

**Report to the Champion for Older People**

**Report submitted by: Head of Service Legal, Governance and Registrars**

**Electoral Division affected:**  
(All Divisions);

**Champion Grants Scheme Application from:**

Blue Flamingo Community Hub CIC

Contact for further information:

Janet Nuttall, (01772) 533110, Legal and Democratic Services,

[Janet.nuttall@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:Janet.nuttall@lancashire.gov.uk)

**Brief Summary**

This report presents an application from an organisation requesting £1,738.94 towards the cost of setting up a new satellite hub for the Blue Flamingo Café, from the Champion for Older People budget.

**Recommendation**

That consideration be given to the request for grant funding as set out in this report.

**Detail**

The role of Champion was first established in 2002 and the county council currently has six Champions, whose role is to support the Leader and individual Cabinet Members within their remits.

The six county council Champions are as follows:

- Armed Forces and Veterans
- Disabled People
- Mental Health
- Older People
- Parishes
- Young People

For the financial year 2023/24, each Champion has been given an annual allocation of £10,000 for use at their discretion to finance their activities, to which any unspent balance up to a maximum of £2,500 from the previous financial year could be added,



giving a maximum budget of £12,500 in any one financial year. The Champion for Older People budget is set out in the financial section of the report.

Details of the request for grant funding are shown below:

|  |
|--|
| <b>Full name of your organisation</b>  |
| Blue Flamingo Community Hub CIC  |
| <b>How much are you applying for? Minimum £100</b>   |
| £1,738.94  |
| <b>What are you going to spend the grant on? Please give a brief outline of the project.</b>   |
| They intend to spend this grant on setting up a new satellite hub for the Blue Flamingo Café in collaboration with Willows Home Care, a care company based in Penwortham. Over the last two years they have firmly established a strong foothold in our main hub which operates out of St Michael's church in Ashton, Preston. They are eager to bring their group to Penwortham to extend their reach in to a different area of Preston.  |
| <b>Date of your project / event or the purchase of goods</b>   |
| Their project will begin on 6 <sup>th</sup> of March 2024 which we will fund in a limited capacity until they receive the money to deliver the full scope of the project outlined here. Should they be successful, they would intend to spend the funds within 12 months of the receipt of money. For example, if they were awarded the grant in May 2024, it would enable them to full fund the project through May 2025.   |
| <b>What are the benefits expected to be achieved?</b>  |
| The Blue Flamingo strives to support vulnerable older people in the community, particularly those living with dementia and their carers, in a safe, friendly and welcoming environment. To our knowledge, there are no other groups in Penwortham which provide such a robust support programme like ours. Members from our main hub have told us that Blue Flamingo is a lifeline for them which brings them joy in what can be a long, dark and lonely journey. Through music, singing and a variety of creative activities, we intend to provide people with opportunities to socialise, promoting cognitive stimulation and opportunities for loved ones to reconnect. By providing a space which encourages socialising and connects people to professional services, we aim to promote a sense of wellbeing and improve mental health. |
| <b>Please give a detailed breakdown of your expenditure for your activity / equipment.</b>   |
| Hall Hire: £540<br>Facilitator Fee: £900<br>Jigsaws: £149.94 (3 dementia-friendly puzzle packs for various skill levels)<br>Dominoes: £30 (3 sets)<br>Instruments: £119 (includes tambourines, hand drums and xylophones)<br>Total: £1,738.94  |



**If you are not asking for the full amount of the cost of your activity / equipment, please give us details of where the rest of the funding is coming from. Please also explain what you will do if we give you the grant, but you do not get the other funding.**

They have not included the cost of refreshments in this grant request. They currently take donations for sessions held in their other hubs, which covers this expense. They expect to collect donations from the Penwortham hub to cover our food costs. If they receive this grant, they will rely on donations to cover refreshment costs. If donations do not cover the cost of food, they will divert money they've requested in this grant to cover those costs.

**If the Champion offers a grant of less than you have asked for, please explain below how that will affect your proposal – for example, will you still be able to complete your project or purchase, will you scale the project back, or seek funding elsewhere?**

If they do not receive the full amount they've requested in this grant application, they will reduce the scope of their project until they are able to secure the funds to enable us to provide all of the activities outlined in this application. They will continue with running this programme, but will limit the extent of activities offered by outside facilitators.

**Will the activity involve members of your organisation having significant contact with children or vulnerable adults?**

Yes  
 No

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Risk management**

No significant risks have been identified in relation to the proposals contained within this report.

### **Finance**

An up-date of spend in 2023/24 is shown below:



|   |                                 |                   |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Budget for 2023/24  |                                 | £10,000.00        |
| C/F from 2022/23  |                                 | £0.00             |
| Refunds   |                                 | £0.00             |
| <b>Total Grant Available in 2023/24</b>   |                                 | <b>£10,000.00</b> |
|   |                                 |                   |
| Grant Allocations Already Approved  |                                 |                   |
|   |                                 | £0.00             |
| <b>Grant Remaining to be Allocated in 2023/24</b>   |                                 | <b>£10,000.00</b> |
| Grants Requests Submitted but not yet Approved or Rejected  |                                 |                   |
|   |                                 | £0.00             |
| NEW REQUESTS  | Blue Flamingo Community Hub CIC | £1,738.94         |
|   |                                 | £0.00             |
| <b>Total Grant Requests in Progress</b>   |                                 | <b>£0.00</b>      |
| <b>Value of Grant Remaining to be allocated in 2023/24 if all outstanding requests are approved</b> |                                 | <b>£10,000.00</b> |

### List of Background Papers

| Paper | Date | Contact |
|-------|------|---------|
| None  |      |         |

