



Committee and Date
Bishop's Castle, Chirbury &
Worthen and Clun Local Joint
Committee

6th October 2011

7.00pm

Item

13

Public

BISHOP'S CASTLE, CHIRBURY & WORTHEN LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE – FUNDING DECISION REPORT.

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1. Summary

In 2011/12 this Local Joint Committee had a total budget of £26,181 available to spend. This is made up of £24,500 from the LJC budget, £1,441 from the arts funding and £240 carryover from 2010/11.

At the last LJC on 16th of June the Committee approved grants totalling £6,265.38 and a grant of £1000 has been awarded to the Norbury Victorian Festival which leaves **£18,916** available to be awarded to projects in 2011/12

£10,000 of this sum is ring-fenced for a Community Chest scheme (applications for £500 or less, no match funding required) and the remainder for projects of more than £500 which require match funding of at least 50%. The maximum grant available from the LJC is £2500.

Where matched funding is required for a project this must be in the form of cash, as in kind support is not accepted as matched funding.

2. Recommendations

- A. Members are asked to approve grants at the recommended amounts for projects a-k.
- B. It is not recommended to approve project L as its felt this project would be more appropriately funded through the parish council precept.

REPORT

a) Redlake Village Hall – New heating system for the hall

Total project costs: £8,733

Grant requested from the LJC: £2,500

Recommended grant award: £2,500

Project Outline: The project is to improve the facilities of the village hall to make it more accessible to more people all year round by installing a full central heating system. The request for funds is towards the purchase and installation of a wet heating system (radiators, pipework, pump, etc) as well as the flue and fittings associated with the installation of a wood pellet boiler (but not the actual boiler itself, which will be paid for by the village hall without government grant funding) into the village hall.

The aims of the project are:

- to make the hall more accessible to the wider community during the winter months
- to make the hall more accessible to all age groups, especially those that are most affected by the cold
- to provide a space that is more suitable for more varied activities during the winter months – especially those have had to be cancelled or abandoned because of the cold, like yoga and dancing classes
- to provide a more welcoming place and improved environment for people to meet and enjoy

PROJECT NEED: Many events have had to be cancelled in the hall due to the lack of heating in the past. The project is needed in order that we can use the hall throughout the year. During the winter many members of the community can feel more isolated and events run at the hall during this time are a vital part of bringing the community together and it is during these events that connections and associations are made that further help people and community cohesion long after the event is finished.

Costs

Wet heating system	6,281	See attached quotes
Installing class 1 flue through roof, flashing, ventilation, electrical connections, thermostatic controls, connections to manifold of boiler & pump to wet heating system	2,452	See attached quotes

Matched funding

LJC Grant applied for	2,500	Applied for
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Village Hall funds	6,233	Secured

b) St Cuthbert's Church Clungunford – New equipment for youth clubs

Total project costs: £545.13

Grant requested from LJC: £475.13

Recommended grant award: £475.13

Project outline: As a progression from running Holiday Club it is planned to hold a series of day/half day workshops for 11 – 16 year olds in St Cuthbert's, Clungunford open to all young people within our communities and beyond.

We are keen to create a partnership with the local young people to give them a voice and the opportunity of raising their aspirations through running workshops of their choice. Longer term, we want to develop a young peoples' forum and see the first workshop as a good way of starting this.

Due to the interest generated at Holiday Club we want to hold a workshop on interviewing techniques towards the end of October, where the participants will create their questions and conduct interviews being videoed for constructive analysis afterwards covering appropriate questions, different techniques that can be employed, including giving an insight into future job interviews.

A camcorder with playback will enable the young people to film and then review their technique. The camcorder will be an excellent resource for this, and future, workshops.

During this workshop, we will introduce the idea of a young peoples' forum to enable them to decide on, organise and run their own workshops in future.

Need for the project:

At the Holiday Club, work was done by some of the young people creating short interviews with a cross-section of those present and then putting them on computer, to be viewed by the participants and shown at the 'finale' of the Holiday Club when relatives, friends and guests were present.

