



Committee and Date  
Bayston Hill Local Joint  
Committee ("LJC")

16 May 2011

7.00 p.m.

Item/Paper

**6**

Public

## **BAYSTON HILL LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE BUDGET REPORT**

**Responsible Officer** Lucy Roberts

e-mail: Lucy.roberts@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 252328

### **Summary**

To report to members on the 2011/12 Local Joint Committee budget and certain funding proposals made in accordance with the updated Parish Plan.

### **Recommendations**

- (i) The Committee are asked to note that a budget of £9209 has been allocated to the Local Joint Committee for 2011/12.
- (ii) Funding for 2011/12 be allocated in accordance with the updated Parish Plan priorities.
- (iii) To fund £3564 towards a community ICT project at Oakmeadow Primary

## **REPORT**

### **Background**

1. The updated Parish Plan was completed and published in 2010.
2. In 2010/11 funding was agreed for a range of projects including an anti-dog fouling campaign and the introduction of three new sites for a vehicle activated speeding sign. These were priorities identified as actions from the Parish plan update.
3. The Bayston Hill LJC is responsible for the award and expenditure of a devolved budget. The amount available to the LJC in 2011/12 has reduced as a result of Shropshire Council budget decisions, and a review of locality working in Shropshire. This amount has however been supplemented by the

transfer of funding previously available for Community arts projects in to the LJC budgets.

4. The total amount therefore available to Bayston Hill LJC is calculated as follows:

Total LJC electorate as at August 2010:	4,162
Budget based on this electorate	£17,000
Amount available for 2011/12 following 50% budget reduction	£8,500
Plus apportioned allocation of community arts budget	£709
<b>TOTAL budget for 2011/12</b>	<b>£9,209</b>

### **Community Information Communication and Technology club**

5. Oakmeadow Primary school is asking for LJC funding of £3564 to go towards a Community Information Communication and Technology (ICT) club- this would be for the purchase of 10 dedicated laptops, storage/charging trolley and licences.
6. The aim is to start an Information Communication and Technology (ICT) club in June 2011. This would initially run one night a week, increasing to two nights a week.  
The ICT club initially would be focused for children aged 11 to 14. Activities taking place would include: Tutoring in soft ware for publishing, power point and word, internet café, age appropriate software for games and education on internet safety.
7. Long term plans for the club are to provide:  
Education classes for the community to develop computer confidence and an understanding of internet safety.  
Link with the Music school to offer an ICT club for making music with software. This would also include managing music from the internet, where to purchase on-line, music and internet safety.  
To support mums of the young to access and develop computer confidence by running groups during the day and providing crèche opportunity.
8. The computers purchased for the ICT club would be dedicated to community activities only. This will mean that the equipment can be utilised to meet the needs of individual groups.  
The computers would be stored at the school within their own 'charging trolley' and would remain solely for the use of Bayston Hill community.  
The school would provide the ongoing maintenance of the computers although they would not be used by the school or be part of the school's complement of computers.  
The ICT club would come under Oakmeadow C.E primary and nursery school's e-safety policy.  
The school will employ one person to oversee the clubs – funding for this post has already been secured through the extended school provision.

9. The project meets several aspects identified in the updated Parish plan priorities  
In particular it meets the requirements of:
- Priority issue No 11 – Young people  
Young people identified that there is a need for more clubs and more places to meet. The ICT club would provide an opportunity for this.  
It also identified a need for the promotion of activities in the village – this could also be done via the ICT club.
  - Priority issue No12 – Retired residents  
Identified a need for evening classes - Taster courses in ICT can be arranged to cater for interested residents.
  - Priority issue No15 – Activities and evening classes  
Evening classes were identified – again the ICT equipment could be utilised and is flexible enough to create sessions to meet people's needs.
10. The Parish plan review also used 'Pod voting' to consult with children from Oakmeadow primary school aged 7-11 came up with an ideas and improvements list that included having ICT café in Bayston Hill - The ICT club would be a step towards this with the provision of free broad band access.
11. The provision of computers for the ICT club would benefit not only the young people in Bayston Hill but the wider community as well.  
As a homework club, the ICT equipment would be invaluable for children who do not have access to computers or internet at home. The provision would also act as a lifeline for those children who have left primary school for secondary but still need the support.  
The project would initially cater for young people in the village and once established, it would then be opened out to the rest of the community. People lacking in confidence in using computers would be encouraged to get involved.  
It would increase the skills base in the parish and encourage people to go onto other community education experiences.
12. The school has access to a high speed internet connection and would like the benefits of this to be made available to the wider community afterschool hours. ICT club would enable this to happen.
13. Work would also be done to ensure that the Community ICT club at the school would compliment the internet and computer facilities at the Library.
14. The sum of £3564 is made up of:
- £2400 for 10 x Asus minibook lap tops
  - £330 for 10 x MS Windows operating system
  - £330 for 10 x MS Office pro software

- £55 carriage
- TOTAL= £3564 ex VAT

Several quotes have been gained; the above quote was felt to be the best value for money with ongoing support.

15. The computers and associated equipment are for community use and should the school find itself unable to facilitate the computers or ICT club then it shall be a condition of the grant that the ownership of the equipment shall be transferred to a suitable community group such as the Parish council.
16. It is strongly recommended that the Committee considers the project for funding and it is further recommended that the committee should be satisfied that any payment made should meet the aims set out in the Action Plan.

**List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)**

**Human Rights Act Appraisal**

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.

**Environmental Appraisal**

None

**Risk Management Appraisal**

In determining these recommendations the Council has considered reputational risk and the course of action minimises this risk.

**Community / Consultations Appraisal**

Consideration has been given to the public opinion expressed at the previous Local Meeting.

**Cabinet Member**

Councillor Gwilym Butler- Portfolio holder for partnership working, performance and productivity and customer service.

**Local Member**

Shropshire Councillors – Ted Clarke, Jon Tandy, Liz Parsons

**Appendices**