

Neighbourhood Support Fund Panel Recommendations

For consideration at the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership on 20 February 2024

Pot A applications

- Southdean Village Hall Request for use of underspend on previous grants
- Southdean Village Hall Southdean, Pot A fund
- William Laidlaw Memorial Hall Hobkirk Pot A fund

Southdean Village Hall: Request for use of underspend on 21/22 Community Fund, Southdean Pot A award.

CF2122A-T&L-02 - 21/22 Community Fund , Southdean CC Pot A fund – Awarded £2159.52 for media equipment. Request for the use of underspend of £348.82

SVH purchased media equipment, including an Ipad, Apple Tv, Bose Sound system, protective cases and 2 years of Broadband. Southdean Village Hall have provided the evaluation, including receipts for the grant and grant spend.

Southdean Village Hall spent £1,810.70 of the grant, leaving an unspent balance of £348.82.

Southdean Village Hall have requested that the underspend of £348.82 be put towards broadband costs, at £28.74 per month (equivalent of 12.13 months).

Southdean Village Hall: Request for use of underspend on 22/23 Neighbourhood Support Fund, Southdean Pot A award.

CFA00000, NSF 22/23 - Southdean CC Pot A fund – Awarded £3685.93 for a new heating system at Southdean Village Hall heating. Request for the use of underspend of £413.23

Southdean Village Hall have spent £3,272.70 of the grant, leaving an unspent balance of £413.23.

Southdean Village Hall have requested that the underspend is put towards electricity costs for the hall, which has risen from £53 to £193 per month.

Panel recommendation - 30.1.2024

Pot A panel members Philip Kerr Emily Douglas Adam Davies

Southdean CC has had online communication to address the variations, triggered by the underspend to previous grants. All three members of Pot A unanimously approve the suggested variations to these previous grants.

Southdean, Pot A panel recommendation – Southdean Village Hall

Application filed by Southdean Village Hall for a defibrillator to be located at Ruletownhead for £1,411.93.

The Panel met at 1830 on January 25th at Westerhouse's. In attendance, Philip Kerr, Emily Douglas, and Adam Davies.

The application was recommended for approval unanimously for the full amount requested which was constrained by the remaining money in the Southdean, Pot A fund (£1411.93). The rest of the funding is being sourced from elsewhere.

A score of 18 was given with a multiplier of 27. This meets a clear unmet need for the community and should be approved.

(Recommendation provided by Philip Kerr, Southdean Community Council.)

Hobkirk, Pot A panel recommendation – William Laidlaw Memorial Hall

Minutes of the Hobkirk CC for the Pot A assessment Panel held in person on the 23/1/24.

Present: Chris Laidlaw, Ronan Brown, David Nesbitt

1. Welcome and introductions.

An application from the Wm Laidlaw Memorial Hall requesting £6370.00 was received for the replacement and upgrading of the stage lighting.

Decision Noted: After reviewing the 2 quotes that had been put forward one was certainly more attractive. And felt the Hall committee would oversee the project diligently and would be good value for the community.

It was agreed to recommend that the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Partnership award a full grant of £6370.00.

David Nesbitt (treasurer HCC.)

Pot B applications

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| • Hawick Development Trust, Teri Bikes | Pot B |
| • Hawick Reivers Association | Pot B |
| • Home Basics | Pot B Application |
| • Burnfoot Community Futures | Retraction of Pot B award 23/24 NSF |

For this funding round the Pot B panel members were unable to meet to discuss, panel recommendations were provided to SBC via email.

Hawick Development Trust, Teri Bikes

Project summary

Hawick Development Trust is seeking £4997.99 from the Neighbourhood Support Fund for the Teri Bikes Project. Teri Bikes exists as a subgroup of Hawick Development Trust (formally Future Hawick), working under their umbrella organisation. HDT will act in an incubation role, providing ring-fenced banking and any other required facilities to nurture and support the project until it becomes self-sustaining.