This activity created great interest, but could only be done by a small number of those present (6 out of the 31 attending). Those who were unable to participate asked if there might be other opportunities to do this. In discussion during the Holiday Club wash up meeting it became clear that there was little opportunity for young people to develop life skills and interests locally and a number of adults offered to help young people organise workshops.

The costs of the project are the hire of a venue for the workshop £50; refreshments for those taking part £20; £421.74 for purchase of camcorder and £53.39 for a microphone.

The project has matched funding of £50 from Clungunford PCC and £20 from their funds.

c) Clunton Village Hall – New tables for the hall

Total project costs: £880.18

Grant requested from LJC: £440.09

Recommended grant award: £440.09

Project outline: Clunton village hall committee are in the process of upgrading the halls facilities to make it attractive to groups as a venue to hire. The hall has recently purchased a new oven with support from the LJC which has significantly improved the kitchen at the hall, but would now like to replace the tables at the hall.

The present tables were new in 1996 when the village hall came into existence. The formica tops are new beginning to peel away from the tops of some tables, while other tables have splayed legs due to constant storing on top of each other, rendering them unsightly and unstable. The Committee agree that new folding tables of differing sizes are the next item in the continuing process of upgrading the hall to maintain its appearance and attractiveness.

At the present time it is difficult to put on certain activities at the hall due to the tables in the hall. For instance, as all of the tables are of a small size they are not ideal for “bring and buy” events, such as garden plant sales, as stall holders require longer tables.

Furthermore, we are unable to store away existing tables into the store cupboard as they are not of the “fold-up” variety. It becomes difficult to put on barn dances, a popular activity, as the floor space is occupied by the tables.

The Committee would like to purchase 8 six seater tables at £64.26 each plus 4 four seater tables at £54.85 each, which together with VAT makes a total cost of £880.18. They have 50% matched funding from their own funds so are requesting a grant of £440.19 from the LJC

d) Bishop's Castle local policing team – Friday Night Football project

Total project costs: £570

Grant requested from the LJC: £570

Recommended grant award: £500

Project outline: In 2010/11 the Bishop's Castle Local Policing team received a grant of £550 to help meet the costs of running a football project for an hour on two Friday evenings per month, on the Astroturf pitch at Bishops Castle Community College.

The aim of this project was to keep the youths off the streets at a key time in the evening and give them an opportunity to use their energy in a worthwhile manner. The project also enabled the Police to engage with local youths opening up a means of communication with local youths in an informal setting.

This project has been very successful with approximately 35 different people taking part in the project, including one girl. On average about 12 young people attend each session.

However, funding from the LJC has now come to an end so the Policing team are looking for additional funding to continue the programme of Friday night training sessions. The project also involves the purchase of some new training equipment and the attendance of one of the police officers on a Football Association accredited coaching course.

Within the last three years there have been ongoing issues with local youths who are drinking under age, causing anti-social behaviour (ASB) and minor criminal damage in Bishops Castle, particularly in Bishops Castle Town Park.

There is a need for activities to channel their energies elsewhere, in a more positive way, and the Friday night football sessions had been highlighted as a means of providing them with an activity which can reduce ASB. The sessions which ran in 2010 were well attended with around 35 young people engaged in the sessions, and an average of 12 attending each session.

Reduction in ASB in Bishop's Castle has come down during the course of the project and the Local Policing Team are getting to know a few new faces in and around Bishop's Castle which is helping to break down those barriers on the street.

It is anticipated that between 8 and 12 youths would attend each session, but we could manage numbers up to 16 per session.

