Podcast no.2

More Funding tips and hints

1. Are you fit for funding? Funders will want to see that you have the necessary policies in place. These could be HR policies, Equality/ diversity, environmental etc etc. By all means mention them, if the fund asks what you will be doing to promote these principles, then think about how your project could actively contribute to them, rather than JUST having a policy
2. Check your spelling and grammar. First impressions count. And if an appraiser only has a limited amount of time, then they may not want to spend it trying to figure out exactly what you are trying to say or achieve, so be sure to avoid ambiguity or inconsistencies. As per a previous podcast, try and get someone else to read through your bid before you submit it.
3. Make sure the figures add up. If maths is not your forte, then show the bid to someone else. You are asking an organisation for money. If your numbers do not make sense in the application, then it does not give comfort to the funder that their money will be in safe hands..
4. Be aware of the deadline. The final date and time for submission will be absolute. Do not assume that you will be granted an extension, or that “first thing the following morning will be ok”. If your application is late then the chances are it will not even be considered
5. Be prepared to sell your project well. Some application processes allow you to submit additional information or even present to approval boards. But many others only use the application form. An appraiser, if they only have your application form to go on, will want to quickly gain an understanding of your project and the benefits it will bring. Your project really needs to leap off the page at the appraiser

If you are unsure of any of these points, please contact the external funding team at Suffolk County Council or the team at Community Action Suffolk, who will be happy to help you.