

Haverhill Summer Bash 2017

Haverhill's biggest community fund raising day

Over the past 5 years the Haverhill Summer Bash has helped Haverhill based good causes raise over £20,000.

Background

Following the demise of the Haverhill Show in 2012, Haverhill Town Council has been working with a committee of local businesspeople and volunteers to develop an event that raises money for local organisations and charities. Over the past 5 years, the responsibility for the administration and finances of the event have passed over from Haverhill Town Council to the Committee who have become constituted and have been developing skills and knowledge in order to take the event on. In 2017, Haverhill Town Council obtained the licence and insurance for the events and provided logistical support in advance and on the day. As we are at the end of the 5 year plan to 'devolve the event' this report seeks to set out how the Haverhill Summer Bash Committee are planning to move forward and develop.

Committee Members.

Our committee recognises that it too needs to grow and have specific people in roles such as Finance, Secretary, Publicity, Volunteers. We already have a cross section of the public, business owners and now also a teacher but some of us take on multiple roles and this is something we wish to avoid in the future. We are specifically looking to gain more skills by inviting more members to the team who can fit the areas that we need developing. David Doughty will be Chairman for just one more year. We have already started discussions to find a successor from the business community /education sector to be the next Chair of the Committee

Volunteers.

We believe that we have helped to raise the morale of the town and look forward to capitalising on this to grow a bigger team of volunteers which is crucial if we are to become an independent event. We started with just a handful of volunteers in 2013 but have seen that slowly increase with the help of the public and the local Scouts and Guides, The Women's institute and the U3A. Haverhill Air Cadets are also keen to come on board to help on the day. We will always ask the public to suggest good causes to help but will be asking any group that might benefit to supply us with two people on the day as volunteers to strengthen our numbers. We have helped six to eight groups each year and so this should bring in an additional 12 - 16 helpers.

Moving Forward

While we are looking to take on the full organisation of the show, we feel that we will still need on the day support from the Town Council for the next 3 years to fully understand how the event needs to be run. We will look to lessen the reliance on Town County staff by taking on the set up of the event and the technical support over the next 3 years.

Developing the Show.

Our immediate plan for the show is to have a big publicity campaign, (mainly on social media but also including the local press), to rebrand the show and bring it back as "The Haverhill Show". We believe that

this will help us gain sponsorship more easily from the business community. We will continue to invite good causes to have a pitch on the day, promote local talent and use local services as much as possible.

Becoming a Charity

Whilst we are very grateful for the help and assistance of the Town Council since our start, we do wish to be an independent organisation and are currently looking into Charity status.

Funding

While we have been successful in gaining sponsorship from businesses to pay for attractions at the show, the core costs to pay for the insurances, hire, refuse collection, first aid and other logistical costs have been paid for by the Town Council .

The Haverhill Summer Bash are asking the Town Council to consider them as a core funded organisation for the next three years. We are asking for an annual grant of £2000 which would cover the costs currently being paid for by Haverhill Town Council and some additional support for the infrastructure of the show. This money would be ringfenced and would not form part of the funds that are distributed to the charities and organisations.

Thank you

The Summer Bash Committee would like to place on record their thanks to the Town Council for their support. We realise that we would not have been able to stage the and develop what event without the guidance and staffing. We feel proud of what we have been able to achieve for the Town and hope that this request is considered favourably.

The Haverhill Summer Bash Committee
October 2017