

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted for the Officer or Executive Member
[NO]

Any conflict with any Member of the Panel and the bodies concerned **[NO]**

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: Legal and Community

DECISION TAKEN

1.1 The approval of the allocation Baldock Community Grant funding of:

1.1.1 Angels Support Group

£1,828 to help fund online support groups and workshops.

1.1.2 Creative Chefs CIC

£1,912 to help pay for cooking sessions that teach children the importance of making healthy food choices.

1.1.3 Groundwork East

£2,367 to fund their Grow It, Cook It, Share It course for 6 weeks.

2. DECISION TAKER

2.1 Cllr Val Bryant, Executive Member for Community and Partnerships, in consultation with the Service Director – Legal and Community.

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

18 September 2024

4. REASON FOR DECISION

4.1 The **Baldock Community Forum** held on 09 September 2024 considered funding applications from:

- Angels Support Group,
- Creative Chefs CIC
- Groundwork East

and recorded their recommendation to the Executive Member for Community and Partnerships. This is part of the process for the formal commitment of Community Grant funds via the delegated authority process.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 There are no other reasonable alternative options.

6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

6.1 Consultation has taken place with the Baldock Community Forum Members in a public meeting on 09 September 2024. Members are in favour and recommend that the Baldock Community Grant budget should be used for this purpose.

7. FORWARD PLAN

- 7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

8. BACKGROUND/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The grant applications were considered by the Baldock Community Forum on 09 September 2024. The report with the application details is set out under item 3, available on the Council's website [\[CLICK HERE\]](#).
- 8.2 Angels Support Group Hitchin, as referred to in 1.1.1, has applied to Hitchin, Letchworth, Royston and Southern Rural Community Forums for grant funding towards their online and in person support groups for families in their respective areas.
- 8.2.1 Angels Support Group Hitchin have received recommendations for the full amount requested from Hitchin (£1,940), Royston (£1,063) and Southern Rural (£2,232) Community Forums.
- 8.2.2 They are due to present at Letchworth on 18th September 2024
- 8.3 Creative Chefs CIC, as referred to in 1.1.2, have received £1,951 from Letchworth Community grant budget in June 2024 towards their educational cooking sessions.
- 8.3.1 Creative Chefs CIC have received a recommendation for the full amount requested of £1,612 from Royston Community Forum.
- 8.4 Groundwork East, as referred to in 1.1.3, has applied to Hitchin, Letchworth, Royston, and Southern Rural Community Forums for their Grow It, Cook It, Share It course in their respective areas.
- 8.4.1 Groundwork East has received recommendations for the full amount from Hitchin (£2,367) and Southern Rural (£1,982) Community Forums.
- 8.4.2 Royston Community Forum recommended that Groundwork East be granted £1,500 on condition that the applicant can fund the remaining £867 to deliver the course as laid out in their application.
- 8.4.3 Groundwork East is due to present at Letchworth on 18th September 2024
- 8.5 This delegated decision confirms that the recommendation made by the Community Forum members was accepted by the Executive Member for Community & Partnerships, and Service Director on applications 1.1.1, 1.1.2 and 1.1.3.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Following the decision of Full Council on 18 April 2023, a Community Forum (formerly Area Forum) shall consider applications for community grants in its area and make recommendations to the Executive Member for Community & Partnerships on them. The Executive Member has delegated authority to make these Executive decisions under section 14.6.9(b)((ii)A 5 of the constitution, in consultation with the Service Director: Legal & Community. That decision will be subject to a 5 clear working day call-in period, following publication in the Members Information Service (MIS) and on the Council's website.
- 4.2 These grants have been assessed against the Subsidy Control Act 2022.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The total community budget for Baldock and Surrounding Villages for 2024/25 stood at **£12,229**.
- 10.2 Prior to the meeting on 09 September **£4,200** had been allocated.
- 10.3 The amount left to utilise in the budget stands at **£8,029**.
- 10.4 The grant applications for this meeting total **£6,107**. If the grants are awarded as outlined in 1.1.1, 1.1.2 and 1.1.3, the remaining balance will be **£1,922** available for Community Grants for the remainder of the 2024-25 financial year.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Good Risk Management supports and enhances the decision-making process, increasing the likelihood of the Council meeting its objectives and enabling it to respond quickly and effectively to change. When taking decisions, risks and opportunities must be considered.
- 11.2 There are no relevant risk entries that have been recorded on Ideagen Risk, the Council's performance and risk system. Individual events should have their own risk assessments in place to mitigate any health and safety issues. Whenever a request for grant funding for equipment is received, the recipient of the funding will be advised to obtain insurance for the item to avoid a repeat request for funding in the event of the equipment being stolen or damaged. There are no pertinent risk implications for the Authority associated with any items within this report.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 12.2 Community Grant funds are awarded to community groups that clearly demonstrate positive impact on the community and wider environment. The projects outlined in this report seek to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The Social Value Act and "go local" policy do not apply to the matters contained within this report, as there are no recommendations on procurement.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this report.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 The activities of the Community & Partnership team are covered by existing budgets.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 Terms of Reference for Community Forums, see section 9 Constitution page: <https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/council-constitution>.
- 16.2 [Community Grants Policy, 9th May 2023](#)

16.3 [Baldock Community Forum 09 September 2024](#)

17. APPENDICES

17.1 See website links above.

NOTIFICATION DATE

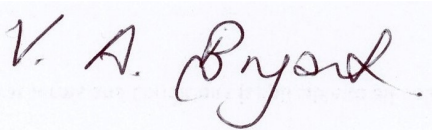
20.09.24

Signature of Service Director Consulted



Date: 19.09.2024

Signature of Executive Member for Community and Partnerships



Decision Taker

Please Note: that *unless urgency provisions apply* EXECUTIVE decisions cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days have elapsed after the decision has been taken to allow for scrutiny call-in. Call-in does not apply to NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS