



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

**SpArC Centre, Bishop's  
Castle, SY9 5AY**

Item

**2**

Public

## **BISHOP'S CASTLE, CHIRBURY & WORTHEN AND CLUN LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE – PLANNING MEETING FUNDING PAPER**

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### **1. Summary**

In 2013/14 this Local Joint Committee has a total budget of £27,722 available to spend. This is made up of £24,500 from the LJC budget, £1,440 from the arts funding and £782 carryover from 2012/13.

So far in this financial year a total of £24,087.40 of funding has been committed. However project LJC19.49 – Worthen Village Hall feasibility study, will not be progressing, meaning that the £1,500 allocated to this project returns to the grant pot. This means **£5,134.60 to be allocated.**

The basic grant criteria of the LJC in 2012/13 was that projects can apply for grants of up to £500 without needing matched funding; or grants of between £501 and £2500 provided a minimum of 50% matched funding is secured. The maximum grant available from the LJC is £2,500.

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.

The Committee are asked to re-adopt the criteria for 2013/14

### **2. Recommendations**

- A. Members are asked to review applications BC19.73 to BC19.79 and support the recommended grant awards for each project.
- B. Members are asked to note that the remaining budget of £5,134.60 is insufficient to fund all of these projects at the full level they are requesting.

## C. REPORT

Ref	Organisation and contact	Summary and potential outcomes	Total cost	Requested	Match funding confirmed
BC 19.73	Llanfairwaterdine Singers – Purchase of 50 new “English Choral Music” books	<p>Llanfair singers is a non-auditioned, community choir of 50 members. It exists to perform both sacred and secular music to the local and wider community. All monies raised go to local, national and international charities and many thousands of pounds have been raised during the nine years the choir has been in existence.</p> <p>Culturally many different styles of music have been introduced to audiences and church congregations. The choir pay a small annual subscription, pay their own travel expenses and buy copies of music if they are able to. The choir has a strict policy of buying or hiring from libraries all music in line with photocopy policies.</p> <p>Not all music is available for hire and indeed at certain times of the year many groups approach the library service requesting the same copies. The particular volume of music requested in this application would greatly assist our charitable work.</p> <p>The Llanfair singers are recognised as a group who will not only travel far to support a charity, but encourage a substantial audience to attend and event because of their reputation. They perform to a wide mix of ages and to a variety of adult groups. Two CD’s have been funded by choir members and all profits go to charity.</p>	£775	<p>£500</p> <p><b>Recommended Grant Award £500</b></p>	Matched funding will be provided from subscriptions to the group and private donations by members of the choir

		<p>The current project for which this volume is regularly required is for the members and their supporters to take their talents and fundraising to cathedrals, churches and singing choral events, as well as concerts. The choir has sung at Hereford cathedral, Brecon, St Pauls and Worcester Cathedral.</p> <p>Singing at cathedrals and churches, and community events continues the charitable work of the choir but also enhances the cultural reputation of south Shropshire and also give the members of the choir, and their family and friends a new musical and spiritual experience which helps to enrich the lives of those taking part and those listening.</p>			
BC 19.74	New projector screen for SpArc Arts	<p>SpArc Theatre is an unparalleled arts resource within south west Shropshire which provides creative opportunities for a huge number of rural communities including some of the most isolated.</p> <p>Management of the theatre recently transferred to Enterprise South West Shropshire ESWS (as detailed in a previous LJC application). ESWS is working extremely hard towards become more self-sufficient in order to best weather the ongoing financial austerity, and since taking over has seen an increase in audience numbers by up to 70%. This drive towards sustainability necessarily means</p>	£1244.80	£800  <b>Recommended Grant Award £800</b>	Matched funding will be £250 Bishop's Castle Town Council (secured) and £194.80 local fundraising (in progress)

		<p>minimising overheads and working within much reduced means but we are confident that this will secure this valuable facility for years to come. Nevertheless, we are reliant on key pieces of equipment which, although robust, will occasionally require maintenance. It would be extremely difficult for us to find the funds to make major repairs out of our pared down budgets without impacting negatively upon programme provision.</p> <p><b>The projection screen at SpArC Theatre is such a crucial piece of equipment.</b> It enables the theatre to show a transform into a high quality cinema to show the latest films as well as a huge range of world-class broadcast performances from theatres across the world. These screenings are exceptionally well-attended and came about as a result of passionate local campaigning.</p> <p>Until recently, the screen was used on a daily basis by other parties and has sustained some damage. Agreements have been reached to ensure that the screen is henceforth only used for purposes for which it was originally intended, namely professional screenings. We are applying for funding to repair this invaluable resource so the communities of Bishops Castle, Chirbury, Worthen and Clun can continue to enjoy world class screenings and cinema.</p> <p>We have worked closely with the original manufacturers to achieve the best possible</p>			