Costs of the project are:

Football Sessions Hire of Astroturf and floodlighting 26 sessions over 12 months @ £10.00 per session	£260.00
Bibs x 20 @ £4	£80.00
Balls x 6 @ £8.50	£51.00
Marker cones x 1 sets @ £10 = £12.00	£10.00
Ball bag x 1 @ £12	£12.00
Stirrup pump 1 @ £10.00	£10.00
Pressure Gage 1 @ £7.00	£7.00
Coaching Course F.A Level 1 @ £140.00	£140.00

e) Clun Memorial Hall – New crockery for the hall

Total project costs: £1,800

Grant requested from the LJC: £900

Recommended grant award: £900 and additional condition that the Hall Committee explore the option of donating the old crockery to another local organisation.

Project outline: Clun Memorial hall hosts a number of community events, including meals and functions.

The hall's current crockery is 1970's Berylware, which due to its age and heavy use has become chipped and stained, and some items have been broken.

The Committee would like to replace this crockery with a 144 place setting, which would allow the group to cater for the maximum number of occupants the hall can seat.

The preferred quote is from Nisbets Catering Supplies for their Olympian crockery set. Matched funding of £900 for the project will come from the village hall's own funds.

f) React Theatre Company - React Community Pantomime for South Shropshire

Total project costs: £10,000

Grant requested from the LJC: £1,125

Recommended grant award: £1,125 On condition of matched funding for the project being secured from Awards for All and the other South West Shropshire LJC's

Project outline: This is a community based arts project aimed at integrating a diverse group of participants from the local community, including youth, seniors and the learning disabled. This project aims to build upon a number of smaller projects that have been funded over the last four years through SPAM (South Shropshire Housing Association) and the Working Together charity, which operates out of Ludlow. Participants in these projects hail from four main areas in South Shropshire including Craven Arms, Ludlow, Church Stretton and Bishop's Castle. It is clear from feedback that was collected from these projects that group members and the agencies that represent them, felt that drama activities benefited the group and that such programmes would be a benefit to the community as a whole if they continued to be offered. Learning disabled adult participants also expressed a desire to share their final performance with a larger audience, expressing a particular interest in performing for young people. Group members also reported feeling very isolated in their own communities. This project has been created as a result of that feedback and has the following aims:

1. A cast composed of young people from the ReAct Youth Theatre group in Ludlow and Bishop's Castle, learning disabled actors from previous projects sponsored by the agencies mentioned above and amateur adult actors will come together to create a production of Rapunzel.
2. As a by-product of the production, group members will be supported in the formation relationships with members of the community that they may not have otherwise had the opportunity to meet. This interaction will endeavour to reduce fear and misunderstanding of others by working to break down preconceived stereotypes held about others, as the group works towards a common goal.
3. There will be four public performances of the play in Ludlow, Bishop's Castle, Church Stretton or Craven Arms. Offers will be made to local junior schools to bring their pupils, or if it is feasible, we will bring the production to their school.
4. Production members will be available to talk about what they think of the project and how it may have changed their outlook on their community as a result of participating in it.

This project aims to build upon a number of smaller projects that have been funded over the last four years through SPAM (South Shropshire Housing Association) and the Working Together charity, which operates out of Ludlow. It is clear from feedback that was collected from these projects that group members and the agencies that represent them, felt that dramatic activities benefited the group in terms of developing confidence, speech and body language awareness. Learning disabled adult participants also expressed a desire to share their final performance with a larger audience, especially children. They also reported feeling very isolated in their own communities and that in some cases people were afraid of them because they were disabled. Some members expressed a fear of all young people, as they had been bullied by them. Young people have expressed discomfort with those who have disabilities as well. Group members will be supported in the formation relationships with members of the community that they may not have otherwise had the opportunity to meet. This interaction will help to reduce fear and misunderstanding by challenging stereotypes and ingrained perceptions of what teenagers, adults and the learning disabled are as people.

There are currently no other projects of this nature going on in South Shropshire. Other groups in Herefordshire and Coventry have engaged in similar projects with a high rate of success. This project is for everyone; artists, young people, and adults of all ages and abilities.

