**Ashford Borough Community Grants Fund**

**Funding Priorities**

Priority will be given to projects that help meet our corporate priorities, below:

**Enterprising Ashford: Economic Investment and Growth**

***Priority Areas:***

***Business Growth***

Projects that develop the local economy through social enterprise

*E.g. Start-up social enterprises, social enterprises looking to expand and create jobs.*

**Education and Skills**

Projects that support young people to develop aspirations and work ready skills and/or support lifelong learning

*Eg volunteering, help with CVs and Interviewing skills*

**Active and Creative Ashford: Healthy Choices through Physical, Cultural and Leisure Engagement**

***Priority Areas:***

**Sports, Culture and Recreation**

Projects that engage and involve communities in the arts and in cultural activities

*E.g. community events and festivals, drama groups, film clubs*

Projects that support arts groups to produce and showcase work that contributes to the local economy.

*E.g. festivals, community recording studios*

Projects that deliver recreational or social activities for people outside of school hours

*E.g youth clubs, play areas, lunch clubs, youth cafe, mobile youth provision, ‘wheeled’ parks, social clubs, activity clubs, sports clubs, film or theatre clubs*

Projects that provide high quality community and neighbourhood facilities

*E.g. new build or refurbishment of community halls, sports halls and other community buildings and equipment*

**Active Lifestyles**

Projects that encourage healthier and more active people and communities

*Eg, purchase of sports equipment, refurbishment of community sports halls, and other community buildings, sports club development*

**Corporate Priority – Attractive Ashford: Countryside and Townscape, Tourism and Heritage**

***Priority Areas:***

***Tourism and Local Heritage***

Projects that promote and support tourism and heritage in the Borough

*E.g. Marketing and promotional activities including print, websites, social media and joint project delivery initiatives, local museums.*

Projects that increase visitor numbers and related spend

*E.g. new or improved tourist information services, visitor signage, tourist facilities and events*

Projects that create a sense of place, and/or revitalise neighbourhoods and communities

*Eg* *community support and engagement activities, local events and festivals, heritage projects,*

**Quality Environment and Countryside**

Projects that enhance the local environment or open spaces for wider community use and enjoyment

*E.g. Local maintenance and conservation schemes, community allotments, play areas, cycle paths, outdoor recreation*