

Broadclyst Football Club: Community Grant spend report

Minute ref: F25/006i; Date of meeting: 24.02.2025

Summary: Since Covid, Broadclyst FC has been awarded 2 x £2,000 community grants, one in 22/23 and a second in 23/24. In the applications, the FC stated how each grant would be spent. This report recaps on intended spend and reports a variation in spend of the 23/24 grant for the Finance Committee's consideration.

It is a condition of acceptance of the grant to report spend within 6 months. This has not happened; however, the FC has seen some changes in its senior management and the new committee is keen to work with the parish council and has been very open and cooperative as we have unpicked the last two years.

Sustainable operation:

Advice has been given on budgeting, and it has been explained that community grants are for extra projects / one-off capital purchases rather than for ongoing operational costs of the Club.

2022/23

Application 16.10.2022

Section C: What is the total cost of your project and how have you arrived at that cost? (Please include quotes where applicable)

"The Introduction to football course costs £160 per course and we have 10 coaches that need to attend. This is a total of £1600.

"We also require all of our coaches to attend their safeguarding and first aid courses. This course is £30 per person. This is a total of £690 (23 x £30)

"As a club we are applying for £2000 towards the total figure required figure of £2290."

Award:

Nov 2022, Minute Ref 22/069v. £2,000

Spend:

1. Evidence provided of £1,760.01 to National Football made on 15.03.2023.
2. Referee Courses: £240 - FA Referee Course x2. Evidence provided to show these were booked and paid for by coaches and refunded.

Recommendation: that the Committee notes and accepts the grant spend report for 22/23.

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2023/24

Application 10.08.2023

Section C: What is the total cost of your project and how have you arrived at that cost? (Please include quotes where applicable)

"The Introduction to football course costs this year are £100 per course and we have 8 assistant coaches that need to attend. This is a total of £800.

“We also have a coach that will be eligible for their C licence courses at a cost of £500. There will be no more than 1 of these. This is a cost of £500

“We also require all of our assistant coaches to attend their safeguarding and first aid courses. These courses are £30 per person. This is a total of £300 (10 x £30)

“The hardship fund would be £500. This would ensure that our most vulnerable members don’t miss out due to their personal family circumstances.

“As a club we are applying for £2000 towards the total figure required figure of £2100.”

Award:

Sep 2023, Minute Ref 23/072iv. £2,000

Spend:

1. Evidence provided of £210 spent on coach courses.
2. Proof of an order for equipment totalling £1,564.74 has been provided.

The FC has accepted that the 23/24 grant was not spent in accordance with the application. This therefore does not align with the Terms & Conditions under which the grant was accepted, which state that variations should be approved by the council in writing prior to the spend.

It is also apparent that the club’s current management were hitherto unaware of the conditions of the grant and did not realise it was ‘locked’ to coaching and hardship spend only.

Recommendation: mistakes from the past cannot be undone; the current Treasurer seems most sincere and understands the need for accountability when spending public money. Having scrutinised the accounts and evidence provided, there seems no impropriety or attempt to deceive.

There is no reason to suspect that the money has been spent in any way other than for the direct benefit of its members, and to support the volunteer coaches and committee members who run Broadclyst FC.

It is therefore recommended that a retrospective amendment to the agreed spend is recorded, and the current Treasurer’s explanation of spend is accepted as a true and accurate record.

This concludes my report to Committee.

Angie Hurren
Broadclyst Clerk & RFO.
18.02.2025