

## **BOSTON BIG LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS GRANTS SCHEME**

### **Activity and financial report**

**April- June 2017**

#### **Administration and Scheme Overview**

- Agreed the reallocation of the balance of funds from 2015 -17
- Clarified project funding and delivery requirements for Boston Bike Night
- Clarified and put in place scoring and reporting systems for the 2017-18 programme
- Worked with the Resident's Panel to plan the 2017-18 programme and budget
- Received expressions of interest from 3 groups for funding in 2017-18 Round 1
- Provided advice and support to the 3 groups; discussed criteria, requirements and application deadlines
- Advertised for additional members of the decision making panel through LCVS website, Do-It and other local channels including the staff notice board at the Police station.
- The lessons learned from 2015-17 have been built in to the delivery plan for the next round of events funding in 2017-19.

Feedback and monitoring of the 2015-17 programme shows that the BBL Community Events scheme has been an effective means of support for some key groups in Boston, during which time the funding landscape has been challenging for charities and the local authority. This has helped BBL to delivery its priority of building community spirit and is reflected in the portfolio of successful applicants and events that have received funding.

#### **Wrapping up 2016 – 2017:**

Monitoring of delivery in 2016-17 identified projects that had not delivered on their funding agreement. These projects were contacted, the unspent monies were reclaimed and LCVS facilitated a process which identified alternative potential projects which had submitted an application before the end of the round (March 2016 deadline).

A total of £3659 was available from 2015 -17 round, including £402 of unspent monies, and: reclaimed which included:

- £258 under spend from the 'Food for Thought' event.
- £2999 from Just Lincolnshire who did not deliver on 2 out of the 3 events they had planned.

During the transition from 2015-17 to 2017-19, LCVS worked with the Resident's Panel and applications were submitted which enabled BBL to allocate the reclaimed funds. This resulted in a budget variation and corresponding additional activity in 2017 – 2018.

Two alternative events were proposed to the decision making panel. These were the '**Boston Bike Night**' event (independent community group requesting 2499.00) and an idea for an '**Outdoor Cinema**' by Boston Borough Council, requesting £1160.00.

The decision making panel supported the Boston Bike Night and rejected the Outdoor Cinema idea.

#### **The 2017 – 2018 programme:**

Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Service

The reallocation of £2499 to Bike Night left £1160 unspent from the previous programme and it was agreed that this would be used to enhance the 2017 -2018 offer including:

4 x small events totalling £5660 (£4500 + £1160)  
1 x large event £4500

### **Programme admin: scoring and transparency**

Following the end of year report (2016 -2017) it was agreed to encourage new groups and project ideas to bring forward funding applications in the BBL area of benefit and to introduce a scoring sheet to ensure clarity and transparency around the decision making process.

### **Applications:**

The 2017-18 fund has received three expressions of interest and one formal application. The officer administrating the scheme has discussed the criteria, requirements and application deadlines with each of the applicants.

Expressions of interest were made by:

- Transported Arts: Illumination Festival (amount unknown)
- Steam Punk Festival (national organisation, amount unknown)
- Lipdub promotional video of Boston town centre

The formal application was submitted by the Butterfly hospice for 'Ugly Bugs' - a sponsored family run event to raise money and awareness. Value: £286.00 (a 16% contribution).

### **Recruitment to the Decision Making Panel:**

At the request of the panel LCVS has listed a new role description for the position of panel member. This is being promoted as a volunteer opportunity through the LCVS and Do-It websites and is being promoted to the local police station as a micro volunteering and employer supported volunteering opportunity.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

The closing dates for applications in 2017-18 are Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July and 19<sup>th</sup> January.

The next meeting of the decision making panel is scheduled for Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August at the LCVS meeting room, The Len Medlock Voluntary Centre, 1pm – 3pm. T

The January date will be confirmed at the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> August. Additional meetings will be held if necessary.

### **Looking ahead; future activity**

- Await submissions to Round 1 deadline in July
- Score applications and arrange decision panel in August
- Discuss future rounds
- Monitor delivery of Boston Bike and ensure they are adhering to terms and conditions and submitting evidence of delivery
- Update project file for future reporting