off-road vehicles.

The Friday Night Club is based at Wallington Village Hall and is run by volunteers. The club holds many varied activities for local people with learning disabilities and/or mental health issues.

Regular activities include a weekly disco evening, arts and crafts and music sessions, gardening, and catering where members of the club learn to set tables and prepare meals and then serve the meals to paying members of the public.

The organisation also holds regular archery and off-roading sessions at Marwell Activity Centre. They already own an all-terrain vehicle which is used at the activity centre to offer members of the club an off-road experience in a safe, controlled environment. Since the purchase of this vehicle nearly two years ago, interest in the club has increased with many people turning up for the off-road activity alone.

The club is requesting £4400.00 to enable them to purchase two Hammerhead 150 GTS off-road buggies. This will allow them to keep up with the demand for the activity, reduce waiting times and enhance the experience to existing users, whilst also being able to offer the activity to more people in the area. Whilst they do not have sufficient funds to be able to contribute to the cost of the vehicles themselves, they will be providing the volunteers to run the activities. They have already negotiated the use of space at Marwell Activity Centre which they have been using for the last two years and they also transport the members of the club to the venue by mini bus.

Councillor Mrs Trott and Councillor Whittle are in support of this application.

Recommendation:

That the application for £4400.00 from Fareham Borough Council's Community Funding Programme, submitted by Mr Knipe of Friday Night Club for the purchase of two off-road buggies, be approved.

Reason:

This application meets the agreed Community Funding Programme criteria for financial support for community capital projects.

Cost of Proposals:

The total cost of this project will be £4400.00 and can be met from within the existing budget for the Community Fund Programme.

Risk Assessment:

There are no identified risks associated with this report.