**2014 / 2015 Grant Applications to the Annual Open Bidding programme**

**Strategic Objective: Strong, Active Communities**

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| **Organisation & project description** | **Area / City Wide** | **Grant awarded 2013/14** | **Amount Requested for 2014/15** | **Amount Recom’d**  **2014/15** | **Why?** |
| **Archway Foundation**  An organisation that supports individuals feeling isolated through disability, low income or health problems.  Funding has been requested to contribute towards their core running costs. | City Wide | £5,000 | £10,000 | £7,500 | Strong in terms of targeting and evidenced a means of addressing social inclusion issues.  Recommend awarding 75% of the request.  . |
| Ark T Centre  The Ark T Centre provides a range of creative workshops with a recording studio for young people to learn all aspects around music.  Funding has been requested to work with up to 61 young people who are experiencing challenging circumstances and to give them an opportunity to make their own music and perform in front of their peers, family and community at 7 music gigs throughout the year.  The young people will be from various areas in the city (Blackbird Leys, Rose Hill, Wood Farm, Barton Littlemore and Northfield Brook)  . | City Wide | £4,570  (but for another strand of the music project) | £4,690 | £4,690 | Strong in terms of need and will be targeting young people classified as NEET. A clear development route for young people who wish to take their interest in music further.  Aiming for:   * 50 young people to perform at 7 music gigs * 8 young people as the crew * 3 young film makers in collaboration with Film Oxford.   From this the project will aim for:   * 4 NEET participants to achieve one or more AQA accreditations * 2 participants beginning a Bronze level Arts Award * 15 participants recording their own tracks and taking part in live performances in 2014.   The panel recommend funding 100% of request. |

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| **Asylum Welcome**  Asylum Welcome supports refugees, asylum seekers in Oxford and Oxfordshire including immigration detainees at Campsfield House at Kidlington.  Funding requested to contribute towards their core running costs for the organisation. | City Wide | | £8,000  (through commissioning programme for Venda Youth Club) | £10,000 | £7,500 | Strong in terms of need and targeted work with asylum seekers and refugees who have recently arrived in the country and are living in Oxford and Oxfordshire.  The panel recommend funding 75% towards this work conditional that it is not used for work outside of the city. |
| **Blackbird Leys Adventure Playground**  A facility for children aged 8 – 13 years old living in Blackbird Leys & Greater Leys.  Each week they are open Monday to Friday. During term time they are open from 3pm to 5.30pm and during half term holiday times they are open 10am to 4pm.  They provide creative play and learning by getting the children involved with:-   * Growing fruit and vegetables,how to cook and eat them * How to repair your bicycle * Music project * Creative play including arts and crafts.   Funding requested to contribute towards their core costs of running this project. | City Wide | | £7,500 | £10,000 | £10,000 | Strong in terms of need and delivered in an area of multiple deprivation and is one of the Councils Regeneration areas.  Children pay £1 a day to attend after school activities and £4 a day to attend half term holiday activities.  The panel recommend funding 100% of their request conditional that they link up with South Oxford Adventure Playground and share good practice. |

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| **Cutteslowe Seniors**  A club for local people aged 60 plus living in Cutteslowe and the surrounding area.  Cutteslowe Seniors meet every second and fourth Friday morning of the month, alternating a social meeting (usually with a speaker) with an outing to a place of interest. It currently has around 30 members and is managed by a part- time co-ordinator.  Funding has been requested to contribute towards the cost of hiring wheel chair compatible transport. | North | | £1,000 | £1,000 | £1000 | Strong on targeting and working with a vulnerable group within the local area of Cutteslowe.  The panel noted that transport links in Cutteslowe are poor and there is a significant amount of isolation among the elderly in the area.  The panel recommend funding 100% towards the hire of adapted transport. . |
| **Donnington Doorstep Family Centre**  A voluntary organisation that is based in East Oxford. Is open to all but focuses support on children and young people facing particular difficulties and social exclusion.  Funding has been requested to contribute towards their core costs to deliver the ‘Drop In, Play Out’ project which offers play focused activities for 7-18 year olds targeted at those at risk of social exclusion, anti-social behaviour or offending. | East | £7,500 | | £10,000 | £7,500 | Strong on need and targeted work with local vulnerable children and young people.  It was noted within the application that if 75% was awarded to this project it would not significantly affect service delivery.  Therefore the panel recommend funding 75% of amount requested |
| **Florence Park Community Association**  Requesting funding to start a weekly lunch and film club for over 60’s living in the local area. | Cowley | Nil | | £9,443 | £2,080 | Strong in terms of targeting however an expensive initiative with an emphasis on the purchase of equipment which cannot be funded through this programme.  The panel recommend funding £2,080 specifically for the co-ordinator post to link up with the Councils Community Specialist post holder for social inclusion to look at other ways to deliver this project and to make connections with Age UK. |

