



# Stronger Communities

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## Application Pack

**Jack Joslin & Lily Brandhorst**

## **CENTRAL GRANTS PROGRAMME**

### **ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: a) Stronger Communities**

#### **Aldgate Community Events (ref. 15532)**

**Amount requested: £10,000**

**Amount recommended: £10,000**

**Purpose of grant request:** To support the costs of the Aldgate Lantern Parade and Winter Fair in 2019. A multi-cultural community event bringing resident together.

#### **The Applicant**

Aldgate Community Events (ACE) formed in October 2014 as a Constituted Voluntary Organisation and recently registered as a Community Interest Company. The purpose of ACE is to bring people in Aldgate and the surrounding area together, combat social isolation and promote unity, friendship and a strong sense of community through organising arts, culture and learning activities, as well as information exchange between all groups connected to, and by, the Aldgate area. Run primarily by volunteers that are passionate about their community ACE produces events to celebrate the past, present and future of the Aldgate area and the people who live work and play there.

#### **Background and detail of proposal**

The Aldgate Lantern Parade and Winter Fete were run for the first time in 2017, with significant demand for the project to be run again in 2019. The project will provide residents in Aldgate, school children and businesses the opportunity to come together to connect the community. The newly improved Aldgate Square will be focal point for the Lantern Festival and the Winter Fair. The Parade will last for around 45 minutes and culminate with the Winter Fair, which will have dance and music performances from local schools and groups. There will be a range of stalls selling seasonal food.

The Lantern Parade and Winter Fete will take place on December 6<sup>th</sup> but a range of workshops in schools and the local community will take place in the lead up to the event. Throughout the Autumn term workshops will take place with the Sir John Cass, Cannon Barnett, English Martyrs and Christchurch Spitalfields primary schools. The workshops will work with the school's art departments to come up with designs and concepts for lanterns for the parade. Professional facilitators with lantern making experience will work alongside teachers to make creative lantern designs. Additional workshops will be held with a range of community groups which include the City Carer's Network, Mansell Street Estate Bengali Women's Group, Toynbee Hall Wellbeing Group and groups from the East London Mosque.

#### **Financial Information**

The organisation has been dormant for several years as they save for the major project in 2018. In December 2016, they received a grant from the City of London (Community Development) of £30,000 to seed fund the community play and work of

the artistic director. As the table outlines below much of the organisation's activity will begin in the financial year ending December 2019, including the previous grant awarded by this committee.

Year end as at 31st December	2018	2019	2020
	Accounts	Draft	Forecast
	£	£	£
<b>Income &amp; expenditure:</b>			
Income	47,584	98,626	45,332
- % of Income confirmed as at 16/06/2019	N/A	N/A	0%
Expenditure	(42,987)	(86,294)	(39,750)
Total surplus/(deficit)	<b>4,597</b>	<b>12,332</b>	<b>5,582</b>
Split between:			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	0	6,132	(15,000)
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	4,597	6,200	20,582
	<b>4,597</b>	<b>12,332</b>	<b>5,582</b>
Cost of Raising Funds	0	0	0
- % of income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total Expenditure	42,987	86,294	39,750
<b>Free unrestricted reserves:</b>			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	4,597	10,797	31,379
No of months of operating expenditure	1.3	1.5	9.5

## Recommendation

The Lantern Festival and Winter Fete were a great success last year due to the good planning of ACE. This application is seeking funding for another year to ensure that the two events can take place again. From assessment there was no issue with the last grant for the lantern festival, and this would be delivering a very similar scheme. It should be noted however that the previous grant delivered by ACE was not so successful. The Central Grants team are still awaiting feedback on this grant and would like to see satisfactory monitoring information before another grant can be awarded to ACE. It should also be considered that funding for this programme year on year is developing an over reliance. It would be good to see ACE being more proactive and seeking match funding for events for example. As the Lantern Parade was so successful last year, I recommend this application for funding with any future application for the same work clearly showing match funding. Funding is recommended as follows:

