NSF applications - Assessment Panel recommendations for June 13th TAP meeting 2023

1) St Ronans Bowling Club

Request £1780 for 3 re-cycled picnic benches. The group has recently increased facilities and wish to buy more picnic tables to match existing. They have £10,278.43 in bank. Cost of project £1,980.

Panel's view – The group have £10,000 in the bank. The NSF pot is smaller by 40K this year. **Recommend** offering to fund the cost of two picnic benches = £1200

2) Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre - pilot programme to help tackle Anti-Social Behaviour

Request £6,750 for Creating New Arts Activities for ages 12-16 years. Eastgate is expanding its outreach by offering to reach this age group not currently catered for by offering skills training and creative opportunities. They are working with other youth groups and recruiting through the High School and their Social Media. The pilot 2023 Summer School Holiday events include 4 daylong workshops x 3 weeks in creative combat skills, voice, film/tv skills, choir/movement and dance. (Staffing costs = \pm 5,310 plus Studio Hire @ community rate \pm 1,440). If the pilot is successful, participants will be charged in subsequent sessions.

Panel's view – The panel is supportive of activities for this age group but have some reservations.

a) The workshops should be offered to ALL in that age group. There is no guarantee that youth involved in ASB will apply for these workshops.

b) The maximum award possible is £5,000 as other funding sources have not been approached. Since the pot is smaller this year, the panel has asked the applicant if it would be possible to run the pilot with £3,000. This is acceptable if the combat skills workshops are omitted.

Recommend award of £3,000.

3) Peebles Christmas Lights Association

The group request £7500 for Santa's Sleigh and Reindeers illuminated display from a specialist supplier they have used for many years based in Fife. The display will be manufactured in Spain. (Total cost £10,000 with a 1 year guarantee).

The group has £11,375.33 in the bank of which £10,000 is ringfenced for costs associated with maintenance. However, the group also has £13,000 in a bond.

Panel's view – It is hard to understand why the group has put £13,000 into a bond when this cost was on the horizon. Other towns are crowd funding for Christmas lights and approaching local creators such as Peebles Men's Shed.

Recommend – the group does some crowd funding to match the amount applied for, provides more than one quote, or evidence of other suppliers not being able to offer what is required, and then re-applies.