This project is being managed by Cathie Woodbury, who is local to the area and knowledgeable of how to involve local people in the actual creation of the pantomime. She teaches or has taught in each of the four areas identified in this grant and will use local contacts and newsletters, such as the 49ner, to recruit local people to participate in the event. Cathie lives in Craven Arms and works in Church Stretton, Bishop's Castle and Ludlow and therefore has connections in all of these places that will be used to make this a community event.,

We are looking for the cost of the project to be split between the four LJC's, with each contributing £1,125.00 towards the project.

Project costs

Rental Fees and Transportation (rehearsal and meeting space, theatre for production, movement of props and sets)	£2,000.00
Script	£500.00
Costume/Set Creation (includes cost of materials and artist labour)	£2,000.00
Workshop Leader/Director's Fee	£3,000.00
Publicity/Web Site Creation	£1,500.00 £615.00 web site £885.00 publicity
Stipend for Trainees	£1,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING	£10,000.00

Matched funding

Private donation	£500.00	Secured
LJC Funding	£4,500.00	Applied For
Awards for All	£4,500.00	Applied For
Ticket Sales	£500.00	Anticipated
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING (should equal total project costs)	£10,000.00	

g) Hightown Community Room Clun - Electrical Improvements Project

Total project costs: £1,500

Grant requested from the LJC: £750

Recommended grant award: £750

Project outline: The aim of the project is to improve the safe working environment for members of the public using the Hightown Community Room and, in particular, the safe evacuation of the building in case of fire. The Committee has determined the proposed scope of electrical works for the project taking into account recommendations in a routine NICEIC report on the electrical installation, and also a routine fire safety assessment carried out in conjunction with an officer from Clun Fire Station. The proposed items of work are as follows:

- i) Rectification of 3 outstanding defects from the electrical inspection report. The defects are all Code 4 which is the least serious category but the Committee would like to make the necessary corrections. The work includes making provision

for a single main isolator for the installation, providing earth wires for two light fittings and replacing corroded anti-frost heaters.

- ii) Installation of 2 No. illuminated emergency exit signs with battery back-up, including cabling.

The present emergency exit signs are not illuminated and the Committee consider that the provision of illuminated signs that would stay illuminated even after loss of power would greatly improve the safe evacuation of the building in case of fire.

- iii) Installation of 2 No. additional double wall sockets including cabling.

There are presently no power sockets on the east wall of the main assembly room so that a cable extension running across the floor or over the entrance door is sometimes necessary for electrical equipment used in public performances. Such cable extensions are a potential hazard to the public.

- iv) Installation of 6 No. interconnected smoke detectors including cabling and alarm.

There is presently just one smoke alarm in the building and the Committee consider that by locating interconnected smoke detectors in all parts of the building, there would be earlier warning of the outbreak of fire and a better chance of evacuating the building safely.

- v) Installation of 2 No. weather resistant flood lights attached to the outside of the building, including cabling and a control switch located inside the building.

Persons evacuated from the building will naturally congregate in the adjacent car parking area. There is presently only very limited lighting in the car park area and the Committee consider that flood lights covering the whole car park would greatly enhance the safe evacuation of the building.

Need and demand

The evidence that justifies the project provisions is contained firstly in the NICEIC 3-year inspection report of October 2010. The inspection was carried out by EOM (Electrical Contractors) Ltd of Newtown, Powys, the company which also carried out the previous inspection in 2007. There were altogether five recommendations in the report all of which are listed as Code 4 'does not comply with BS 7671' but two of the defects listed have been rectified in January this year by the replacement of the main switchboard for the overhead heaters. The other main evidence is in the Fire Safety Risk Assessment report of March 2011 which contains four specific recommendations, including those for the smoke alarms, the emergency exit signs and the car park lighting. The other recommendations from this report were also implemented earlier this year.

