

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

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>7(a)</b>	<b>APPENDIX J</b>
<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Finance and Audit Committee</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> March 2026</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 Six applications has been received to review and decide within the policy.

### **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 Primary Care Network (ICC)	<b>£5,000</b>	<b>Additional information provided and attending FAC as requested in February FAC meeting. The grant request is for costs to help fund the Health and Wellness event at DWLP.</b>
Bexhill Community Bus	<b>£1,000</b>	<b>Documents received – Safeguarding policy, accounts, Survey and constitution. The grant request is for bus repairs which are not normal wear and tear, but the current road conditions is having an extreme impact on the buses.</b>
Bexhill Cricket Club	<b>£10,000</b>	<b>Documents received – Safeguarding, constitution, accounts and bank statement. The grant request is for help towards replacement of the cricket practice nets, including essential base and groundworks, to be able to provide safe, effective and sustainable training facility for its members.</b>
Bexhill Down Ladies Group	<b>£500.00</b>	<b>Documents received – Constitution and accounts. The grant request is to help with increasing costs for the Christmas Lunch at Highwoods Golf Club.</b>
Heart of Sidley Summer Festival 2026	<b>£12,200</b>	<b>Documents received – Safeguarding, constitution, accounts and bank statement. The grant request is performance acts for the festival.</b>
Heart of Sidley New Hub Launch Event	<b>£10,000</b>	<b>Documents received – Safeguarding, constitution, accounts and bank statement. The grant request is for bespoke Tiered Staging, Integrated Audio-Visual Suite and A Cultural legacy.</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
Child with Cancer Fund (Polegate)	1,000
Come As You Are CIC	1,000
HRVAB	660
Bexhill Art Society	1,000
ESSPA	1,000
Bexhill Choral Society	475.00
1 <sup>st</sup> Sidley Brownies	400.00

Current budget position:

Annual Budget: £42,000  
Spent to date: £34,363.19  
Left to spend: £7,636.81

- 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 £38,700. The total available funding is £7,636.81.

**2 Recommendation**

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