

--

Report to	Corsham
Date of Meeting	19/03/2015
Title of Report	Community Youth Grants

**1. Purpose of the report:**

To ask Councillors to consider the following applications seeking funding from the Corsham Area Board:

Application	Grant Amount	
<b>Applicant:</b> Pound Arts Trust Ltd <b>Project Title:</b> TAKEOVER	£1500.00	
<b>Total grant amount requested at this meeting</b>	£1500	
<b>Total amount allocated so far</b>	£520	

**2. Main Considerations**

Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2014/15 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.

Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Cabinet member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2014/2015.

Community Youth Grants will contribute to the continuance and/or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and wellbeing in the community area, the extent and specifics of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

Community Youth Grants give all local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

**3. The applications**

Applicant: Pound Arts Trust Ltd Project Title: TAKEOVER	Amount Requested from Area	

	Board: £1500.00	
--	--------------------	--

This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

**Project Summary:** TAKEOVER Takeover is an opportunity for 13 - 19 year olds in Corsham to take over the programming, promotion and event management of part of Corsham Summer Festival. We will mentor and train young people to create events specifically for audiences of young people and will work alongside them to ensure successful delivery of the programme. They will curate a series of events, from rock concerts to DJ gigs and will learn skills such as teamwork, marketing (including digital), and finance. Takeover will provide a celebratory stage for the voice of teenagers in Corsham.

**6. Please tell us which theme(s) your project supports:**

Informal education  
Youth work/development  
Arts/Culture  
Employment or training  
1:1/group work  
Community Project  
Volunteering

If Other (please specify)

**7. About your project**

**Local Needs & Priorities**

Corsham Summer Festival is run by The Pound Arts Trust (registered charity), who also run The Pound arts centre which caters for events and participatory activities for 16,000 young people a year. Whilst Corsham is fortunate to have this resource which is supported strongly by the local community, there is a gap in provision for less formal cultural activities, particularly for teenagers. Through consultation with young people at The Corsham School, they reported that most young people in Corsham do not independently attend live cultural events, and that for the proposed events to be successful it is essential that they have a 'cool' quality and are free to attend (hence a zero income target for Box Office in the budget). This is clearly best achieved by direct involvement of young people themselves in the programming and marketing of events. The cultural offer currently is managed and delivered by a staff of experienced and skilled adults. The core of this proposal is to share that expertise, support and nurture the young people themselves to shape their cultural provision. Nothing like this currently exists in Corsham.

**Consultation with Young People**

Pound Arts staff have initiated consultation with the sixth form committee at The Corsham School along with key staff, as well as the Pound Arts Youth Council (a group of young people who take part in activities at Pound Arts). We will work with these groups to recruit up to ten young people as the core volunteers to shape the Takeover programme. These ten young people will

be mentored and trained to develop key skills to enable them to consult effectively with a wider cohort of their peers. Consultation will remain the backbone of the project throughout. The young people who we identify as curators will meet regularly between March and the Festival in June. The intention is that Takeover becomes a regular part of the festival programme, but also that as the Pound Arts team mentors this group of young people they will also challenge, teach and change the way we work to make our programme increasingly accessible to young people.

How many young people will benefit?

We expect a small committee of between 6 to 10 young people to benefit as the core volunteer organisers/entrepreneurs who will devise the Festival offer. We expect a further 40 young people to help deliver the events themselves, also gaining essential employability skills. These fifty young people will receive a Certificate of Participation, will be signposted to additional participatory arts opportunities, and will have the opportunity to use their involvement to count towards completing an Arts Award qualification. Further to this we expect that a further 150 young people to benefit from attending the events themselves.

Accessible, Affordable and Inclusive

Takeover will be part of our annual Summer Festival. This Festival has always been aimed at families and the majority of the programme is offered for free. This project plugs a gap in provision for teenagers within this. The work that we undertake mentoring young people will be free to them and the young people themselves will ensure that the events are accessible and inclusive. Their brief is to create events that other young people will be excited by and will attend. As such, although the ticketing structure will be decided upon by the organising group of young people, we anticipate these events being largely free. We operate in a number of venues and locations, most of which are fully accessible. We are experienced in delivering projects with vulnerable members of the community and have all the appropriate policies, guidelines and practices in place. Our team of dedicated staff will work alongside the young organisers to ensure that Takeover complies with best practice. As the events will be devised and delivered directly by groups of young people, we aim to genuinely provide for young people an opportunity to engage with their community. We want this project to work hard to deliver to those who don't already know how to access culture and leisure or who don't feel it is 'for them'.