The Hightown Community Room provides a valuable venue for public gatherings in Clun being intermediate in size between the Clun Memorial Hall and smaller venues such as the Methodist Church rooms and the Haslehurst Community Centre. It is used regularly for public meetings by Shropshire Wildlife Group, for rehearsals and occasional public entertainment by Clun Amateur Dramatic Society and for the annual summer exhibition by Clun Arts & Crafts Group. The Clun Youth Group meets there weekly during the school term time and there is also a weekly meeting by a ladies yoga group. The venue is also used regularly for private functions, for coffee mornings, for funeral teas and for other church activities such as the summer

holiday club. All of these community groups, which attract members from a wide area around Clun, will benefit from the proposed improvements to the safety of the building.

h) Bishop's Castle Tourism Community Interest Company - Bishop's Castle & Clun Valley Area Festival Officer

This is a revised application of a project previously funded by the LJC, but declined for continuation funding earlier in 2010/11

Total project costs: £51,450.00

Grant requested from the LJC: £1,000

Recommended grant award: £1000

Project Outline: Festivals in this sparsely populated rural area are volunteer run; they often run at a loss; some festivals have now built up reserves and are starting to be sustainable but this fragile situation is affected by variables such as the weather and the wider economy.

There is financial pressure on all festivals as well as increasing demands of legislation. In these circumstances some festivals may cease to exist.

The festivals make an important contribution to the economy of the area (for instance the Bishop's Castle Michaelmas Fair and Christmas Lights Festivals between them bring around £218,000 into the local economy each year) The enhanced sense of community and place in the small towns and villages is of considerable value in ways other than financial.

The relatively strong position that festivals are now in is in no small measures due to us having a part time festivals officer since May 2004. The Officer works in the Bishop's Castle and Clun Valley area (roughly the Local Joint Committee area)

His role is:

- to help and support festival committees,
- organise sharing of facilities, equipment and knowledge
- develop strategies and training programmes to encourage new volunteers so festivals are more sustainable and professional.
- assisting festival committees to deal with health & safety, environmental matters, publicity and marketing and transport problems.
- helping festivals to deal with waste in an environmentally friendly manner and to develop public transport links.
- supporting and enhancing festivals and events throughout this area,
- encouraging volunteers and strengthening communities

- supporting new festivals and smaller festivals in the area; this is a significant area of the FO's work:

When he came into post the main festivals for the area were:

- Bishop's Castle Michaelmas Fair and Christmas Lights Festivals
- Clun Green Man Day and Clun Carnival

Over the past 2 years the FO has supported the growth and development of 16 events in the area and given advice to events outside the area when approached by them.

Future sustainability of this post:

The post has been funded by various relatively short term grants since 2004. The present LEADER grant was £39,450 for 3 years in November 2009. This grant is to pay salary **only** for three days a week for 50 weeks a year.

Another £12,000 (£4,000 a year) was to be raised as match funding. £3,000 per year public money (LJC) and £1,000 private money (festivals).

Funding from other sources (£4,000 per year) is intended to fund training courses, stationery, new information packs, publicity materials and other expenses. However when the LJC refused to give a second grant of £3,000 in February, LEADER generously adjusted its grant and increased the percentage of volunteer time which could be used as match funding

The volunteer time the festivals contribute to the Festival Officer Project is valued in terms of our LEADER grant at £3,757.14 this year and £3,113.86 next year. Without this input of volunteer time, festivals would not happen; festivals bring £100,000s into the local economy.

The impact of the recession on festivals means it is unrealistic to expect the festivals to contribute the £1000 p.a. in actual cash anticipated at the time of the LEADER application in 2009. The Tourism Co. hopes to at least match last year's contribution of £675.

Last year there was a shortfall of £325, this year there will be a short fall of £1,203.57 (if the festivals give £675 in cash) and next year it is anticipated it will be £527.79.

This means the Tourism Co. total losses on the project are expected to be £1,528.57 this year and £2,056.36 at the end of next year.

The application to the LJC in 2010/11 was turned down on the grounds that the post has not attained complete sustainability with contributions made from the funds of festivals throughout the area.

