



HITTING THE RIGHT NOTE: Hathern Brass Band celebrate their success at the National Championships in Harrogate. They have received a £1,250 grant from Charnwood Borough Council in the past to repair the roof of their headquarters in Pasture Lane, Hathern.

Help to improve your community

A SCHEME which offers funding to help improve local communities has been hailed a success.

Charnwood Grants, which was launched by Charnwood Borough Council in October 2007, brought together a number of existing financial support schemes under one umbrella.

More than 50 different applications from village halls, sports clubs, community arts projects, play groups and individual athletes are currently being dealt with.

Cllr Richard Shepherd, the Leader of Charnwood Borough Council, said: "Charnwood Grants has been a real success and I'm delighted there has been such a positive response."

"At Charnwood Borough Council we are always seeking to improve the ways in which we work with residents."

The grants available are:

- **Community Development Grants** - This scheme provides revenue funding at a range of levels for organisations and projects including one-off contributions to projects with

Grants scheme hailed a success



community benefit.

- **Community Facilities Grants:** This scheme provides capital funding for one-off items of expenditure on community buildings, small environmental improvements and IT equipment to support access to public authority internet information.

- **Historic Building Grants:** This scheme supports the preservation or enhancement of listed buildings and other buildings of historical and architectural importance.

- **Arts Development Grants:** This scheme supports proposals that seek to promote involvement in arts, crafts and creative activities.

- **Sports and Leisure Grants:** There are four grants available to support sports clubs' development, educating coaches, helping talented individuals and boosting club's facilities.

- **Social Enterprise Grants:** This scheme supports social enterprises such as community businesses, Local Exchange Trading Schemes, co-operatives and credit unions.

- **Festive Street Lighting:** This scheme helps provide and maintain festive street lighting displays

If you want to find out more about any of the grant schemes, or request an application form, log on to www.charnwood.gov.uk/community/charnwoodgrants.html, call the Grants Administration Team on (01509) 634556 or email grants@charnwood.gov.uk

Looking to hit targets

LIKE local Authorities across the country, the Government sets Charnwood Borough Council a number of targets across its services.

The Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) show tax-payers whether a Local Authority is hitting these goals and performing to expected standards.

In a regular feature, the details below summarises Charnwood's performance on a selection of results up to September 2007.

If you would like any further information, log on to www.charnwood.gov.uk/democracy/performance12053.html or call (01509) 634 573.

Recycling and composting of household waste
 Target: 41%
 Quarter 2 Result: 39.9%

This is an improvement on the Quarter 1 result of 38.8% and moves us closer to our target for the year. We have recycled and composted more than 11,000 tonnes so far this year.

Clean streets
 Target: 86%
 July 2007 to November 2007 period: 87%
 We have improved significantly since last year when the result was 79.5%.

Speed of processing new Housing Benefit claims
 Target: 29 days
 Quarter 2 Result: 27 days
 It's important claims are processed quickly to help people on low incomes. The result for the first quarter was 29 days so our performance has improved

Council Tax collected so far this year
 Target: 57.2%
 Quarter 2 Result: 56.9%
 We are slightly behind our target for this stage in the year but are still aiming to collect 98.2% of the total Council Tax due by the end of this year.

Burglaries per 1,000 households
 Target: 2.4
 Quarter 2 Result: 3.1
 We work in partnership with a number of other organisations, including the Police, with the aim of reducing crime and the fear of crime. The quarter 1 result was 2.8

Planning applications processed within 8 weeks
 Target: 80%
 Quarter 2 Result: 85.6%
 Our performance has improved since Quarter 1 when we processed 83.6% of the applications within the Government target of eight weeks.