

WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

TO: LEISURE COMMITTEE - 21th SEPTEMBER 1999

SUBJECT: CULTURAL GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

FROM: LEISURE AND AMENITIES AND FINANCE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 Members are asked to consider an application for grant aid received from the Village Voices Choir.

2. BALANCE OF FUNDS

2.1 The funds currently available in this budget are:

Code 560 455 1998/99 = £6,900

Grants approved to date = £3,450

Balance remaining = £3,450

3. FINANCIAL FACTORS

3.1 The following financial factors have previously been adopted by the Leisure Committee as being relevant when considering grant requests:

1. The organisation should be non-profit making.
2. Membership fees (where appropriate) should be reasonable bearing in mind those of similar organisations.
3. The financial situation of the organisation is such that assistance is necessary.
4. The applicants are making all reasonable efforts to help themselves, and are therefore worthy of Council support.
5. The objectives of the organisation benefit the inhabitants of Warwick District.
6. The organisation's annual accounts are made available for inspection by the Head of Finance.

4. VILLAGE VOICES CHOIR

4.1 **Previous Cultural Grants**

1997/98 £250

4.2 Financial situation of the Applicant

4.2.1 The accounts of the Choir for the year ended 31st August show a surplus of £103 and net current assets at that date of £421.

4.2.2 Total expenditure was £3,039 which included the purchase of new musical material £685. Income was £3,142 which included member subscriptions of £992.

4.3 Proposed Use of Grant

4.3.1 The Choir has performed over 43 concerts in its four years and now has over 50 members. Venues have included churches, village halls, and many concerts have been free of charge. Some proceeds have been donated to charities.

4.3.2 The expansion of the choir has brought with it increased costs notably the need to introduce new music into their programme - to purchase 5 new pieces including copyright now costs £825. There is also the purchase of uniforms and the cost of programme production to into account.

4.4 Comment

4.4.1 The Choir benefits many local residents with their varied programme of music and have helped others in the area.

4.4.2 It is therefore suggested that a grant of £250 is awarded to the Village Voices Choir.

5. RECOMMENDED ACTION

5.1 A grant of £250 is awarded to the Village Voices Choir.

Eric Gelfs (Accounting Assistant)
Grant Lowe (Outreach Officer)

Background papers : Nil

Contact Officer: Grant Lowe (01926 742706)

Areas in the District Affected: All