
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2004/05

**Responsible Cabinet Member(s) - Councillor Don Bristow,
Resource Management Portfolio**

Responsible Director(s) - Paul Wildsmith, Director of Corporate Services

Purpose of Report

1. To consider four applications in respect of financial assistance received from two charitable and non profit making organisations and two individuals, details of which are contained in the report.

Background

2. The total committed in respect of applications made in the current year is £17,357.10. The Council has made provision within the 2004/2005 revenue budget of £15,000. This leaves a overspend of £2,357.10 and is before consideration of the attached applications.
3. **The Andrew Mynarski VC Memorial Concerts, Central Hall, Dolphin Centre, Darlington on 13 March and 10 April 2005 in aid of the Forgotten Hero Appeal**

(a) ***Introduction***

An application has been received from the Concert Producer of the Andrew Mynarski VC Concerts Committee for financial assistance of £900 towards the cost of hiring Central Hall in the Dolphin Centre to stage two concerts, featuring the Normandy Band of the Queens Divison, Middleton-St- George Primary School Choir and two Soloists in aid of the Andrew Mynarski (Forgotton Hero) Appeal.

Andrew Mynarski was a 27 year old gunner with the Royal Canadian Air Force based at Middleton-St-George. He was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for trying to save the life of his friend. The target of this Appeal is £40,000 of which £21,800 has already been raised from local and national sources. Further fundraising activities such as these concerts are to take place to raise additional funds for this Appeal, which will enable a statue of this man to be built and unveiled on 4th June 2005 at Durham Tees Valley Airport.

Both of these concerts are to be held on Sunday afternoon of these two dates in order to attract a wider audience and tickets are to be charged at £10.00 each. It is anticipated that there is going to be a wide range of music appealing to all including military and brass band music for the enjoyment and benefit of the people of Darlington and surrounding areas, and it was hoped that this would become a permanent fixture in the town.

(b) **Financial Information**

No accounts have been submitted in this instance as this is a new initiative. However, a projection of costs has been obtained and is outlined in the table below.

Costs of the Initiative of Staging Two Concerts in aid of the Andrew Mynarski (Forgotton Hero) Appeal, in Central Hall of the Dolphin Centre	£
Projected Income Max Ticket Sales 620 @ £10.00	6,200
Projected Expenditure Hire of Central Hall 13/3/05 and 10/4/05	900
Band Transport x 2	500
Lorry x 2	200
Printing - flyleaf	285
Printing - Posters	150
Printing - Tickets	300
Boquets	72
Marketing & Piano Tuning	160
	2,567
<u>Projected Surplus</u>	3,633

The Andrew Mynarski VC Concerts Committee applied for additional funding from the Community Leisure Chest for these events and were awarded £200 at a Cabinet meeting held on 15th February 2005, C204/February/2005 refers.

(c) **Previous Applications**

The Andrew Mynarski VC Concerts Committee has not applied for financial assistance previously, however details of a similar organisation namely Music for Darlington, have been awarded financial assistance for the hire of the Dolphin Centre to stage concerts on a number of occasions. Details of these applications together with additional and relevant information are detailed in the table below.

Year	Reason for Application	Minute Ref.	Grant Requested £	Grant Awarded £
1996/97	To offset the cost of hiring the Dolphin Centre for a concert weekend	I15 (Ia19) Dec 96	1,050	1,050
1997/98	To offset the cost of hiring the Dolphin Centre for a concert weekend	K116 (ka84) Apr 98	1,600	1,100
1998/99	To offset the cost of hiring the Dolphin Centre for a concert weekend	K94 (ka123) Feb 99	1,600	1,150
2001/02	To offset the cost of hiring the Dolphin Centre for a concert weekend	C42/July/2001	2,000	1,200

(d) **Conclusion**

The Cabinet is asked to consider whether it wishes to support this application in respect of the The Andrew Mynarski VC Concerts Committee, and if so, to what extent.

4. **Neasham Reading Room, Sockburn Lane, Neasham**

(a) **Introduction**

An application has been received from the Treasurer of the Neasham Reading Room for financial assistance of £466.70 towards the annual insurance on their premises.

The Neasham Reading Room is a youth and adult social club and at the present time have a membership of 170. Their aim is to organise social events, craft demonstrations, educational films and to host meetings for its members.

(b) **Financial Information**

Audited accounts for the three years ended 31st December, 2004 have been submitted and are analysed below.

In addition, the Neasham Reading Room are in receipt of 80% Mandatory Rate Relief and 20% Discretionary Rate Relief on their premises which equates to a total of £775.20.

	Year Ended 31st December		
	2002	2003	2004
	£	£	
Income			
Grants (*Including Lottery Grant)	3,800	800	100
Donations	1,300	1,700	1,850
Fundraising	2,900	1,100	1,925
Lettings	500	100	115
	8,500	3,700	3,990
Expenditure			
Wages	1,300	1,300	1,325
Premises	1,900	1,600	1,480
Administration	600	800	800
Equipment	-	1,400	-
Lottery Grant Expenditure (Replacement Kitchen/Repairs to Guttering)	2,700	300	-
	6,500	5,400	3,605
Surplus/(Deficit)	2000	(1,700)	385
Balances	4,700	3,000	3,385

(c) ***Previous Applications***

The Neasham Reading Room have successfully applied for financial assistance on a number of occasions. Details of recent applications together with additional and relevant information are detailed in the table below.