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| **Folk Arts 0xford**  Folk Weekend is a festival planned to take place on the 25-27th April 2014.  They plan to work with Crisis Skylight and Restore to engage with their clients and introduce them to some of the art forms that will be on offer at the festival. | City Wide | Nil | £10,000 | NIL | The application has some strengths but the panel felt it lacked clarity of exactly what they are aiming to do.  An expensive event with no breakdown of hire charges and artist fees.  Therefore the recommendation is not to fund and suggest the organisations links up with the Councils Culture Team for support and to look at alternative funding . |
| **Friends of the Trap Grounds**  The Trap Grounds is located between the canal and the railway line immediately south of the Frenchay Road canal bridge (off Woodstock Road) and consists of three acres of reed bed and four acres of scrubland.  Funding has been requested to hire a contractor with a mechanical excavator to remove invading reeds to reclaim a pond. | North | Nil | £1,200 | Nil | The panel noted that the Council supports the Trap Grounds by providing regular maintenance but there is no indication as to whether permission has been granted to carry out this additional work.  Therefore the recommendation is not to fund but suggest that they link up with the Councils Parks Service, Community Payback and Oxford University Wildlife Group who may be able to help with this clearing. |
| **Innovista – Thrive Project**  The Thrive project is a youth project working in Barton.  Funding has been requested to target 16 girls and young women living on Barton who have been identified as having a low self-esteem. This makes them vulnerable and at risk of sexual exploitation.  The project will help them grow in confidence and have a more positive view of themselves. | North East | Nil | £3,856 | £2,892 | Strong in terms of targeted work with a vulnerable group of young people.  The quality of the work from this project is considered high.  The panel recommend funding 75% of this request with the condition that they link up with Donnington Doorstep who are doing similar work in the City. |

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| **Leys Community Development Initiative – Clockhouse Project.**  The Clockhouse Project delivers activities that address the needs of older people in the Leys to help them feel less isolated and alone.  Funding has been requested to contribute towards providing low cost activities for older people living on the Leys to contribute towards the support costs to run and organise these activities. | South and East | £2,808 | £10,000 | £7,500 | Strong in terms of need and a project targeted towards older people living in the Leys which is an area of multiple deprivation.  The panel recommend funding 75% of this request with the condition that outreach is carried out to encourage up to 25 additional and new people (from both sides of the estate) to get involved and take part in the activities.  . |
| **Leys Information Technology Zone (formerly BLITZ)**  A community IT hub based in the Blackbird Leys Youth and Community Centre. The organisation has recently been reformed and registered as a Community Interest Company.  They wish to provide free IT courses and to help local people with CV writing, completing job applications and preparing for work.  Funding has been requested to pay the salary costs for the main tutor and teaching assistant | South East | Nil | £10,000 | Nil | Strong in terms of need and targeted towards local unemployed people living on The Leys.  However the only two members of staff are also the Director and Secretary of this new organisation. For transparency and good practice it would be more appropriate for these roles to be held by different people.  It was noted that the IT courses they provide are unaccredited. This does not give any recognition of someone’s achievement or give employers any confidence in the standards or quality of the training.  The panel recommend not funding this request but suggest they work with OCVA to help them become more robust and transparent.  It was also suggested they link up with other community groups who are providing accredited training to find out how they developed into accredited training providers. |

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| **Leys News (Oxford Community Media)**  Leys News is a community paper that provides news and information about local events and issues, training and learning opportunities and advice on pertinent issues for local people on Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys. .  Funding has been requested to contribute towards the costs for them to continue to support community groups across Oxford in publishing their own local community newspapers.  This professional support includes editorial guidance, design, production, management and business development.  They will also provide community journalism training, office work experience, skills development and potential employment opportunities. | South East | £10,000 | £10,000 | £10,000 | Strong in terms of targeted work with community groups in regeneration areas of the City.  Currently working with 6 community newspaper groups in Cowley, Littlemore, Rose Hill, Wood Farm, Barton and Blackbird Leys. With the potential to work in more areas next year.  The panel recommends funding 100% of this request with the condition that a sustainability plan is produced to show how they will become self-sufficient in future years. |
| **Open Door**  Open Door provides a weekly drop in and sign posting service for local refugees and asylum seekers at East Oxford Community Centre.  They also provide a free hot meal and a space to meet.  Funding is requested to cover 6 months project costs from June to November 2014.  . | East | £2,495 | £4,978 | £3,250 | Strong in terms of targeted work with minority groups living in the City.  The panel noted that generally they provide the first step before going to or being sign posted to Asylum Welcome.  The panel recommend funding £3,250 of this request to contribute towards general running costs of the project. |