**£10,000 to support the costs of the Lantern Festival and Winter Fete taking place on Aldgate Square in December.**

## **CENTRAL GRANTS PROGRAMME**

**ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: a) Stronger Communities**  
**City YMCA London (ref. 15533)**

**Amount requested: £3,000**

**Amount recommended: £3,000**

**Purpose of grant request:** Funding to enhance the summer provision for young people in the City of London.

### **The Applicant**

City YMCA was registered as a charity in 1996 and provides residential, supported, accommodation plus a range of services for young people “in necessitous circumstances” – mostly homeless. Youth-work type services include workshops offering positive alternatives to drug-use, crime and gangs, for example; as well as training and guidance to help them seek and secure employment. As many young residents have fled their homes due to family breakdown, a lot of support is offered to help them re-establish positive relationships.

### **Background and detail of proposal**

City YMCA already holds a commissioned contract from the City of London to deliver Youth Services during term time and some summer provision. Currently they are commissioned to deliver 4 weeks of youth provision over the summer and are seeking funding to increase this by 2 additional weeks. During this additional period, they will provide STEM fund days, a residential trip to Lambourne End Centre in Essex and a trip to the Theme Park. This will be offered to 30 young people from the Golden Lane estate and neighbouring estates in Islington.

### **Financial Information**

City YMCA is redeveloping its Hostel on Errol Street as well as having a large housing portfolio. As the Charity is a housing association it has large fixed assets. The Charity is viable for the duration of this project.

Year end as at 31st March	2018	2019	2020
	Signed Accounts	Draft Accounts	Forecast
	£	£	£
<b>Income &amp; expenditure:</b>			
Income	1,698,337	2,799,853	2,981,220
- % of Income confirmed as at 04/06/2019	N/A	N/A	100%
Expenditure	(1,627,871)	(1,846,451)	(2,982,707)
Total surplus/(deficit)	<b>70,466</b>	<b>953,402</b>	<b>(1,487)</b>
Split between:			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	0	1,238,205	125,969
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	70,466	(284,803)	(127,456)
	<b>70,466</b>	<b>953,402</b>	<b>(1,487)</b>
Cost of Raising Funds	72,178	73,086	80,468
- % of income	4.2%	2.6%	2.7%
Operating expenditure (unrestricted funds)	1,477,825	1,677,817	2,862,616
<b>Free unrestricted reserves:</b>			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	1,961,976	1,677,173	1,549,717
No of months of operating expenditure	15.9	12.0	6.5
Reserves policy target	369,456	419,454	715,654
No of months of operating expenditure	3.0	3.0	3.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	1,592,520	1,257,719	834,063

## Recommendation

This application is looking to increase the summer activity that they offer to young people in the City of London by offering 2 additional weeks of provision. City YMCA are a well-established provider of youth services and this grant will allow for a more diverse programme at the end of the summer. This application meets the criteria of the Stronger Communities programme. Funding is recommended as follows:

**£3,000 to enhance the summer provision for young people in the City of London.**

## CENTRAL GRANTS PROGRAMME

### ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Stronger Communities

**Portsoken Activities Group (ref. 15425)**

**Amount requested: £3,000**

**Amount recommended: £3,000**

**Purpose of grant request:** To support the cost of three community parties in the Portsoken ward in July, August and September.

#### The Applicant

The Portsoken Activities Group (PAC) was set up in early 2019 as an organising vehicle to provide social activities and community events in the Ward of Portsoken. A Constituted Voluntary Organisation PAC has 6 Trustees and appropriate governance in place to manage grants and activities.

#### Background and detail of proposal

Funding is being sought to help PAC deliver three community events in Portsoken between July and September. A Latino Fiesta is being planned on Aldgate Square to celebrate Colombian Independence Day in July. Additional to this funding is being sought to contribute to a Family Fun Day on the Guinness Estate in Mansell Street in August and a Podium Party that will take place in Middlesex Street in September. All three events will bring together the local community in the Portsoken area. The application outlines how the three events will attract 500 people.

