



Full Council Meeting 11th January 2022

Report Title: Application to Arts Council England for Funding of the Belper Community Play

Submitted by: Debra Townsend (Town Clerk)

Approval

Report for consideration by Full Council

Background Information

A proposal had been received requesting Belper Town Council be the named lead applicant for Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grants Funding for the Belper Community Play. Council's views were sought (14th December 2021 – Minute Number), and it was requested that the Clerk do further research before a decision was taken.

Conclusion

Research has been completed, looking at the Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grants Funding criteria, terms of offer and the advice and guidance on the website.

The following observations were made;

1. There appears to be no differentiation on applications submitted either by individuals or organisations.
2. If the Town Council makes the application, they become the applicant, and therefore responsible for any conditions that might be applied to the funding of which they have no control. For example, the Funder has the right to carry out checks on a sample of applications every year to ensure that clear records have been kept. This would not be in the control of the Town Council.
3. If the project failed, as the applicant, the Town Council runs the risk of reputational damage of which, again it has no control.

It should be noted that whilst the above observations have been made, this is an objective view that does not reflect on the quality of the proposed project or the benefit to the local community.

Financial Implications;

None

Recommendation;
That Belper Town Council does not become the named lead applicant for Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grants Funding for the Belper Community Play for reasons outlined above.