



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

REPORT AUTHOR	Colin Hill – Town Clerk and Responsible Financial
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Date	8TH APRIL 2020
SUBJECT	Grant Application for Walsden

PURPOSE:

1. To present to Members a request for a Grant of £3,000 to be made to Walsden Cricket Club - club minute seen by Town Clerk.
2. To inform Members that the purpose of funding qualifies under our Grant criteria in terms of community benefit, community cohesion and social exclusion, accessibility and inclusivity, not only through its active programme of club based activities across all age groups, but specifically in respect of this application for grant funding towards the provision of disabled toilets.
3. To inform Members that of the total cost of project at £12,900, £9,900 is being sought from other sources and therefore meets our grant criteria in terms of contribution.

BACKGROUND:

4. Walsden Cricket Club occupies land owned by the Town Council under an existing leasehold arrangement. The club has been responsible for all investment into providing the cricket pavilion, equipment and the operational cost of delivering an active and well supporting sports club, providing great benefit to the local community.
5. Whilst the club through prudent financial management and with the support of the community has managed to build reserves of £191,808, most of this is represented by fixed assets of the building. Cash liquidity as at Feb 2020 at around £12,000.
6. The last financial year saw operational losses of circa £6,000 offset by bar profit of £4,000 and therefore with the season being interrupted by Covid 19 restrictions, it is highly likely further losses will be incurred this financial year and cash availability to invest in such projects as the disabled toilets project would not be taken forward without grant awards being made.

7. The total cost of this project is £12,900 which it is proposed to fund by £9,900 as indicated below and £3000, from Todmorden Town Council. The quote for works totalling £12,900 has been seen by the Town Clerk.

From your own resources (including public fundraising)	£900
Donation from local family (confirmed)	£2000
Bruce Wake Trust (confirmed)	£2000 *
Crook Hill Community Fund or other grant source – to be applied for	£5000
* Evidence of award letter seen by Town Clerk	

8. Members will note that in addition to TTC support that further grant support is being sought from the Crook Hill Community Fund (or other grant sources) in an amount of £5,000. The club has a good record of securing grants from this fund.
9. Volunteer hours by the cricket club are estimated at 150 per week during the season, with a reasonable estimate annually of around 6000 hours, equivalent to in grant criteria terms, £60,000 worth of volunteer support.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

10. There is an element of risk in awarding any grant now to an events-based delivery group, but discrete elements that contribute to the overall event itself are relatively less exposed.
11. The grant requested is for specific capital type works and can be linked to delivery of this project including confirmation from the Cricket Club that other funding has been awarded before drawdown of any grant award Members may wish to make is made.
12. The amount requested, together with other awards being considered now, are within the budget set for the first quarter of 2020/21 financial year.

RECOMMENDATION:

13. That Members of the Emergency Committee consider whether to award this grant, and if so at what level.
14. That if approved confirmation of the award is sent but that payment of the award is conditional upon confirmation from the Cricket Club that the funding gap of £5,000 for other grant sources has been achieved or will be met from within the club's own resources.
15. That the Town clerk in consultation with the respective Chair of the authorising committee Resources be given delegated powers to authorise the release of any grant awarded.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

16. Agreement of the Emergency Committee is required to approve this Grant Award.
17. To manage the risk of future financial exposure should this project not secure other grant funding or be able to meet the shortfall from its own resources.

18. To enable release of the balance of grant funds awarded without further reference to Committee.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS:

19. These are unprecedented times for both Walsden Cricket Club and TTC and a pragmatic, but risk-based approach, needs to be adopted towards the payment of this grant, if approved by Members.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

20. New Grant Policy guidelines have been adhered to

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION:

21. None

SUPPORTING PAPERS:

- Appendix 1 - Application Form
- Appendix 2 - Income and Expenditure Accounts
- Appendix 3 - Constitution
- Appendix 4 - Disability Audit

FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Colin Hill