#### Financial Information

PAC are a newly Constituted Voluntary organisation with 6 committee members. In 2019 the group plan to deliver the three activities that have been outlined above. They have insurance in place and appropriate skills and governance in place to manage the funding.

Year end as at 31 December	2019
	Budget
	£
<b>Income &amp; expenditure:</b>	
Income	5,075
Expenditure	(5,075)
Total surplus/(deficit)	0
<b>Free unrestricted reserves:</b>	
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	0

**Recommendation**

PAC have outlined how this project meets the criteria of the 'Stronger Communities' programme as it will deliver three community parties for the benefit of communities within the City of London. Although a new organisation PAC have outlined appropriate governance structures are in place for managing the funding. Funding is therefore recommended as follows:

**£3,000 to contribute to the cost of delivering three community events in the Portsoken Ward between July and September.**

## **CENTRAL GRANTS PROGRAMME**

### **ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: Stronger Communities**

**Portsocken Ward Club (ref. 15538)**

**Amount requested: £3,000**

**Amount recommended: £3,000**

**Purpose of grant request:** £3,000 towards the annual Coach trip for residents of Portsocken Ward to Boulogne. As well as additional Summer Coach Trips to go fruit picking and to the seaside.

#### **The Applicant**

The Portsocken Ward Club (PWC) is a non-profit-making club made up of residents, workers and friends of the Ward of Portsocken in the City of London. The Ward Club has been in existence for 90 years organising social events for its members. The club is a membership organisation made up of Members, Life Members, Honorary Life Members and Corporate Representatives. Membership is paid on a subscription basis.

#### **Background and detail of proposal**

Funding is being sought by the PWC to pay for the coach costs for residents of the Portsocken ward to go on a day coach trip to Boulogne in France. As well as different trips throughout the summer to go Fruit Picking or out to the Seaside. The trip will be offered to all residents in the ward and places on the coach provided on first come first serve basis. Previous coach trips have attracted a wide spectrum of the community. The trip to Boulogne will be subsidised by those attending. The Coach has its own insurance for passengers. The application has made a partial case that this will be good for community cohesion.

#### **Financial Information**

The PWC receive most of its income from membership subscriptions and the occasional grant. The organisation keeps very basic financial records. The applicant has managed a small grant of this kind previously.



Year end as at 31st March	2019	2020
	Accounts	Forecast
	£	£
<b>Income &amp; expenditure:</b>		
Income	10,367	12,000
Expenditure	(13,515)	(11,000)
Total surplus/(deficit)	<b>(3,148)</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Split between:		
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	0	0
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	(3,148)	1,000
	<b>(3,148)</b>	<b>1,000</b>
Total Expenditure	13,515	11,000
<b>Free unrestricted reserves:</b>		
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	5,745	6,745
No of months of operating expenditure	5.1	7.4

### Recommendation

This application is looking for further funding for coach trips, extending the offer to fruit picking trips, trips to the seaside and the annual trip to Boulogne. The applicant has provided very basic information in the application which has made it hard to ascertain how this application meets the criteria of the programme. The organisation does not have a Safeguarding Policy which is also concern. Funding is recommended on the basis that a lighter touch approach is applied to smaller organisations, seeking grants of this size. However, it should be noted there are risks associated to this grant. A recommendation will be made that PWC implements a Safeguarding Policy. Funding is approved as follows:

**£3,000 towards the annual Coach trip for residents of Portsoken Ward to Boulogne. As well as additional Summer Coach Trips to go fruit picking and to the seaside.**

## **CENTRAL GRANTS PROGRAMME**

**ASSESSMENT CATEGORY: a) Stronger Communities**  
**Spanish and Portuguese Jews Synagogue (ref. 15534)**

**Amount requested: £10,000**

**Amount recommended: £10,000**

**Purpose of grant request:** Funding to transform Bevis Marks Synagogue into a vibrant cultural and educational hub in the City of London.