Volunteering & Community Involvement

Pound Arts works with approx. 100 volunteers a year and is the hub of much community activity year round. The young people who become organisers and curators will volunteer their time and we will provide access to our regular volunteers to help run the events. Our Festivals are a celebration of community and we see Takeover as a key missing part of this jigsaw.

Partnerships

Much of our work is delivered in partnership and we would anticipate that Takeover will be delivered working closely with The Corsham School, Pound

Arts, artists, and the venues who stage work during the festival (Pound Arts, Almshouses, Town Hall, St Bartholomew's, Springfield Campus, etc). We will also work closely with other interested groups with expertise in this area including WYAP (Wiltshire Youth Arts Partnership), Wiltshire Music Connect and Music Matters.

### **8. Safeguarding**

We take the safeguarding and protection of young people taking part in projects and activities here at Pound Arts as a critical priority. As such we have the policies which cover Child Protection & Vulnerable persons. All staff & Volunteers who have contact with young people are subject to a DBS check and we keep copies of these records in our office.

Our work with young people is headed by Naomi Silverton who is the Creative Learning Officer. Management responsibility for safeguarding and child protection lies with the Director, Russ Tunney and the board of Trustees. Responsibility for Child Protection does of course lie with every adult (staff, volunteer or trustee) who has contact with young people.

### **9. Monitoring**

We have a rigorous evaluation and monitoring policy in place which we use for the activities in our programme. At the beginning of the project we compile our success criteria, targets, action plan and timeline of activity. These areas of work are assigned to named individuals. During the life of the project we assess our progress against these criteria and respond to challenges or obstacles. At the end of the project we gather participant feedback, qualitative and quantitative data, and assess this against the original success criteria. This assessment is shared at trustee level and with appropriate stakeholders such as funding partners.

### **10. Finance:**

#### **10a. Your Organisation's Finance:**

##### **Your latest accounts:**

04/2014

##### **Total Income:**

£402362.00

##### **Total Expenditure:**

£393607.00

##### **Surplus/Deficit for the year:**

£8755.00

##### **Free reserves currently held:**

**(money not committed to other projects/operating costs)**

£83152.40

##### **Why can't you fund this project from your reserves:**

We are making an allocation of £2500 from our core budget, and providing £1100 of in kind support but are unable to meet the entire costs ourselves. As part of our national statutory funding, We are required to hold three months reserve of running costs so cannot use these funds for projects.

#### **10b. Project Finance:**

Total Project cost                      £7100.00

Total required from Area Board		£1500.00		
Expenditure (Itemised expenditure)	£	Income (Itemised income)	Tick if income confirmed	£
Programming Budget	2000.00	Box Office		0.00
Marketing	1000.00	Staff/space (in kind)	yes	1100.00
Admin	500.00	Seed Fund (if successful)		2000.00
Mentoring (8 sessions)	1200.00	Core budget	yes	2500.00
Equipment	500.00			
Tech Staff	300.00			
Venues Hire	300.00			
Travel	100.00			
Tickets	100.00			
Staff/space (in kind)	1100.00			
<b>Total</b>	<b>£7100</b>			<b>£5600</b>

**11. Have you or do you intend to apply for a grant from another area board within this financial year?**

No

<b>Decision:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Amount Awarded:</b>	<b>£1500</b>
<b>Reason for part award (if applicable):</b>	
<b>Reason for rejection:</b>	
<b>Local Youth Network Members present:</b>	Josh Towers, Joy Wingrave, Geoff Fortune, Bob Hancock, Marcus Chapman, Alan Macrae, Sheila Parker, Neil Pocock - Corsham Town Council (representing Miranda Morgan)
<b>Date:</b>	24/2/15

**Recommendations to the Area Board:**

**The LYN feels that this project has taken on board the voice of young people and will continue to consult with them during its delivery. The project has the potential to deliver positive outcomes for the young people involved if it is successful.**

**To agree funding this project the full amount of £1500.**

**Report Author:**

Xina Hart, Corsham Community Youth Officer  
01249 709401