

**Report to County Councillor David Howarth**

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

**Electoral Division affected:**

Moss Side & Farington; South  
Ribble East; Penwortham  
West;

**Local Member Grants Scheme Application from:**

Friends of Balderstone School

Contact for further information:

Local Member Grants, Tel: (01772) 530078, Legal and Democratic Services,  
[LPTLocalMemberGrants@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:LPTLocalMemberGrants@lancashire.gov.uk)

**Brief Summary**

This report presents an application from a local organisation requesting £2,000 towards the cost of groundwork for a new playground from the Local Member Grants Scheme.

The organisation has submitted a multi-division application requesting a total amount of £2,000 from the Local Member Grants Scheme towards the same project. Requests have been made to each of the following county councillors and a separate report will be submitted to each councillor for their determination:

- County Councillor Michael Green - £1,000
- County Councillor David Howarth - £500
- County Councillor Barrie Yates - £500

**Recommendation**

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

**Detail**

On 16 December 2021, Full Council approved the reintroduction of the Local Member Grants Scheme. Under the scheme, each county councillor has been given a specific budget which they can spend to enhance the economic, social, and environmental well-being of people who live in their division. Following the reintroduction, using powers in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Leader of the County Council has authorised individual county councillors to take formal decisions on behalf of the county council.



For the financial year 2024/25, each county councillor has a budget of £2000. Each councillor can also carry forward a maximum of £200 that was unspent in the previous financial year. County Councillor David Howarth's total budget is set out in the financial section of the report.

Details of the requests for grant funding are shown below:

<b>Full name of your organisation</b>	
Friends of Balderstone School	
<b>How much are you applying for? Minimum £100, Maximum £2000</b>	
£2,000	
<b>Which county councillors' electoral division(s) will your expenditure cover or benefit?</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Moss Side & Farington (Cllr Green)	
Penwortham West (Cllr Howarth)	
South Ribble East (Cllr Yates)	
<b>What are you going to spend the grant on?</b>	
<p>We are seeking to replace our condemned playground to create a safe and inclusive space for all children. Our school serves a diverse community, and the play area is vital for children of all ages and backgrounds. This project will provide invaluable opportunities for physical, social, and emotional development. To achieve this, we need to raise £30,000 in total. The grant money will specifically fund the initial groundwork, which is estimated at £11,000. Your support will help us take the first step toward transforming this essential space for our children.</p>	
<b>Date of your project / event or the purchase of goods</b>	
Spring 2025.	
<b>How will the money benefit people in the councillor(s) division(s)?</b>	
<p>We are initially looking to benefit our own children and families within the school but we are looking to expand the use to British Aerospace families additionally, this is currently in discussion.</p>	
<b>Please give a detailed breakdown of your expenditure for your activity / equipment.</b>	



We need £11,000 overall for groundwork to complete phase 1 of our project, this includes removal of the equipment currently on the ground, flooring (inclusive of safe disposal), levelling off the ground, laying foundations and the implementing of the astroturf and some basic equipment.

£2000 would be put towards our current raised funds. We currently have £7000, and we are looking to add another £1000 to that in December with further events planned for the new year to continue to build.

**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.**

As above, we currently have £7000 for the project.

**If the councillor 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 the full amount is not offered we will keep the amount given and continue to fundraise and apply for additional funding/grants until the target is reached.

**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 2024/25 is shown below:

Budget for 2024/25		£2,000.00
C/F from 2023/24		£200.00
Refunds		£0.00
<b>Total Grant Available in 2024/25</b>		<b>£2,200.00</b>



Grant Allocations Already Approved	The Friends of Marsh Way Pond	£452.00
	Vernon's Bowling Club	£800.00
		£1,252.00
<b>Grant Remaining to be Allocated in 2024/25</b>		<b>£948.00</b>
Grants Requests Submitted but not yet Approved or Rejected		
		£0.00
NEW REQUESTS	Friends of Balderstone School	£500.00
		£500.00
<b>Total Grant Requests in Progress</b>		<b>£500.00</b>
<b>Value of Grant Remaining to be allocated in 2024/25 if all outstanding requests are approved</b>		<b>£448.00</b>

### List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact
None		