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| **Oxford Friend**  This organisation provides a confidential helpline service for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people living in Oxford.  Funding requested to contribute towards their running costs for this service. | City Wide | £3,000 | £3,000 | £3,000 | Strong on need and targeted work with a marginalised group.  The only organisation in Oxford that provides a confidential helpline for lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender people living in Oxford.  The panel recommend funding 100% of this request. |
| **Oxford Hub**  The Oxford Hub is a student run organisation and is applying for funding for a project called LinkAges.  The aim of this project is to pair students with residents of the Isis Care Home in Cowley.  Funding is requested to launch this programme and contribute towards the costs of running the project over the academic year. | Cowley | Nil | £1,000 | Nil | This project aims to bring students and older people together which encourages social inclusion.  However the panel considered the project to be high risk because within their application it states that CRB checks are not mandatory for all volunteers unless the care home requires them.  Therefore the recommendation is not to fund but suggest that they link up with Age UK to look at best practice when working with older vulnerable people. |
| **Oxford International Women’s Festival**  The Oxford International Women’s Festival highlights women’s local, national and international issues and is designed to celebrate the diverse range of people and groups working and living in Oxford.  Funding is requested to contribute towards the running costs of the event. | City Wide | Nil | £1,500 | Nil | The festival is to take place during March 2014 so unfortunately is not eligible for this programme because it’s for projects/events and activities taking place from April 2014.  Therefore the recommendation is not to fund. |

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| **Oxford Urban Wildlife Group**  In 1990 the Oxford Urban Wildlife Group converted disused allotments in East Oxford into a Nature Park and called it the Boundary Brook Nature Park.  They hold walks and talks on a wide variety of conserving wildlife in Oxford and the park is an open space for school groups and many local people to drop in on open days.  Funding has been requested to contribute to a variety of conservation activities in the park plus general running costs. | City Wide | £2,405 | £8,330 | £2,240 | This project provides opportunities for practical conservation work and conserving urban wildlife near the centre of the City.  It also provides an open space for school groups, leisure groups and many local people to drop in on open days.  The panel recommend funding £2,240 towards the general running costs of the Boundary Brook Nature Park.  With the condition that they work with OCVA to develop a business plan and look at ways to generate income and source other suitable funding. |
| **Oxfordshire Chinese Community and Advice Centre**  The Oxfordshire Chinese community and advice centre is requesting funding to help the vulnerable, socially isolated Chinese elderly, women, carers and young people in Oxford.  They aim to provide opportunities for socially excluded older people, carers, women and youth to access seated exercise and fitness sessions, cookery sessions, coffee sessions, walks, cultural dance, craft workshops and 6 training courses at affordable prices. | City Wide | £2,520 | £10,000 | £1,740 | Strong in terms of need and targeted activities for older and socially isolated Chinese people living in Oxford.  However, the panel noted that one of the groups this project is targeting is carers. Providing support or activities for carers is the responsibility of Oxfordshire County Council. Within the grants programme prospectus it states what the Council will not fund and one of those items are activities were it’s the responsibility of another statutory body to provide.  Also there was no information about what subjects the 6 training courses would cover.  Therefore the panel recommend funding £1,740 of this request for:-   * 24 sessions of seated exercise * 10 fitness exercise sessions & * 10 healthy walks around the city |

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| **Oxfordshire My Life My Choice**  Oxfordshire My Life My Choice is a self-advocacy charity run by and for people with learning disabilities.  Funding has been requested to run an awareness raising campaign to make the public more aware of the challenges and reality of being a disabled person on benefits by:   * Training 20 champions * Planning & delivery 10 Sting Radio broadcasts * Making a 4 minute film to be distributed through social media. | City Wide | £4,000  (but not for this initiative) | £5,750 | £2,800 | The panel noted that the awareness raising programme is to run from January to August 2014 and only 8 of the champions will be from Oxford.  Expenditure taking place for the programme during January to March will be funded from another source.  The panel recommend funding £2,800 towards this awareness raising programme specifically to cover the training needs of the 8 champions from Oxford and the 4 minute film. |
| **Oxfordshire Play Association**  This organisation provides practical and professional support to all those who provide children and young people with opportunities to play.  Funding is requested to contribute towards an inclusive event at Littlemore to celebrate National Play Day, an annual celebration of the child’s right to play. | Littlemore | £750 | £1,250 | £1,250 | An event being planned to be delivered in LIttlemore but will be promoted across the city for all to attend. They had also sourced funding from other funders for this event.  The panel recommend funding 100% of request |

