

Report to	Salisbury
Date of Meeting	27/09/2019
Title of Report	Community Youth Grants

1. Purpose of the report:

To ask Councillors to consider the following applications seeking funding from the Salisbury Area Board.

Application	Grant Amount
Applicant: Phoenix Stars Cheerleaders Project Title: Phoenix Stars Florida 2020 Fund	£2500.00
Applicant: The Pound Arts Trust Ltd Project Title: Wiltshire Voices Salisbury	£2830.60
Applicant: The Bridge Youth Project Project Title: The Bridge Youth Project Mentoring Scheme	£5000.00

2. Main Considerations

Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2018/19 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: Phoenix Stars Cheerleaders Project Title: Phoenix Stars Florida 2020 Fund	Amount Requested : £2500.00
This application meets grant criteria 2018/19.	
Project Summary: We are raising funds to send our Level 5 World Champion standard squad to the Cheerleading World Championships in April 2020	
Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and	

benefit your local community: We are currently training 170 athletes from Salisbury and the surrounding areas. We are a registered charity which is staffed by both volunteers and paid coaching staff. Our athletes range from walkers 18 months to 25 years of age. Our focus with this application is to raise funds to send our less well-off members of the Squad Gemini (20 members) to the Cheerleading Worlds in April 2020. Some of our most talented athletes have had to withdraw from the squad due to the fact they are unable to financially afford to travel to competitions and purchase uniforms etc. We do our best to fundraise but this is an especially expensive trip. Once we have attended the Championships we hope to be able to attain sponsorship from companies to enable the trip to be less expensive next time. We would appreciate the help on this occasion.

At the time of publishing, this grant had not been considered by the local youth network group, and their recommendation will be given to the board on the 27th September.

Applicant: The Pound Arts Trust Ltd
Project Title: Wiltshire Voices Salisbury

Amount
Requested:
£2830.60

This application meets grant criteria 2018/19.

Project Summary: Wiltshire Voices Salisbury is one of four branches of an innovative exciting new county-wide Youth Choir Programme. These are high-end singing ensembles for 12-18 year olds in coming together for special events with a wide-ranging repertoire that is responsive to participants. The opportunity to work towards Arts Award is offered to all. In addition we will establish a British Sign Language singing choir. Existing choirs, schools and community youth groups across Wiltshire will be offered performance opportunities in inspiring locations such as Salisbury Cathedral, WOMAD Festival and Longleat. Continuing Professional Development will be offered to school and community singing leads strengthening singing opportunities county-wide.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: 20-30 young people from Sarum Academy, Bishop Wordsworth, South Wilts Grammar, Salisbury 6th Form College, St Joseph's, Wyvern College, St Edmund's and possibly Godolphin School will be recruited to the choir. They will benefit from fortnightly choir sessions throughout the school year and at least 6 local schools will be visited in the first year of the project reaching at least 180 young people.

The need for additional consolidated singing activity was identified through a consultation led by Wiltshire Music Connect the Music Hub for Wiltshire. Responding to their brief Pound Arts drew on our rural touring experience and learning from our Creative Learning programme to create a project that consolidates and strengthens the singing offer for young people in our region and addresses key priorities including rural isolation and deprivation, hearing impaired and deaf children, and military

families. We will work with school teachers to identify young people in challenging circumstances who would benefit from this activity.

This project supports WMCs Singing Strategy's aim of encouraging all schools to offer regular singing at all ages. We have designed a training plan including the Certificate for Music Educators to ensure the Choirs Champion is a leading and qualified expert and Mental Health First Aid to enable staff to best support young people facing difficulties. Wiltshire has significantly higher than the national average for children's admissions to hospital with self-harm injuries 172.9 per 100000 a key indicator of children's mental health. The pastoral care we will offer will support retention within the groups particularly supporting those young people in challenging circumstances.

At the time of publishing, this grant had not been considered by the local youth network group, and their recommendation will be given to the board on the 27th September.

Applicant: The Bridge Youth Project Project Title: The Bridge Youth Project Mentoring Scheme	Amount Requested : £5000.00
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This application meets grant criteria 2018/19.

Project Summary: The Mentoring Scheme was set up to support vulnerable young people in secondary schools who need additional support by linking them with volunteers from the community. They meet with a volunteer mentor for an hour per fortnight over the course of an academic year. This is a safe space where they can discuss any issues that matter to them and have someone trustworthy who will listen to them and act as a positive role model. We help young people to set goals and to realise more of their potential and a full evaluation is given.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: 1. The Bridge Mentoring Scheme matches students in 4 Salisbury-based secondary schools with a mentor from the local community. These are Wyvern College, St Edmunds Girls School, Sarum Academy and Avon Valley College. They meet every fortnight for an entire academic year and typically during a lesson in school time. The key age group is year 7-10. We already know that there is a huge need for mentoring in local schools this is the key reason we first piloted the scheme back in 2015. The Bridge works in 7 secondary schools across the Salisbury area and there is such a need for 1-2-1 support. The biggest need that we've found we meet is the need of what we've termed invisible young people, these are students who go through school life almost unnoticed. They don't have significant issues and so as a result they get lost in the system and as a result they sometime lack a consistent reliable role-model who can give them a safe space to unpack life and tell their story. We now have over 30 mentors meeting with 30 mentees on a fortnightly basis. There are waiting lists in all four schools where the mentoring scheme exists and a need for more mentors to come on board. The scheme provides support and guidance among students who may struggle socially or personally.

Perhaps one of the biggest needs locally is the lack of generational integration. It is so unusual for two people of completely different ages and backgrounds to come together and many of the mentors talk about this as an amazing opportunity to give something back to the community and to show young people that there are people out there that care for them. A significant number of mentors are retired and it is vital that they are able to volunteer in worthwhile causes that make a difference.

In addition there is the possibility of extending the scheme into more secondary schools. Existing schools have waiting lists of pupils necessitating the need for more mentors to be trained. Your funding would enable us to ensure that many more new young people would benefit from this scheme and have a mentor to support them in their life.

There is absolutely no charge to young people or their families to engage with the mentoring scheme. We are thrilled that for the cost of one part-time co-ordinator we are able to engage with so many young people who may otherwise not have individual support. It is so cost-effective. The mentoring scheme is also available and accessible to all young people. We welcome anyone who would benefit from a mentor. We also make sure to promote this opportunity to teachers and staff and with pastoral teams. Often the Bridge Mentoring Scheme is part of the official pastoral care route within the schools enabling students to flourish and achieve their potential.

At the time of publishing, this grant had not been considered by the local youth network group, and their recommendation will be given to the board on the 27th September.

Report Author:

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