

Report to the Executive Member for Leisure and Community for Decision 13 June 2019

Portfolio: Leisure and Community

Subject: Community Fund Application – Warsash Local History

Society

Report of:

Director of Leisure and Community

Strategy/Policy:

Leisure Opportunities for Health and Fun

Purpose:

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

Executive Summary:

An application for community funding has been received from the Warsash Local History Society for the sum of £800 to purchase recording and transcribing equipment to assist the group with their Oral History Project.

The Society is a popular local interest group, with 99 members at the time of the approach. In addition to providing an opportunity for like-minded people to share an interest, the group runs the Warsash Heritage Centre. During 2018 this facility was visited by 260 people. The group works tirelessly to build a historical archive of the area for future generations and shares this knowledge with others through the Heritage Centre, strong links with Hook-with-Warsash Primary School, displays at the bi-annual Warsash Festival and presentations to local community groups.

Warsash Local History Society's Oral History Project aims to record the memories and perspectives of a large number of Warsash and Hook's residents, to create a record, both audio and transcribed, of a snapshot in time of the area. The recorded information will be used in presentations, to share with the pupils of Hook-with-Warsash Primary School and will also be available to visitors of the Heritage Centre.

The group is requesting a total of £800 to purchase the recording and transcribing

equipment for the project and a laptop on which they can effectively store the information electronically. They have approached a number of local groups, some community interest and others history focussed, to enquire whether they would be interested in borrowing the recording and transcribing equipment, when not in use, and have a commitment to extending its benefit across the community.

The group's accounts at the close of September 2018 listed a balance of £9,204.48. However, these funds are being prioritised to purchase new file storage cabinets for the Heritage Centre, to ensure that all the information collated to date is both safe and accessible.

Both Ward Councillors, Councillor Cartwright and Councillor Ford, are strongly supportive of this application.

Recommendation:

That the application for £800 from Fareham Borough Council's Community Fund, submitted by the Warsash Local History Society, be approved.

That the award is subject to the condition that the recording and transcribing equipment is available to other community groups to borrow, when not in use by the Warsash Local History Society.

Reason:

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

Cost of Proposals:

The total allocation towards this project will be £800 which can be met from within the existing budget for the Community Fund Programme.

Risk Assessment:

There are no identified risks associated with this report.