

CHERRIES COMMUNITY FUND

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

Background

With effect from 1st January 2016 AFC Bournemouth's Cherries Community Fund has been set up to assist community and sports projects with small amounts of funding. While the fund has a start-up amount derived from the balance of a previous club lottery, it will be primarily funded by the proceeds of our Matchday Draw and any other donations it is able to attract. In this way, the supporters of AFC Bournemouth can directly contribute to and assist projects within our local community.

How It Works

Proceeds from the Matchday Draw will be paid into the Cherries Community Fund bank account after each game. This is separate from any other club accounts. Applications for funding need to be made only via the appropriate form and must meet the criteria as set out below in order to be considered. Applications will be reviewed by the Cherries Community Fund Panel who will decide how funding is to be allocated. The Panel will be made up of Steve Cuss (Head of AFC Bournemouth Community Sports Trust), Hannah Powis, Head of EDI and Engagement, Andrew Haines, Communications Officer – Publications and AFC Bournemouth Player Representative, Marcus Tavernier. The CCF Panel will meet quarterly to review applications up to a maximum of £2,500 per project increased with effect from applications eligible for the December 2023 panel.

Criteria

Funding is available to local community and sports groups and the panel will meet and allocate funds in March, June, September and December of each year. Applications received after a panel meeting will be considered at the next scheduled panel.

The Cherries Community Fund will look to support projects that assist and develop young people and vulnerable groups that support community involvement and integration, or that promote a sports and/or healthy lifestyle. Approved projects must be completed within the timeframe specified on the application form. The Panel will not normally support projects with more than a six-month delivery timescale, funds are not to be used for staff costs or professional training courses, and the fund will aim to support groups and not normally individuals. Further to this the fund cannot support basic requirements for educational bodies that should be funded by the movement.

You **MUST** include your groups' constitution and a suitable referee who can be contacted.

If the project costs more than £2,500 the panel can only commit to pledging the last £2,500 required for the total project. Proof of money raised, and the target hit must be provided before the final funds are released.

Funds can usually only be paid to properly constituted groups, with a bank account which requires two signatures for cheques. Other potential applicants should get in contact before applying to discuss their project.

Payment will be made by BACS payment on approval of the application. Evidence of expenditure will be required i.e. receipts / invoices etc. Evidence of expenditure must be supplied within one year of receipt of funding.

You MUST answer all questions and include a detailed budget for your proposed project – i.e. income & expenditure details for the project you are applying for.

With effect from December 2023 panel, an organisation can only be granted funds a maximum total of £5,000 in total for successful applications. Successful applicants cannot apply for a grant within 12 months of receiving a donation from the CCF. Unsuccessful applicants are welcome to re-apply as they see fit.

Monitoring

Successful applicants will need to provide details of all expenditure signed off by both the referee and applicant detailed on the application form.

For more details contact cherriescommunityfund@afcb.co.uk