

2020/2021 Community Fund: Interim Assessment Form

Locality: Tweeddale

Ref. No.: CF2021 – TW - 7

Organisation Name: Tweed Theatre

Funding Requested: £5,900

ABOUT THE GROUP			
Organisation Structure	Constituted – community group		
Annual Accounts Balance	£19,404.70		
<p>Are any funds ring-fenced, if so why & how much?</p> <p>Group continue to pay £240 per month rent for storage, insurance and water rates.</p> <p>The group don't anticipate that they will be able to perform a show in this financial year so their fund are likely to decrease by £3500 -£4000. A full Christmas show generates enough income to support other shows and pay their bills.</p> <p>Sufficient funds are kept to enable the group to operate for at least 2 years without any income and still be able to carry out live performances.</p>			
<p>Has the applicant successfully applied for SBC funding within the last three years?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>			
<p>Are they applying for Common Good Funding at the moment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>			
SBC Funds received	Financial Year	Amount (£)	What used for?

ABOUT THE PROJECT	
Project Brief	Tweed Theatre aims to produce a series of short performances that will be filmed and then streamed to an audience.

Project Start Date: DD/MM/YY		Tweed Theatre have developed a pre-Christmas programme in the form of radio plays, monologues and poems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's a Wonderful Life – radio play • Couch Potato Santa – radio play • The Pepperonis – radio play • I hate this virus and lockdown tales – a short monologue and a presentation of the thoughts, ideas and feelings of some of our community during lockdown • Christmas by the fire – a series of short poems and stories about Christmas 	
		The funding application will look to support 12 performers plus a director and producer to support rehearsals, providing costumes and props, access to Zoom to allow for editing and recording functions and some specialized skills in production and editing	
		The group are looking to purchase the Pro version of Zoom. This will allow the group to record the radio plays with each person in their own homes so that the group are then able to follow Scottish Government Covid19 guidelines.	
		The project will be carried out before Christmas. With the proposed project end date of March 2021.	
Total Expenditure (£)		£6,557	
Community Fund Request (£)		£5,900	
10% Match-funding		£657	
Any Other Contribution?			
Other Funding Sources		Amount (£)	At what stage?
Community Fund Outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality local services or activities <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to a better quality environment <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more pride in their community <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality advice and information <input type="checkbox"/> More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty		

Tweeddale Action Plan Priorities	<p>The project meets the following priorities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase support to individuals to help them be active members of their community

ASSESSMENT	
What need/demand has been evidenced for this project/activity?	<p>Tweed Theatre has been established for 40 years. The group aims to support individuals to develop confidence, overcome anxiety and improve their mental health thus enabling them to take part in team events.</p> <p>Two of the theatres spring shows were cancelled because of Covid 19 along with their proposed Autumn and Christmas shows. This included the Christmas pantomime which would normally provide the finance to support other productions throughout the year due to its popularity.</p> <p>While the Christmas pantomime is a huge financial boost to the group it also provides a community event which in the past has involved groups such as; scouts, brownies and guides. In seeking funding the group aim to bring a sense of community back and encourage members to join in with their proposed digital theatre offer.</p> <p>The group's membership fluctuates as individuals only tend to join if they are in a production. At present there are 30 members who are keen to be involved in producing online shows. There is normally 60 members who are involved in a production at this time of year. In allowing a platform for members to be involved in a production from their own home then the group hope that more members will be confident to be part of the productions.</p> <p>The shows would be advertised through the groups' social media channels and also via their regular mailing list. While they have not yet been in contact with Eastgate theatre, the group are hopeful that Eastgate would be able to promote their performances.</p> <p>There would be no charge to watch the proposed shows. Access to the production would be made available via Zoom. A weblink would be sent to all those individuals that would be interested in watching the production.</p>
What benefits will be gained from the project/activity and how well does the project/activity meet the outcomes of the scheme?	<p>Tweed Theatre ran regular readings pre Covid and these proved to be very popular. Attendance varied each week but around 16-20 young people attended along with 12 adults.</p> <p>The members currently miss being able to perform to an audience. It is also unlikely that they will be able to produce live events over the next few months and so have decided that the group need to find new ways of engaging their members and showcasing their talent.</p>

	<p>As access to the performances will be free, many of the Tweeddale community will be able to watch a series of professional performances. Many of whom would normally attend the Theatre to watch these in person. In having access to the productions the community will still be involved and will provide a purpose for the Tweed Theatre group who are having to diversify and unable to come together in a physical location.</p> <p>The microphones would be available for future performances aswell as for wider community use if needed. Eastgate Theatre only have access to fixed stand mikes while the group wish to purchase lapel microphones. Lapel microphones can be plugged into the laptop/PC. These can be reused for live performances with additional battery packs.</p>
What support and involvement of the wider community is there for this project/activity?	<p>The group will use a local based production company to ensure that extra work is kept within the Scottish Borders.</p> <p>Tweed Theatre have 549 followers on Facebook and have a mailing list of 100 individuals.</p> <p>These performances will allow the group to continue to engage with their members and develop performances online until they are able to go "Live" again.</p> <p>Tweed Theatre have worked with Eastgate during the summer on some online performances and they have good relationships that Eastgate will be able to support these events too.</p> <p>Performances will be advertised on social media aswell as in the local press.</p>
What efforts have been made by the applicant to secure other sources of funding for the project/activity?	<p>The group have not applied to any other funders at this stage.</p> <p>The group aim to continue to be self-sufficient and generate their own income during 2021.</p>
What happens at the end of the project/activity or when the funding is spent?	This group will not require on-going SBC support.
Quotes received for items of expenditure	Not applicable, all items under £1000
Have appropriate permissions been sought/granted?	Yes

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT

The application meets the criteria of the community fund.

Additional Terms and Conditions:

In the unlikely event that Tweed Theatre disband, all purchased equipment will be returned to SBC to be disseminated to other community groups.

We would seek the group to particularly report on:

- Number of people who benefitted from the project including number of participants involved in performances
- How many individuals watched the productions
- Improved integration in the community