Year	Reason for Application	Minute Ref:	Grant Requested £	Grant Awarded £
1998/99	Annual insurance on their premises	K94 (Ka123) Feb 99	560	200
1999/00	Annual insurance on their premises	K101 (Ka147) Apr 00	600	100
2001/02	Annual insurance on their premises	C342/Apr/2001	600	100
2002/03	Annual insurance on their premises	C305/Apr/2002	600	100
2003/04	Annual insurance on their premises	C24/June/2003	774	100

(d) **Conclusion**

The Cabinet is asked to consider whether they wish to support his application in respect of the Neasham Reading Room, and if so, to what extent.

5. **Philip Liversage – 3 Year Attendance at Texas A & M University, Laredo, Texas - Professional Football Scholarship**

(a) ***Introduction***

An application has been received from the mother of Philip Liversage, who is a single parent, for financial assistance of £500 towards the costs of flights, tuition fees and accommodation in order that her son can study in America.

Philip who is 19 years old and resides in Darlington has been offered a 3 year football Scholarship at Texas A & M University, where he hopes to obtain a degree in sport and business. Philip played football for Hummersknott, Darlington & District Schools Team, Darlington Boys Club and Houghall Academy before being offered a place to continue his studies in America.

(b) ***Financial Information***

The total cost Philip needs to raise in order to take up the chance of studying in America is anticipated to be in the region of £4,500 per year. This amount takes into

account flight costs, tuition and living expenses, equipment purchase and health insurance. The majority of funding amounting to £4,000 has been secured by his mother.

Anticipated Annual Expenses to be Incurred whilst Studying in America	£
Rent	1,700
Provisions	1,000
Books and Equipment	550
Travel Expenses	1,000
Health Insurance	250
Total	4,500

The Director of Education advises that there is no provision for grant aid in this instance, as the applicant is due to attend a University outside the United Kingdom.

(c) *Previous Applications*

Philip has not previously applied for financial assistance, however a similar applicant, Paul Hollway has recently been successful in applying for financial assistance for costs incurred whilst studying in America. Further details are highlighted in the table below.

Year	Reason for Application	Minute Ref.	Grant Requested £	Grant Awarded £
2004/05	<u>Paul Hollway – Professional Football Scholarship - Heidelberg University, Ohio</u> Accommodation, travel, insurance and equipment expenses whilst studying in America.	C40/July/2004	2,500	300

(d) *Conclusion*

The Cabinet is asked to consider whether it wishes to support this application in respect of Philip Liversage, and if so, to what extent.

6. **Tom Short – Taekwondo. Invitation to Receive Specialist Training with Masters in Seoul, Korea**

(a) *Introduction*

An application has been received from the mother of Tom Short for financial assistance of £400 towards the costs of attending Taekwondo specialist training events in Seoul, Korea scheduled to take place in 2005, and to experience life amongst the Korean people.

Tom is 15 years old and resides in Darlington and attends a local School. He has been chosen from a group of 200 Taekwondo students in the North East Region to gain experience and discipline prior to taking his black belt in Judo on his return.

(b) **Financial Information**

The total cost Tom needs to raise in order to take up the chance of receiving specialist training in Korea is in the region of £790, however partial funding of this trip amounting to £390 has been secured solely by his mother through personal savings and fundraising activities.

<u>Invitation to attend Specialist Training Events in Seoul, Korea in 2005</u>	£
Travel & Accommodation	500
Kit	60
Travel Expenses	150
Training and competition expenses prior to the trip	80
Total	790

No funding has been requested or granted from any other source.

(c) **Previous Applications**

Tom has not applied for Financial Assistance before. However, an application has recently been successful from an individual who has received financial assistance towards the costs of flights and accommodation whilst training outside the United Kingdom. These details are highlighted in the table below.

Year	Reason for Application	Minute Ref.	Grant Requested £	Grant Awarded £
2004/2005	Paul Holloway – Professional Football Travel and accommodation expenses whilst receiving specialist training at Heidelberg University, Ohio	Cab40/July 04	1,500-2,000	300

(d) **Conclusion**

The Cabinet is asked to consider whether it wishes to support this application in respect of Tom Short, and if so, to what extent.

Outcome of Consultation

7. No consultation is taken on this item as a decision is made by Members.

Legal Implications

8. This report has been considered by the Borough Solicitor for legal implications in accordance with the Council's approved procedures. There are no issues which the Borough Solicitor considers need to be brought to the specific attention of Members, other than those highlighted in the report.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

9. The contents of this report have been considered in the context of the requirements placed on the Council by Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, namely, the duty on the Council to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. It is not considered that the contents of this report have any such effect.

Council Policy Framework

10. The issues contained within this report do not represent change to Council policy or the Council's policy framework

Decision Deadline

11. For the purpose of the 'call-in' procedure this does not represent an urgent matter

Recommendation

12. It is recommended that instructions of Members are requested on these applications.

**Paul Wildsmith
Director of Corporate Services**

Background Papers

(i)	The Andrew Mynarski VC Memorial Concerts, Central Hall, Dolphin Centre, Darlington on 13 March and 10 April 2005 in aid of the Forgotten Hero Appeal	Application for Financial Assistance Projection of costs for this Initiative Press Release from the Northern Echo
(ii)	Neasham Reading Room – Assistance towards Insurance Costs	Application for Financial Assistance Audited Accounts for the 3 years ended 31/12/04
(iii)	Philip Liversage – 3 Year Attendance at Texas A & M University, Laredo, Texas - Professional Football Scholarship	Application for Financial Assistance Projection of costs for University Attendance
(iv)	Tom Short – Taekwondo. Invitation	Application for Financial Assistance

	to Receive Specialist Training with Masters in Soeul, Korea	Projection of costs for the trip to Korea
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