

Finance and Administration Committee – 17 December 2020

Agenda Item FA1553/20

Watford & Three Rivers Trust (W3RT) Funding Fair 2021

Introduction

W3RT hosts a funding fair every year at which local funders present information about their funds for that year to local organisations.

Croxley Green Parish Council has been invited to attend the next event, on 23rd March 2021 via Zoom.

This paper invites Councillors to consider whether the Parish Council should accept the invitation and, if so, who might represent the Council at the event.

Discussion

Croxley Green Parish Council may award discretionary grants up to a total of approximately £80,000 per year under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. Any such grant should be aligned with our core objective of enhancing the well-being of the residents of Croxley Green, as well as complying with the legal requirements of s137 and s137a.

Our draft budget for 2021/22 allocates a total of £5,000 for discretionary grants next year.

In addition we have already identified at least £20,000 of expenditure in the budget for 2019/20 that will probably not be spent this year because of Covid restrictions that will be transferred to reserves and might be used to fund discretionary grants next year (subject to all the necessary procedural controls and approvals).

Anyone selected to represent the Parish Council will need a carefully prepared script to explain the limitations of the use and avoid giving a wrong impression about the availability, of funds.

It might be helpful to discuss a common approach with other Parish Councils in Three Rivers District before accepting the invitation.

Recommendations

The committee is invited to:

- Agree to consult other Parish Councils and, subject to their views, accept the invitation to attend the event
- Nominate an officer, or a Councillor, to attend and speak on behalf of the Council

Cllrs Andrew Gallagher & Nigel Cole
December 2020