		<p>quote for repair.</p> <p>This will involve replacing the projection screen area whilst maintaining our existing hoisting mechanisms. The new screen will then be under a three year warranty from the date of installation which will give the theatre much greater assurance for the medium term.</p> <p>Over the last six months, 1813 people have attended events requiring the use of the screen at SpArC Theatre. Analysis of our audience data from the last six months shows that 70% of our audience comes from the Bishop's Castle, Chirbury Worthen and Clun Local Joint Committee area.</p> <p>The theatre has 15 screened events programmed for the upcoming season and has already seen record advance sales for this period.</p> <p>There is massive demand for this type of provision evidenced by the huge wave of support from local people who were desperate to bring this facility to SpArC theatre. We received letters and emails from local people:</p> <p>"The South Shropshire Journal last Friday carried an article extolling the Live Theatre screenings which have been taking place in Aston-On-Clun and The Edge. We ourselves tried to get to two of these but found that they were booked out well in advance. There appears to be a substantial audience for these</p>			

		<p>'live' events and we think that they would be an admirable extension to the SpArC programme, without detracting from existing village hall showings." D. Preshous</p> <p>"We went last night to see 'She Stoops to Conquer' at Cineworld in Shrewsbury. It was a wonderful production and they had to move it to one of their larger cinemas, as there was so much demand. Even then, it was full. As I have already mentioned, it was also on at Aston on Clun Village Hall and they had sold out almost as soon as it was advertised, with a long waiting list for cancellations." – J. Holt</p> <p>"I am sure NT live would be a great success in Bishop's Castle, and hope you will investigate this further, at least in time for the new programme in the Autumn. You will need a satellite link!" P. Owen</p> <p>"We aren't able to travel large distances to access this kind of high quality performance. Bishops Castle will support this sort of initiative, and welcome the opportunity for senior citizens to see high class theatre and music 'live' in an easily accessible local venue." S. Jones</p>			
19.75	Worthen Church Wall	<p>The repair a large section – 31 metres – of the church yard wall in Worthen.</p> <p>This section forms a boundary between the old church yard and the new burial area. The church itself and the grounds are used for a number of community events in addition to the normal day to day requirements of the church</p>	£6,480	<p>£2,500 (38% of project costs)</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> <b>Not to offer a grant to this project</b></p>	<p>Matched funding of £3980 has been allocated to the project by Worthen Parish Council</p>

		<p>and burial ground. The boundary wall signifies and link between the past, present and future of Worthen and is an important feature with the centre of the village.</p> <p>Evidence suggests if works are not undertaken the wall will fail. The wall is within the curtilage of a Grade I listed church. The tree and plant life in the church yard is very valued by the community and local schools. The wall forms an integral part of the historic setting of the village of Worthen.</p> <p>The project will ensure the boundary will be safe and secure and in situ for present and future generations. Local craftsman A Yapp will carry out the works using local materials and traditional local skills.</p>			
19.76	Bucknell Show – New tables to support the 2014 show	<p>We are a group of volunteers who have put together the Bucknell Show, this has been revived from a show that was last staged in 2004. Our aim is to make this event a yearly show with a craft and produce tent. This year we had 72 classes ranging from produce to baking, photography and floral displays and children's classes. In total nearly 300 exhibits. Our aim for the show is to enable Bucknell residents of all ages to enjoy taking part in a community event that showcases the talents that residents (old and new) have along with enjoying the company of friends, neighbours and acquaintances.</p> <p>We produced a programme for last years event where we sold advertising space and sold</p>	£480	£480	<b>Recommended Grant Award £480</b>

		<p>around 200 programmes to visitors of the show.</p> <p>To fund raise towards the show we have also hosted a Duck Race in which last year we raised around £400.00 in which we had 6 races with 100 plastic ducks being released down the river Redlake.</p> <p>With the show last year we were very limited on the tables we could use and had to use trestle tables that had seen better days. We expect an increase in the number of exhibits as the show expands and with the positive feedback from the 2013 show, ideas are already being discussed as to how we can make it bigger and better.</p> <p>The difficulties we found was having enough table space to stage all of the exhibits and we do not want to discourage anybody from entering any classes</p> <p>We are applying for a grant to purchase six lightweight tables that can be used for the show but then be used and stored at the Daffodil Lane changing rooms for other organisations to hire from our committee to use and also generate more income to stage the 2014 show.</p>			
19.77	Busy Bees Chirbury – Outside Play Area improvements	<p>Our rural nursery serves children, parents and 4 staff members from the Chirbury area. We provide flexible childcare at affordable prices to our local community.</p> <p>The outside play area is not just dilapidated but there are also significant safety issues that need to be addressed. The wooden fencing is unstable and the tarmac play area would be</p>	£16,250	<p>£2,500 (15% of total costs)</p> <p><b>Recommended Grant Award £2,500</b></p>	£12,500 has been raised by the Busy Bees committee and a grant applications have been made to Grass Routes (£500)