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| **The Parish of Cowley St John Church**  The Church has decided to dedicate its Church Hall to a community hall for use by and for the community but it needs some restoration before it can be used.  Funding is being requested to cover the costs of a participatory consultation process as part of the restoration process. | East | Nil | £7,000 | Nil | The panel felt this was an expensive project and the majority of the costs were unrelated to the main request for support for the consultation.  Within the application it tells us that some consultation has already taken place with the local community and groups. So the panel were unclear why more consultation was needed.  Therefore the recommendation is not to fund. |
| **Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse**  The Reducing the Risk of Domestic Abuse is an organisation that works intensively with people at high risk of domestic abuse in Oxford to try and ensure their safety and wellbeing.  Funding is requested for an emergency fund to support victims at high risk of significant physical or emotional trauma or homicide. | City Wide | Nil | £1,500 | £1,500 | Strong in terms of need and targeted support towards vulnerable adults and children.  The panel recommend funding 100% of this request. |
| **Restore – Elder Stubbs Festival**  Funding requested to contribute towards the cost or organising and running the Elder Stubbs Festival planned to take place on 16.08.13 | Cowley | £900 | £3,500 | £2,258 | A popular annual event that works to dispel the misconceptions around mental health issues.  The panel recommend funding £2,258 towards the volunteer recruitment and training, plus the practical items such as hire of toilets, first aid, sound equipment etc. |

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| **Science Oxford**  Science Oxford is an organisation that wants to inspire school children to pursue and explore science.  They are requesting funding to contribute towards the costs of a 24 hour festival called the Oxford Festival of Nature. The festival will take place at Cutteslowe and Sunnymead Park. | North | Nil | £7,358 | £2,000 | The panel felt that although this is an expensive event the project has significant links with local schools and community groups who have been involved with the setting up of the festival.  The panel recommend funding £2,000 towards the general costs of the festival. |
| **South Oxford Adventure Playground**  Based off Whitehouse Road, South Oxford Adventure Playground is a supervised playground for children and young people aged 7 to 15 years old.  Funding is requested to contribute towards the core costs for a programme of school holiday play schemes that will run during 2014 at Easter, Spring, Summer and Autumn. They will run for a total of 11 weeks over the year. | City Wide | £8,000 | £10,000 | £10,000 | The panel noted that the children and young people that attend the South Oxford Adventure Playground are not charged to attend the facility.  A similar scheme is run by Blackbird Leys Adventure Playground. Children attending this holiday playscheme pay £4 a day to attend these activities. This funding contributes towards the costs of running the project.  Also organisations funded through the Councils holiday playscheme programme are encouraged to charge children and young people attending these activities. In general they pay £5 a day or £20 a week. These programmes run in Barton, Wood Farm, Rose Hill and Blackbird Leys.  The panel felt that South Oxford Adventure Playground should also adopt a policy to charge children and young people to attend this facility in order to develop longer term sustainability for the future.  The recommendation is to fund !00% of this request with a condition that they link up with Blackbird Leys Adventure Playground to share their charging policy and good practice. |

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| **Tandem**  Based at Restore in Manzil Way, Cowley, Tandem offers one to one befriending partnerships to people in Oxford and Bicester who have been through a period of mental ill health and are looking to rebuild their lives..  Funding is requested to contribute towards their core cost but particularly their rent charges. | City Wide | Nil | £5,000 | Nil | Within the grants programme prospectus one of the things that the Council has listed it does not wish to fund is social care.  The panel felt that the service this organisation provides falls under this heading and as such recommends not funding this request. |

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| **Wesley Memorial Methodist Church**  Funding requested to subsidise groups using their community space. This will allow the Church to put their funding towards the refurbishment and extension of these community premises. | City Wide | Nil | £5,000 | Nil | The panel questioned whether the Council should be funding a religious institution to enable them to improve a capital asset.  Within their mission statement one of their aims is to be open to the community by making the premises available for charitable organisations and community projects.  The panel felt that the Council should not be funding something the church should be providing as part of their fundamental purpose.  Therefore the panel recommend not funding this request. |

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| **Wolvercote Community Benefit Society**  A newly established organisation set up to buy the freehold of their village shop to prevent the property being developed into flats.  Funding requested to cover the costs of the administration and establishment of company, property evaluation and survey, legal advice, preparation and issue of prospectus and share offer. | Wolvercote | Nil | £5,000 | Nil | The panel agreed that this is the wrong funding programme for this initiative and suggest they contact Oxfordshire Rural Community Council for support and help to look for alternative funding sources.  The recommendation is not to fund. |

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| **Wood Farm Youth** **Centre**  Funding has been requested to contribute towards the continuation of the youth sessions in 2014. | North East | £7,000 | £7,000 | £7,000 | Strong in terms of need and targeted work with vulnerable young people and in a regeneration area of the city.  The application showed progress in sourcing other funding and a facility that is still much needed in the area.  Therefore the panel recommend funding 100% of the request. |