

EXETER COMMUNITY GRANTS PANEL MEETING – EXETER CITY GRANTS

21st November 2024

Present: Cllr Debora Darling; Cllr Diana Moore; Cllr Matthew Vizard; Cllr Peter Holland; Cllr Zoe Hughes; Cllr Paul Knott.

Advisory Members Present: Ebbie Peter Community Builder

In Attendance: Mahi Ahmed Community Officer; Stephen Clayton Service Lead Customer & Communities

Apologies: Ellie Taylor ECI; Eleanor Sunderland Live & Move

** This meeting was planned as an in-person meeting but got changed to virtual due to adverse weather experienced on this date**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Cllr Matthew Vizard chaired the meeting by welcoming all panel members, Mahi Ahmed sent all the applications and summary to the panel prior to the meeting. In the meeting Cllr Vizard presented information on the purpose of the Exeter Grants programme, membership and panel role/spending to date, budget thresholds for the current year.

City Grant Budget

- Total Budget: £50,000
- Round 1 Awarded: £18,500 (2 Deferred applications totalling £2,750 whereby award decisions were made via email)
- Remaining Balance: £31,500
- One More Round

2. Recommendations and Decision Making

This funding is to support groups and organisations to help run events, festivals and projects that aim to encourage community participation. This fund can also be used for a one-off purchase or repair of equipment. These are one-off grants of up to £2,500. Further details of the criteria and details of how to apply can be found on [this link](#).

The Grants Panel have advised that the grants criteria and application form should be reviewed in future for further clarify and a more straightforward application process.

The Grants Panel wish to put on record its thanks to all 22 applicants in this round, who have taken the time to complete an application, as listed below:

1. Baby Room Exeter CIC
2. Burn the Curtain CIC
3. Connected Romanians from Exeter Devon - CRED
4. Dreadnought South West
5. Exeter Community Initiatives
6. Exeter Dance International Film Festival
7. Exeter Sea Cadets
8. Exeter Seed Bank
9. Fabian's Film
10. Fitter for faith
11. Food Exeter
12. Freemovement UK CIC
13. Honeyscribe
14. Lightbear Lane
15. Newtown Community Association
16. Our Exeter CIC
17. PaddleBoat Theatre CIC
18. Ride On
19. SOCOPS
20. St Sidwell's Community Centre
21. Sylvania Community Stores and Café
22. Theatre Alibi

The cumulative total requested by all 22 applicants combined was £50,902. On reviewing all the applications, the Grants Panel were pleased to be able to award the following grants:

Organisation	Amount Awarded
Connected Romanians from Exeter Devon - CRED	£800.00
Dreadnought South West	£1,000.00
Exeter Seed Bank	£1,000.00
Food Exeter	£2,000.00
Newtown Community Association	£1,000.00
Our Exeter CIC	£1,500.00
PaddleBoat Theatre CIC	£2,000.00
Ride On	£2,000.00
SOCOPS	£2,000.00
St Sidwell's Community Centre	£2,000.00
Sylvania Community Stores and Café	£1,750.00
Theatre Alibi	£1,500.00
Total:	£18,550.00

Application: Connected Romanians from Exeter Devon - CRED:

Martisor Festival: Celebrating Romanian Spring Traditions

Festival to bring together members of the Romanian community for their cultural celebration of the arrival of Spring, when they gift each other amulets made from intertwined red and white strings with a hanging tassel, as a sign of friendship, love, appreciation and respect. Open to wider public too

Application: £1,850

Awarded: £800

Application: Dreadnought South West: Women Podcasting

Develop women's podcasting and storytelling skills, to capture the diversity of women's voices and stories from across Exeter, sharing widely through Phonic FM Exeter's Community Radio, digitally via Dreadnought's website and social media outputs.

Application: £2,000

Awarded: £1,000

Application: Exeter Seed Bank: 2025 Activities

Support for core activities to June 2025 including Exeter Seed Swap event; 6 associated activities and talks; and resources for a 'pop up exhibition' to support community growing events in the city; and in support of 'Food: Beyond the Plate', RAMM's key 2025 exhibition event and programme.

Application: £2,000

Awarded: £1,000

Application: Food Exeter: Exeter Quay Farmers Market

Pilot and establish a monthly morning farmers' market on Exeter Quay over the 2025-26 season that will be self-sustaining as a committee-run enterprise going forward in Spring 2026.

Application: £2,500

Awarded: £2,000

Application: Newtown Community Association: Brightening up Belmont

Creative project focused on adding colour and vibrancy to Belmont Park via much needed maintenance, a community art piece, a series of small community workshops and events, restoration of community noticeboard, work on planter boxes

Application: £2,500

Awarded: £1,000

Application: Our Exeter CIC: Sewing Bank

Bringing adults at risk of social isolation together for an initial 3-month wellbeing project, focusing on learning or enhancing existing skills, promoting peer learning, building community support and promoting collaboration working. The Sewing Bank will be a 3 month - once per week participatory project to encourage members of the local community to attend to learn sewing skills that can be utilised in the home to help combat fast fashion, the amount of clothing going to landfill as well as promoting mental health & wellbeing.

Application: £2,500

Awarded: £1,500

**Application: PaddleBoat Theatre CIC:
Elves and the Shoemaker in 4 Exeter Schools**

Transform 4 school halls in Exeter into theatres, bringing a professional production to primary aged children in priority areas of the city.

Application: £2,000

Awarded: £2,000

Application: Ride On – Cycling for All: The Bike Project at St James School

Extra-curricular bike maintenance and cycling course delivered for free to 13–17-year-olds at St James School, Exeter.

Application: £2,360

Awarded: £2,000

Application: SOCOPS: SOCOPS +

Operation of two youth groups for young people with diagnosis of autistic spectrum conditions to provide social opportunities, educational activities & support for families including parents & siblings

Application: £2,500

Awarded: £2,000

Application: St Sidwell's Community Centre: Winter Warm Space Workshops

Warm space in the city centre open to all, to tackle fuel poverty and social isolation. A weekly programme of activities and workshops to bring the community together and learn new skills – plus additional access to 1:1 wellbeing and practical support.

Application: £2,500

Awarded: £2,000

Application: Sylvania Community Stores and Café: Education Project

Broad education programme for people of all ages, all abilities and backgrounds

Application: £2,500

Awarded: £1,750

Application: Theatre Alibi: Winter Warmer Sessions

Weekend Warmer sessions during dark winter months for families to come together in a warm, safe space where children's creativity can run free; children will be given the space to explore and interact with different arts and creative activities.

Application: £2,500

Awarded: £1,500

Total Awarded in Round 2: £18,550.00

Remaining Budget for Round 3: £12,950.00 (of total City Grants Fund: £50,000)

Round 3 of applications will open on 9th December 2024 and close on 10th January 2025. Applications can be made via this [link](#).

3. Date of Next Meeting

22nd January 2025 (the Grants Panel will meet to review Round 3 applications).