

## RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 7

meeting date: 12 NOVEMBER 2013  
title: GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS  
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES  
principal author: LAWSON ODDIE

### 1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To ask committee to ratify the payment of grants to the Little Green Bus and to the Clitheroe Community Bonfire.

### 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 On 27 March 2012 this committee considered the voluntary grant applications received for 2012/13 and the recommendations made by the sub-group of this committee on the allocation of funds. At this time the decision on the Little Green bus funding was deferred, pending further information on its current financial situation.
- 2.2 In June 2012 part of the grant funding was released for the Little Green Bus volunteer car scheme, however a balance remained for the purchase of a replacement minibus. These funds were set aside at the 31 March 2013 in an earmarked reserve for future use.
- 2.3 A grant request has also recently been received from the Clitheroe Community Bonfire event, requesting grant funding towards fireworks at the event.

### 3 GRANTS PAID

#### **Little Green Bus**

- 3.1 Following the recent purchase of a replacement minibus by the Little Green Bus, a request was made for the release of the grant funding set aside for this purpose.
- 3.2 Voluntary Organisation Grant scheme monies of £3,700 have been released, together with a Local Strategic Partnership grant allocation of £2,500, giving a total grant payment made of £6,200. These amounts have previously been approved but were held until the purchase had been made.

#### **Clitheroe Community Bonfire (through the Rotary Club of Clitheroe)**

- 3.3 Following the loss of other sponsorship for the provision of fireworks at the Clitheroe Community Bonfire, a request was recently received for sponsorship of £500 towards the fireworks at this year's event (Annex 1).
- 3.4 Due to the timing of the request, the event and the next meeting of Policy and Finance committee, the request was put before the chairman and vice-chairman of this committee.
- 3.5 The chairman and vice-chairman approved the sponsorship request and a payment of £500 has been made to the Clitheroe Community Bonfire (through the Rotary Club of Clitheroe).

3.6 Payment of this grant has been made from the unallocated balance that was available on the Voluntary Organisation Grant scheme budget.

#### 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – two grant payments have been made totalling £6,700 from existing resources.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – no implications identified
- Political – no implications identified
- Reputation – these grant payments go towards supporting a valued community event and service
- Equality & Diversity – Equal access to services by all.

#### 5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

5.1 Ratify the payment of grants to the Little Green Bus and to the Clitheroe Community Bonfire.

HEAD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

PF56-13/LO/AC  
31 October 2013

For further information please ask for Lawson Oddie, extension 4541

BACKGROUND PAPERS - None

# Clitheroe Community Bonfire

Dear Marshall,

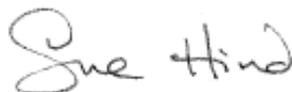
I write on behalf of the Clitheroe Community Bonfire Committee. We were all concerned & disappointed to learn recently that the sponsorship that enabled us to purchase the Fireworks has unfortunately come to an end. You might know that the generosity of Castle Cement in past years has meant that the combined Service organisations in Clitheroe, namely the Rotary Clubs of Clitheroe, Ribblesdale and Pendle View, Clitheroe Round Table and the Clitheroe Lions have been able to raise tens of thousands of pounds for local charities from donations given on the night by members of the public. We are of course very grateful to Castle Cement's welcome support for the purchase of the Fireworks in the past.

Without their sponsorship however and with reduced numbers attending by ticket only on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November we are worried that the fund raising element will disappear and that local charities will miss out.

With the recession still biting the marketing budget of many companies must be vastly reduced so we are asking for a fraction of the total cost of the Fireworks from a number of local businesses who are community-minded. The generosity of those Companies who become involved in sponsoring the Fireworks this year will be acknowledged in Press Releases, on the night by our local Town Crier Roland Hailwood and by a large banner advertising your Company on the Castle field should you so wish.

We therefore ask please for a £500 cheque (to be made out to the Rotary Club of Clitheroe) to enable the Fireworks to be paid for by sponsorship and thank you in anticipation for your kindness,

Yours sincerely



On behalf of the Chairman Bill Barker and Committee Members