

Appendix C

Applicant: Wantage Summer Festival

Years in existence: 13 years

Type of organisation: Umbrella facilitating and co-ordinating organisation run by volunteers

Project, service or event details: Wantage Summer Festival is seeking a grant towards the cost of coordinating the festival from 7 June – 6 July 2008 in Wantage and its surrounding area.

Following the well-tried and successful practice of previous years, the project provides

- a) a co-ordinating framework to service individual performances, exhibitions, workshops and other live events with publicity, insurance, ticket and programme preparation and the like, in the unifying framework needed by all the community groups taking part, and
- b) support for the Youth Service's contribution of family entertainment via a special festival event which displays the range of music group talent in the catchment area of the Vale.

As in previous years, the month-long programme of activities has been devised and supervised by local volunteers. The festival confirms Wantage and the Vale as a centre of local artistic excellence and opportunity, enhancing community spirit and reinforcing individual group efforts. It involves a large number of schools, churches and artistic groups and societies.

Since the festival began, thirteen years ago, it has seen a steady increase in the number of participants yet the festival's continuation is continually in question as financial constraints bite deeply. The Committee continues to seek out new initiatives and artistic opportunities in order to enhance the festival's success and to help it survive as long as possible.

Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands: Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Safe and Supportive Communities, Town and Village Vitality, Education and Lifelong Learning and Health and Wellbeing.

Area of the Vale covered: Takes place in Wantage, involves many local people but event is open to anyone

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: Several thousand

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: All services provided by the Festival Committee are free to participating organisations. There is a charge to the public to attend most events and the income from ticket sales goes to the participating groups. Participants are encouraged to be inclusive by pitching any necessary ticket charges at the lowest feasible level whilst maintaining high performance standards.

Total estimated project cost: £4,525 incl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Balances: to be confirmed

Running costs: to be confirmed

Own Contribution: Volunteer time and labour. The organisation has no income and for several years has steadily eroded its reserves.

Grant Sought: £3,500

Previous Awards (Vale): £2,500 2007/08

£2,500 2006/07

£2,500 2005/06

£3,500 2004/05

Parish Council Support: Awaiting confirmation of £1,100 from Wantage Town Council

Parish Precept: £118,000 (Band D: £30.43)

Other Support: The local youth organisation will again make a major contribution to the festival's increasing promotion of youth and family activities.

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£2,500
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning
Remaining budget	N/A
Remaining Committee meetings	3 in 2008/09
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	N/A because 08/09 budget
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	Although many Vale residents will benefit from the festival, officers are unable to recommend more than the grant awarded for the 2007 festival as the Committee's grants budget for 2008/09 is unlikely to be greater than in the current year.