

## **BEXHILL-ON-SEA TOWN COUNCIL**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>7(b)</b>	<b>APPENDIX H</b>
<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Finance and Audit Committee</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> September 2025</b>	
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Grants and Donations</b>	
<b>Summary:</b>	The committee is asked to consider paying out various grants to relevant organisations.	

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### **1. Background and objective**

- 1.1 Bexhill-On-Sea Town Council includes in its budget a sum of money in order to award grants to voluntary organisations and community groups that provide benefits for the residents of Bexhill-on Sea using the power provided by the Local Government Act 1972 s137.
- 1.2 The total Local Government Act 1972 s137 limit for 2025/26 is £11.10 which would equate to approximately £404,400 limit for grants and donations for this financial year. The Town Council has agreed a budget of £42,000 for grants and donations.
- 1.3 Five applications have been received to review and decide within the policy. Three of the applications are brought forward from June 2025, as the amount applied for exceed the £1,000 limit (as per point 2.4 below).

### **2. Purpose of the report**

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to review the applications and consider payment of the grants.
- 2.2 The first table below shows a summary of checks made by the Responsible Financial Officer of the applications which shows if the council's criteria has been met or not.
- 2.3 The second table shows payments made year to date so a decision can be made if more than one application is made in a calendar year. There is no restriction to the number of times an organisation may apply for grant funding, however, the history of previous applications will be considered in the decision-making process. Priority will be given to first time applicants who fulfil the criteria.

Table One:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Amount Required</b>	<b>Criteria Met</b>
Bexhill and Rother Homeless Unity Group (HUG)	<b>£10,000</b>	<b>Bank Statements, Constitution, Health and Safety and safeguarding policies all submitted. The grant request is for the increase of costs for the project due to reduced funding from other organisations. The project is to provide safe space at St Barnabas Church for some of the most vulnerable residents. <u>BROUGHT FORWARD FROM JUNE 2025</u></b>
Community Supporters	<b>£5,000</b>	<b>No Bank statements or supporting paperwork provided. The grant request for the running of a Youth Hub in Sidley, it is required to cover increase in running costs, and the reduction of other funding such as National Lottery. <u>BROUGHT FORWARD FROM JUNE 2025</u></b>
Flatland Projects CIC/Beeching Road Studios	<b>£4,000</b>	<b>Accounts, Governance Document, Portfolio of activity and safeguarding policy was submitted with the application. The grant request is for Marketing/Printing Costs, Design, Project management, and Photographer expense for the project of Bexhill Art Weekend in September 2025. <u>BROUGHT FORWARD FROM JUNE 2025</u></b>
Glow Baby	<b>£1,000</b>	<b>Bank Statement, Constitution and Safeguarding policies submitted. The grant request is for the need raise large capital amount to take on a new premises in Bexhill (£15,000 total capital required) to all support local children with disabilities.</b>
Space for Yew CIC	<b>£8,000</b>	<b>Bank Statement, Accounts, Safeguarding policies all submitted. The grant request is to create a secure, enclosed outdoor play space and Forest school area at Egerton Park for children with neurodivergent needs and their families to enjoy.</b>

Table Two

Action Against Abuse	496.25
Bexhill Senior Citizen Club	10,000
White Label Events CIC	5,000
Bexhill Breathers	1,000

The Pelham CIO	515
Heart of Sidley	5,000
Connection Café	425
Bexhill United Football Club	5,000
Normans Bay Residents Association	499.90
Bexhill 100 Motoring Club	500.00
The Little Commoners	392.04

Current budget position:

Annual Budget: £42,000  
Spent to date: £28,828.19  
Left to spend: £13,171.81

- 2.4 The council has set a policy that all grants applied for in excess of £1,000 up to £10,000 shall be considered in the months of January, May and September.
- 2.5 The total of grants applied for is £28,000. The total available funding is £13,171.81.

**2 Recommendation**

- a) The committee is to review the Grants listed in Table One and decide whether to award the grant.