### **The Applicant**

The Grade I listed Bevis Marks Synagogue, on the borders of the City and the Borough of Tower Hamlets in London, is the Cathedral Synagogue of the Spanish and Portuguese (S&P) Sephardic Jews. Finished in 1701, it was the first synagogue to be built following the re-settlement of Jews in England in the second half of the 17th Century. Since then, it has witnessed the daily worship, festivals, the celebration of births, marriages and funerals, of multiple generations of Sephardic Jews, its building and tradition intact. It is the oldest surviving purpose-built synagogue in continuous use for worship in Britain and is the only non-Christian religious building in the City of London.

### **Background and detail of proposal**

Funding is sought to contribute to the Capital improvements of Bevis Mark's. The project will deliver physical changes to the Synagogue and its ancillary buildings. The entrance courtyard will be upgraded, the paving levelled and repaired, to create an important gathering and events space. The courtyard will provide space for a Sukkah, using planting relating to different Jewish festivals, such as date palm, willow and myrtle. A shallow entrance ramp will give easy access to the annexe for all visitors. The main body of the annexe will be reconfigured to create a light and airy space, serving as an antechamber both to the synagogue and to activity spaces downstairs.

The Synagogue will be conserved and cleaned, so that the historic fabric is retained in optimal condition. The full calendar of Jewish services will continue to be held here; whenever possible, heritage visitors will be welcomed to attend and supported in doing so. Interpretation in this historic space outside service times will be low key to respect the spirit of the place, delivered by volunteer guides, or audio guides.

Upgraded supporting facilities, such as a bridal room, office, kitchen and storage will ensure that Bevis Marks is well equipped, flexible and able to host a range of learning, cultural, community and private hire events. All the different functions and levels of the building complex, including the ladies' gallery of the Synagogue, will be connected via a new 'access core', comprising a lift and stairways. This project will open the space up to the wider community. Your funding will contribute to the overall cost of this project which will be supported by a wide range of other funders and supporters. An application is also being considered by the City Bridge Trust.

## Financial Information

The Charity is fundraising extensively for this project and has just been successful with its bid to National Lottery Heritage Fund which will make the whole programme of work financially viable. The Charity hold enough reserves to cover the cash flow requirements of a large capital programme, while being able to underpin the day to day running of the Synagogue.

Year end as at 31st October	2018	2019	2020
	Draft Accounts	Forecast	Budget
	£	£	£
<b>Income &amp; expenditure:</b>			
Income	2,419,379	2,333,000	2,453,000
- % of Income confirmed as at 07/06/2019	N/A	N/A	39%
Expenditure	(2,802,275)	(2,722,000)	(2,327,000)
Gains on Investments	387,292	0	0
Total surplus/(deficit)	<b>4,396</b>	<b>(389,000)</b>	<b>126,000</b>
Split between:			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	108,056	(624,000)	240,000
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	(103,660)	235,000	(114,000)
	<b>4,396</b>	<b>(389,000)</b>	<b>126,000</b>
Cost of Raising Funds	56,162	0	0
- % of income	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Operating expenditure (unrestricted funds)	2,510,466	2,058,000	1,838,000
<b>Free unrestricted reserves:</b>			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	467,609	702,609	588,609
No of months of operating expenditure	2.2	4.1	3.8
Reserves policy target	627,617	514,500	459,500
No of months of operating expenditure	3.0	3.0	3.0
Free reserves over/(under) target	(160,008)	188,109	129,109

## Recommendation

This is a project of some significance which will restore a very important heritage building in the City of London. Although the request for funding from the Stronger Communities programme is for a general contribution to the wider project it feels this would be an important project to contribute to. The completed project will open the building to the wider community in a deprived area of the City. Funding is recommended as follows:

**£10,000 contribution towards the capital improvements of the Bevis Marks Synagogue.**