

<b>ITEM NO.</b>	C.14/0822	<b>FILE REF.</b>	281
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Amendment to 2022/23 Community Grant		
<b>PROPONENT</b>	Blues at Bridgetown		
<b>OFFICER</b>	Chief Executive Officer		
<b>DATE OF REPORT</b>	23 August 2022		

Reason for Urgent Business: Discussions have recently been held with Blues at Bridgetown about expenditure of the community grant approved by Council for the 2022 festival and these discussions identified some anomalies. Resolving these anomalies at the August Council meeting will allow Blues at Bridgetown to continue planning for the 2022 festival in knowledge of what items can be funded from the community grant.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

*That Item C.14/0822 be accepted as urgent business.*

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

*That Council amend the purpose of the 2022/23 community grant to Blues at Bridgetown to specify the following items for funding:*

- *Venue Hire - \$6,176*
- *Shire truck and operator rubbish collection and weekend Ranger Services - \$1,500*
- *Street Sweeping, road closure and other costs associated with the street party - \$8,224.*

**Summary/Purpose**

To consider an amendment to the purposes to which the community grant approved for Blues at Bridgetown can be expended.

**Background**

Council, at its May 2022 meeting resolved:

*C.15/0522 That Council determines to allocate \$130,000 in the 2022-2023 budget for community donations as follows:*

- *\$8,382 New service agreements*
- *\$18,330 Existing service agreements to be carried forward*
- *\$20,900 New community group grants*
- *\$25,580 Non-contestable annual community contributions*
- *\$1,850 Chief Executive Officer donations*
- *\$3,500 Chief Executive Officer hall hire donations*
- *\$680 Rubbish and recycling collection for community events*
- *\$200 Rubbish and recycling collection for Shire leased facilities*
- *\$45,508 Landcare Officer*
- *\$500 South West Academy of Sport Sponsorship*
- *\$250 Agricultural Society School Art Prize Sponsorship*
- *\$1,000 Manjimup Airfield Contribution*
- *\$1,000 Greenbushes' Australia Day Breakfast Event*
- *\$365 School Awards*
- *\$2,000 Regional Airport Marketing*

Included in the \$20,900 of new community grants was an allocation of \$15,900 to Blues at Bridgetown to cover costs associated with venue hire and setting up and operating the youth stage.

Blues at Bridgetown have recently met with Shire staff and have confirmed the following:

- Venue hire is significantly less this year due to the unavailability of the Bridgetown Civic Centre. The only Shire venues to be hired this year are Memorial Park (Blue Owls Nest venue) and Geegelup Park (Geegelup venue). Venue hire is only charged for the period when event fencing precludes public access to the subject area. An estimate of 6 days for each venue has been made which will incur a cost of \$4,512.
- Agreement has recently been reached with Blues at Bridgetown for it to hire the double court at the Recreation Centre to accommodate artists performing at the festival. A 4 day hire period has been agreed to at a cost of \$1,664.
- The youth stage for this year's festival will be in the Blues Owl Nest thus creating savings in not having a dedicated stage. No specific costs can thus be allocated against the community grant.

This leaves an amount of \$9,724 of the community grant unallocated.

In previous years the community grant would also be used to cover the Shire rubbish collection costs (1 truck and 1 driver emptying bins at various nominated points on the Saturday and servicing bins in venues on the Saturday and Sunday. Also covered was the cost of having the Ranger work on the weekend. The estimated cost of both these services is \$1,500.

If Council was to amend the purpose of the community grant to also cover the costs of rubbish collection and Ranger services there would still remain a balance of \$8,224 unallocated. It is recommended Council further amend the service agreement by allocating that sum to costs associated with the street party, such as road closure costs and street sweeping.

#### Officer Comment

A working group of councillors and staff assessed the community grant, service agreement and other donation applications and recommended the purpose of funding for each successful application. At the time of considering these applications there were rumours circulating that a street party may not be held for the 2022 Blues at Bridgetown festival however since then the Blues Coordinator has made it very clear that a street party is a fundamental component of the festival and will always be provided.

Amending the purpose of the community grant will provide greater flexibility to Blues at Bridgetown in expending the grant and will assist them in meeting some of the costs of holding the festival.

Statutory Environment - Nil

### Integrated Planning

➤ Strategic Community Plan

Outcome 2 Good Health and community wellbeing

Objective 2.4 Building community capacity by supporting community organisation and volunteers

➤ Corporate Business Plan

Action 2.4.1 Fund community grants, service agreements and donations

➤ Long Term Financial Plan - Nil

➤ Asset Management Plans - Nil

➤ Workforce Plan – Not applicable

➤ Other Integrated Planning - Nil

Policy Implications – Nil

### Budget Implications

There are no budget implications as Council's 2022/23 budget assumes the whole of the \$15,900 community grant will be expended.

Whole of Life Accounting - Nil

### Risk Management

Amending the purpose of the grant will ensure that Council provides funds to Blues at Bridgetown for meeting the costs of running the festival. Council in providing the funds in the budget has already assumed the funds will be expended.

Voting Requirements – Simple Majority