

**Scottish Borders Council**  
**Community Fund Pot B Assessment Panel**

Minutes of meeting of Teviotdale & Liddesdale Fund Pot B Assessment Panel held by Teams meeting on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 at 5.30 pm

Present: Marion Short (Chair), Duncan Taylor, Dale Ploughman, Jacqueline McNeill, Rebecca Woods

In attendance: Gillian Jardine (SBC)

Apologies received from Iain Crosbie

**Liddesdale Ladies Amenities Group**

An application from Liddesdale Ladies Amenities Group requesting £1500 towards the cost of replacing the Christmas lights on nine trees around the main square at Newcastleton

The Panel considered this application and noted that this group carried out other fund raising locally in the community towards this project, the display having ceased two years ago due to the equipment failing to work

DECISION NOTED that: It was agreed to recommend that Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership award a grant of £1500.00 to Liddesdale Ladies Amenities Group and Panel Members were unanimously in agreement as to the merit of the project for the benefit of the whole community

However, Panel members expressed comments as undernoted –

It was noted that this Group make donations to various other groups and/or charities and it was felt that whilst this was a lovely gesture on their behalf supporting other groups, this resulted then in they themselves having to seek funding for their own project

It was further specified therefore based on the foregoing paragraph, that the funding approved by the Panel should be specifically ringfenced for this project and not paid out to any other third party

**Perfect Harmony**

An application from Perfect Harmony requesting £3000 towards the cost of engaging local musicians to provide concerts in nursing homes, sheltered housing, day care centres etc.

The Panel considered this application and were unanimous of the view of the benefits of this facility and the service provided. However, there were many areas of concern and generally thought there was insufficient information contained within the application.

- Comparisons were made with other Area Partnerships, for instance 6 concerts in Eildon for a cost of £1350 whereas only 2 concerts in Teviot & Liddesdale for £3000, which was indicative no pro rata rates were being applied
- There was a great deal of ambiguity in the application relative to figures for concerts, musicians and no breakdown available in respect of the reimbursement for musicians

- It was noted there was over £36,000 in funds and therefore a query why this income was not being used
- It was queried if in a care facility provision, is there an entertainment budget within each establishment who could make their own contribution to the concerts

DECISION NOTED that: It was unanimously agreed to recommend that Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership should defer this application for £3000.00 to Perfect Harmony and it was agreed that the application should be referred back to the applicant by Scottish Borders Council on matters requiring clarification and that if these issues can be resolved then future consideration could be given by the Panel

Panel members also noted that applications for funding had been made to the other four Area Partnerships with Berwickshire and Tweeddale assessment panel's not recommending the application for funding, whereas Cheviot and Eildon assessment panel's had recommended the application for funding.

### **Elliot Clan Society**

An application from the Elliot Clan Society requesting £2000 towards the cost of Ceilidh in conjunction with an event celebrating an Elliot Gathering

The Panel considered this application and noted there was no evidence of any other fund raising towards this project other than income derived from membership fees and generally thought there was a bit of ambiguity and not enough detail within the application

DECISION NOTED that: It was unanimously agreed to recommend that Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership do **NOT** make a grant of £2000.00 to the Elliot Clan Society

Panel members expressed comments as undernoted –

£8000 from their bank funds of £8072.43 was ringfenced for an Officers Dinner for 45 people yet other members and people from the community would have to pay to attend part of the event.

It was noted that the charge for others would be £15 per person which they wished to reduce to £10 but it was felt at today's prices that the higher amount for attendance at an event where food and entertainment was provided was not unreasonable

The final comment related to the fact that perhaps the attendees would come from too narrow a criteria and that the event was not overall organised for a wider community

Marion Short

Chair

31 January 2023