The LJC are now being asked to reconsider this on the following grounds:

- Festivals make an important contribution to tourism and community development in the area but they do not make significant profits. They are contributing valuable "cash" in volunteer time.

- Most festival committees wish to plough such profits as they have been able to generate at a time of recession into future festivals to enhance them and ensure their sustainability
- Sources of regional funding that help community events have become harder to find.
- The Festival Officer post is sustainable in the long term as the work will be carried out from 2013 by the staff at the new Information Office in Bishop's Castle Town Hall. This office will organise the very popular joint festival insurance, handle publicity and box office for festivals and events, continue with advice on health & safety and other legislation/regulation, help with road closures and carry other work at present done by the Festival Officer.

LJC funding is required to meet such costs as training programmes and refresher courses; these are essential as there are many new committee members and expenses; new information packs volunteer recruitment packs and publicity materials are required. In view of reduced LJC funds we are only requesting £1000.

Need and demand

The Festival Officer post was piloted with finance from the former Shropshire County Council and South Shropshire District Council, the Shropshire Hills AONB and the Bishop's Castle Marches Partnership as a result of demands from the Bishop's Castle festivals at an open meeting in 2003.

Since the post began in 2004 all the local festivals have made use of the officer and have welcomed the retention and development of this service on a more sustainable footing. The festival Office has in the last few weeks enabled Newcastle Village Show to join the joint festivals insurance and has given advice on first aid requirements and drawing up risk assessments. He is working with music, arts and literature people in Bishop's Castle to launch the first Bishop's Castle Arts festival next February to bring visitors to the town at an otherwise "dead" time.

The demand for the services of the officer varies across the area but the officer is able to support any festival or event, whatever its size.

The largest events the FO support are Clun Green Man and Bishop's Castle Michaelmas Fair, the smallest are Lydbury North Apple Pressing Days and Newcastle Village Show.

The following summary of festivals supported throughout the area are evidence of the demand for and value of this project:

Festivals Supported since 2009

Newcastle Village Show

Advice given on public liability insurance and first aid cover. Checked their risk assessments and health and safety provision. Will be attending some of their planning meetings for 2012.

Bishop's Castle Michaelmas Fair

Carry out all aspects of Health and Safety for this event along with site and parade management. Involved with planning of the event throughout the year and attend all of the committee meetings during the year.

Lydbury North Apple Pressing Days

Have given advice on their public liability insurance needs and on health and safety issues. Also arranged for two members of the committee to be CRB checked.

Bishop's Castle Christmas Lights

This festival has gone through some difficult times in recent years and the festival officer has given a great deal of time to helping recruit a new committee. As few of the new committee had run such an event before training had to be given in all aspects of event management. Advice was also given on building the event up again to the level it was in 2008. The festival officer took control of the procession management and all aspects of road closure and health and safety. It is proposed that by 2012 event the committee will be able to run all aspects of this event themselves. The festival officer attends all their planning meetings during the year.

Bishop's Castle Arts Festival

This is a new event planned for February 2012 and the festival officer has been involved since the start of planning. The twin ideas are to showcase local arts and artists plus attract more visitors to the area at a traditionally quiet time of the year. The festival officer attends all the planning meetings, liaises with local professional arts organisations and with the Arts department at Shropshire Council. He is also investigating the possibility of grants funding.

Clun Green Man

Attends all the planning meetings throughout the year and in conjunction with the chairman writes and arranges the event planning document. Attends meetings with the emergency services to make sure this document is to their satisfaction. Is involved with the site and parade management and with the recruitment and supervision of the events volunteer stewards. In addition to this the festival officer has given advice on plans to lengthen next year's event and is looking into possible grant funding.

Bishop's Castle Round and About Walk

Arranges public liability insurance and offers advice on stewarding and number of check-points for this long standing charity walk

Bishop's Castle Stone-Skimming Championship

A relative new event which attracts more visitors every year. Gave initial advice on health and safety issues and double checked their risk assessments and site management plans. Checks these each year before the event.

