

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<i>Funding request from Pop Goes the Choir</i>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<i>Healthy Community Portfolio Holder – Cllr Paul Kelly</i>
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	<i>Martin Holt – Head of Healthy Communities</i>
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	<i>Claire Speirs – Leisure &amp; Community Officer</i>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED</b>	<i>Burnham</i>

## 1. Purpose of Report

To consider a request for funding from Pop Goes the Choir (PTGC) to perform at a Christmas market in France.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That Cabinet considers whether to fund Pop Goes the Choir £2,500 for the 2018 Christmas market in St Denis De L'Hotel**

Cabinet to consider the advice of the Portfolio Holder and any comments arising from the PAG. Members of the Healthy Communities PAG considered the application to be linked to a Twinning event that did not support the local area and considered this would set a precedent if supported. PAG members advised that other funding streams should be considered.

## 2. Reasons for Recommendations

PGTC has requested project funding towards a trip to France to perform at the 2018 Christmas market as part of a twinning event. The portfolio holder is in favour of supporting the choir.

The Portfolio Holder has advised that the group supports the communities of Burnham, Taplow, Burnham Lent Rise and the Farnhams. The Portfolio Holder considers that the group applied to the Council for overall financial support and has named the French project as a project that it can identify to meet the Councils requirements.

The Portfolio Holder advises that the group supports a wide range of community activities and organisations including; Mencap, SportsAble, the Lions and Rotary organisations and other local groups and charities.

## 3. Content of Report

- 3.1 A funding request has been submitted from PGTC, a community choir from Burnham with over 100 members.
- 3.2 Funding has been requested to contribute towards the costs of visiting St Denis De L'Hotel to perform at the 2017 Christmas market as part of Burnham's twinning celebration. Funding has been requested to help cover the costs of flights, accommodation and food for 40 members of the choir.
- 3.3 The total cost of the visit to St Denis De L'Hotel is £5,908, PGTC is requesting £2,500 from SBDC, the Council of St Denis are contributing €2,000 (equates to £1735 at time of

writing report) and PGTC is contributing £2,000. Total amount of funding requested equates to £6235.

3.4 It is estimated 6,000 people will attend the Christmas market; however the population of the town is 2,900. On application PGTC were asked how the project benefits residents of South Bucks, the response was Burnham residents can continue to enjoy the benefits of the twinning relationship with their twin village.

3.5 Cabinet has agreed that the 2017/18 grants programme is outsourced to Heart of Bucks. Members could advise the group to apply for funding from the Heart of Bucks matched fund when it becomes live in July or to support the Portfolio Holders recommendation to fund the group from existing resources.

#### **4. Consultation**

Not Applicable

#### **5. Options**

5.1 Advise the group to apply to the Heart of bucks managed fund

5.2 Approve funding of £2,500 towards the project

5.3 Approve funding of £2,173, which with the other grant funding received should allow PGTC to meet their project costs of £5,908.

#### **6. Corporate Implications**

6.1 Financial – Members have agreed to outsource the Councils grant programme to Heart of Bucks to create a matched funded award of £20,000. Funding for this project would be made from the current revenue budget for the joint Community and Leisure service.

6.2 Legal – None

#### **7. Links to Council Policy Objectives**

Promote local communities

Support the voluntary sector and promote volunteering

#### **8. Next Step**

Should funding be refused applicant will be advised to contact the Heart of Bucks Community Foundation and Community Impact Bucks for potential funding streams.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	None
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