Teri Bikes will operate a cycling hub in Hawick. Run by paid staff and encouraging volunteers, this project will give those who would otherwise not be able to access bikes the opportunity to borrow/hire/buy a bike. This in turn will promote health and wellbeing, cut down on car journeys, foster fellowship and skills development with volunteers, and provide job creation.

One of the biggest challenges facing this project is the requirement for most of the funding to be in place at the outset. Grant applications have been submitted to:

Community-led Local Development Fund (CLLD) – £19k grant secured
Rural Communities Fund - £19k grant applied for
Awards For All - £19k grant applied for

In addition to the above, other sources of potential funding are being explored.

The group are seeking NSF funding for equipment, marketing and staff and volunteer training costs in the lead up to a spring opening.

The panel's recommendation has been provided and is summarised below;

1 panel member is a trustee of HDT and was therefore unable to score the application.

5/5 panel members agreed to recommend the project to be fully funded, with feedback including that, the project will help with community wellbeing and is ecofriendly and that the group is filling a void that is not currently catered for.

Panel members have noted that there was still much fundraising to do. One panel member suggested putting a condition on the grant, that funding granted should be held back until all other funding is secured. This however poses a risk, as it is the end of the financial year, that the funding has to potential to be lost.

The Pot B panel majority, recommend to fund the full value of the application.

Hawick Reivers Association

Project summary

Hawick Reivers Association have applied to the Pot B Neighbourhood Support Fund, for £2000 towards the design and creation of a new website.

While specifically promoting the Reivers Festival itself, the website will also aim to encourage visitors to the town and Borders region, not just for the weekend itself but all year round.

The 2023 Hawick Reivers Festival event was attended by 3375 who physically attended and 110,000 digital attendees.

The group has advised that its current website set up does not allow its committee members to easily access figures for visitor numbers etc. This is one of the reasons (amongst many others) why the group is aware the site is rapidly becoming not fit for purpose and needs significantly revamped. Its current layout is not easy for visitors to navigate either. HRA is confident that with a rebuild, it can significantly improve traffic and that it will link much more smoothly with the group's existing social media / digital marketing strategy.

The panel's recommendation has been provided and is summarised below;

7/7 panel members recommend to fully fund this project. With feedback suggesting that although not a 'new project' the website rebuild would be beneficial to the group and the wider community.

The Pot B panel unanimously recommend to fund the full value of the application.

Home Basics

Project summary

Home Basics have applied to the Pot B, Neighbourhood Support Fund, for £5000 towards the purchasing of a new van.

Home Basics collect donated furniture, household and electrical items and provide them at low-cost to disadvantaged people on means-tested benefits in the Scottish Borders. Their current vehicle has done over 87000 miles and averages 1500 collections and 1700 deliveries each year. In the previous 12 months the group collected donations from 255 TD9 addresses and delivered to 318 addresses.

It is anticipated that the total cost of the project and a new low loader vehicle is £44,376. The final choice of vehicle will depend upon part-exchange valuation of their current van and delivery lead-in times.

At the time of the application, the group has £169,303 in their bank account, with £44,000 ringfenced towards the expected deposit towards the purchase of their Croft Road Warehouse in Hawick. The group has applied for £15,000 from the Clothworkers Foundation. Since the NSF application has been received, they have also been awarded £7500 from the Robertson Trust.

The panel's recommendation has been provided and is summarised below;

The panel had enquired about;

- The possibility of leasing
- The price of the van and whether there are cheaper alternatives. – quotes were provided
- The amount of funding required and where this may come from.
- One panel member suggested putting a condition on the grant, that funding granted should be held back until all other funding is secured. This however poses a risk, as it is the end of the financial year, that the funding has to potential to be lost.
- 6 panel members recommended that the project is fully funded.
- 1 member recommended not to fund the project, as they believed their current van is still fit for purpose but also because the group appears to have sufficient money of their own to fund this themselves.

The Pot B panel majority, recommend to fund the full value of the application.

Burnfoot Community Futures was awarded a grant of £1500, through the 23/24, Burnfoot Pot A fund, for Burnfoot Events. BCF have notified SBC, that they would like to retract the grant award.