Aston-on-Clun Arbor Tree Day

This traditional and nationally well know event has been run very efficiently for many years by a small dedicated committee. The festival officer has managed to make sure their running costs are kept within their small budget and has attended some of their planning meetings. This year however saw the retirement of key members of this committee and the festival officer is active in trying to recruit new volunteers to take over the running of this event.

Bishop's Castle Walking Festival

This long running event is still as popular with walkers as ever and to help maintain the standard the festival officer has recommended that walk leaders should take refresher courses. He has also given advice on first aid provision and been involved with discussions over possible changes to the whole event. He attends most of the committees planning meetings.

Bishop's Castle Carnival

Helps out on the day with the parade and on the field. Gives advice, to the event, on all aspects of insurance and issues regarding stall holders and entertainers and

liases with the committee throughout the year over any possible concerns. If deemed necessary by the committee will attend the occasional meeting.

Leasowes Bank Arts Festival

The festival officer has given them advice and helps with various grant applications over recent years and has attended various planning meetings.

Bishop's Castle Party in the Park

Has given advice on their insurance needs and passed on information concerning appropriate grant funding. Festival officer has offered advice on general health and safety and event management which after discussions at this year's event will, hopefully, be taken up next year.

Clun Carnival

Has arranged small grant funds for this event in recent years and advised on aspects of their public liability insurance. Due to the financial state of this event the festival officer has also offered advice on economies.

General Work

As well as direct input into the events mentioned above the festival officer has given general advice to small events such as Bishop's Castle Midsummer Rejoicing, Lydbury North Walcot Walk and charity walks arranged in Mainstone and Newcastle either by email or phone. He has also been asked for advice and information from events and festivals outside the catchments area in particularly Clee Village's proposed show and The Dance Xplosion in Craven Arms.

He insures each year that all the festivals are put up on a wide range of 'what's on' web sites and carries on with the work on the main policies that the festivals in the area have agreed to adapt by the end of 2012 to help keep them running in a 'professional' and so help attract visitors to the area. These are: a) work on a sustainable transport policy for visitors to and from event; b) a welcome pack for newcomers to the area with details of events and opportunities to volunteer; c) a more efficient way of re-cycling of waste at the events. All these policies involved liaising with volunteer groups, the Council and local and regional businesses – something that local festival volunteers would not have the time to do.

Costs

Salary – 3 days per week @ £100 per day for 50 weeks for 3 years	39,450	
Expenses, Printing costs in connection with development of newcomers' volunteering packs and publicity and Training programmes	12,000	

Income

Leader funding	39,450	confirmed
Festivals contribution	675	Confirmed
Festivals contribution	2,250	Unconfirmed and £1,350 expected.
LJC grant	1,000	Applied for
Volunteer time	6,871 plus £147.64 from	Confirmed

	2010	
Tourism Co. contribution	1,056.36	Confirmed
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING (should equal total project costs)	51,450	

i) Worthen Village Hall – New tables for village hall

Total project costs: £1,046.40

Grant requested from LJC: £523.00

Recommended grant award: £523.00

Project outline:

The Village Hall is used by a number of local organisations, e.g. The Womens Institute, Gardening Club, Bowling Club, Local History Group, Nursery and Pre-school, fund raising events, concerts etc.

The current tables are oblong in shape, heavy to move, inflexible in their use especially when used for dining. They are also old and unattractive.

The purpose of replacing the tables is to provide the various groups that use the hall with flexible seating arrangements for meetings, tables that are easier to use, lighter and easier to set up and much better for dining.

The activities for which the tables are used are meetings and functions. Meetings would become round table meetings with each attendee having easier eyesight of the other attendees and would make it easier for those who have to lip read due to poor hearing.

Functions in the hall, which use tables for dining, will have a more suitable surface for food and more space on which to place crockery and cutlery. The current arrangements have little provision for anything other than one tight place for one person with a plate and cutlery.

The aim of the project is to provide the hall with more flexible and better usable tables, which are easier and lighter to assemble and more amenable to dining. The current usage of the hall for functions is lower than we would like and it is believed that the proposed round tables will be more adaptable and usable, and therefore will attract more people to hire the facility thereby raising more funds for the future of the hall.

Costs

Purchase of 12 Banqueting Tables	588.00
1 Table Trolley	185.00
Delivery of above	99.00
VAT	174.40

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	1,046.40
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j) Worthen parish council – New notice boards

Total project costs: £817.20

Grant requested from LJC: £681.00

Recommended grant award: £400

Project outline:

The aim of the project is to provide an advertising board, located on the side of Snailbeach public toilets, to be used by local businesses and service providers. A nominal annual charge could be requested to ensure a small revenue stream to enable ongoing maintenance and operation of this essential community asset. In turn local businesses would benefit from visitors using services

Need and demand

Following joint meetings between agencies, community groups and businesses a demand for managing visitors to Snailbeach/Stiperstones has been proven. Local businesses would like to benefit from tourists using local services and are happy to advertise at an essential community asset.

k) Café on the Green, Newcastle – New tables for café

Total project costs: £497.60

Grant requested from LJC: £497.60

Recommended grant award: £497.60

Project outline:

Newcastle community has started a weekly Café in the Community Centre. The village has lost its shop and Post Office and this project provides a much needed meeting point for members of this isolated and rural community. The café uses the community centre tables and they are old and unstable. We would like to replace them and we would also like to purchase an outdoor picnic table and parasol. This will benefit the community as a whole, not just for use by the Café on the Green.

The café has been successful in drawing together, in a warm and welcoming environment, residents of all ages and those from outlying farms and houses. It also attracts walkers from Offa's Dyke, cyclists and tourists using the campsite. We have carried out a customer survey and the feedback has been very positive and indicates that the community values the Café on the Green and want it to continue.

L) Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council – New speed reduction signs

Total project costs: £500

Grant requested from LJC: £500

Grant not recommended for approval

Project outline:

The overall purpose of the project is to improve road safety in the village. The project will involve liaising with the Shropshire Council Highways Department to put 2 signs one at each end of the village with – “Please drive slowly through our village’.

The village has narrow roads and no pavement. Concerns on increased traffic and a recent incident of a small child being involved in a near miss in the village have increased concerns within the community and further highlighted the need to something with immediate effect. Although traffic speeds were monitored a year ago and we accept that we are too far down the list for the council to put up signs themselves we would like to be proactive rather than wait for an accident to happen.

Consultation so far has included Mr Williams from County Council and Glyn Shaw from Highways Maintenance. The demographics of the community include both small children and the elderly who would be reassured that the council has taken action to concerns when signage is in place.

Shropshire Council has stated that due to budget restrictions we will not receive funding from local government speed reduction measures, such as speed activated signs, in the immediate future as average speeds through the village are not sufficiently high to justify the installation in the parish. However Shropshire Council is supportive of the installation of the written signs as a means of adding a permanent contribution to help road safety in the village.

The signs will be commissioned and installed by Shropshire Council at a cost of £250 each plus VAT.

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

Risk Management Appraisal

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

Human Rights

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

Community and other Consultation

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

4. Financial Implications

The LJC has a total remaining budget of **£18,916** available to spend in 2011/12. The grants a-k in this report would allocate a total of £9,110.82 of the budget, if approved at the recommended levels.

This would leave the LJC with **£9,805.18** to allocate to projects in the remainder of the financial year.

All applications in this report have been subject to an initial officer appraisal to check they meet the basic LJC funding criteria and that suitable quotes and bank details have been submitted with the applications.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) Gwilym Butler
Local Members Nigel Hartin, Heather Kidd, Bishop's Castle ward by election 29 th September
Appendices None