		<p>“kinder” if fallen onto if it were changed to a wet pour safety surface. The children's outside hours are limited due to lack of coverage during the winter and in the summer a makeshift tarpaulin is erected to provide shade: A canopy would provide shelter in the winter and summer months.</p> <p>Our project will take approx. 5 days to install and will include 3 elements – a canopy, fencing and wet pour flooring. A suitable quote for the works has been obtained from Playground Markings Direct Ltd for the works.</p> <p>The current tarmac flooring is very unforgiving when children fall on it during play. A safety surface for the complete area would minimise bumps and bruises.</p> <p>The fencing is a wooden picket fence and is of an age where it is no longer fit for purpose. It has become unstable and whilst we repair the broken pickets a new purpose built fence is required.</p> <p>The canopy would improve the children's usage for the outdoor space and enable more exercising and fresh air in the winter and more protection from the sun in the summer.</p> <p>The improvements are needed to maintain a high quality childcare facility in Chirbury, with a good Ofsted report, which in turn will allow us to maintain roll numbers at the Busy Bees site. We cater for a large rural area and no other</p>			and The Shropshire Community fund (£750)

		<p>child care provision is available in the immediate area</p> <p>These works will form the first phase of a modernisation of the facilities at the site. The second phase will look at replacing play equipment and including a Forest School at the</p>			
19.78	Clun Valley Fair Trade Project – Publicity material	<p>This project forms the first step of a planned larger project. An LJC grant could form part of the matched funding for an AONB Sustainable Development Fund grant, however the project stands alone in that work and materials, if funded, will form a valuable resource regardless of the success of any future bids.</p> <p>In November 2013 Fairtrade Clun Valley Steering Group learned of its success in gaining Fairtrade Status for Clun Valley. In feedback we were told that we had shown that we had carried out extensive work over the last seven years to promote Fair Trade in the valley, including gaining the support of local councils and businesses, increasing the availability of Fair Trade products, and using the local media and other means to promote Fairtrade and gain support for the campaign.</p> <p>Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. Products with the Fairtrade mark meet Fairtrade standards which are set by the Fairtrade Labelling Organisation International. These standards are agreed through research and consultation with members of the Fairtrade</p>	£500	£500	<p><b>Recommendation:</b>  <b>Not to offer a grant to this project</b></p>

		<p>scheme including farmers, and workers themselves, traders, NGO's, academic institutions and labelling organisations such as the Fairtrade Foundation.</p> <p>As Clun Valley Fairtrade Zone, our local community group will run campaigns aimed at boosting awareness and understanding of trade issues and promoting the buying of Fairtrade products as a way for everyone, from all sectors of society, to use their purchasing power to make a difference to the lives of farmers and workers. Once a local community achieves its status as a Fairtrade zone, it is committed to continuing to campaigning and awareness-raising.</p> <p>Our future plans as agreed with the Fairtrade Foundation include extending our networking, developing a contact lists and databases of businesses within the valley that use Fairtrade products, and obtaining support for Fairtrade in village events throughout Clun Valley. To achieve this, it is essential that we have publicity material that not only explains the goals of Fairtrade but also provides information about which businesses within Clun Valley use Fairtrade goods. This will benefit local traders, consumers and visitors to Clun Valley and will promote sustainability. It will also enhance social cohesion and social capital through the development of a strong network with shared goals and values. At a later stage we are planning to link the principles of Fairtrade with the promotion of the use of locally-sourced</p>			

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		produce.			
19.79	Worthen with Shelve Parish Council – New Notice board for Brockton	<p>To purchase and install a new notice board for Brockton village, in South West Shropshire.</p> <p>The existing notice board has been in situ for over 20 years, but is now worn and damaged, meaning notices in the board are subject to damp and rain entering the board and damaging the information in the board so it can't be read.</p> <p>We would like to remove the existing notice board and replace it with a new, water tight notice board.</p> <p>The notice board is important to Brockton as a means of displaying information about local events, Council notices and community fundraising events. The current board is well used by residents in Brockton and by replacing the existing notice board with a new weather proof board we will be able to continue to display community information for residents of Brockton.</p> <p>Important notices about road closures; community consultations and parish council meetings are displayed in the notice board and are a vital means of communication for the community.</p> <p>The availability of parish notices and information within the community in Brockton is important for people to keep updated with parish, council and utility company information.</p>	£500	<p>£354.60</p> <p><b>Recommended Grant Award: £354.60</b></p>	Matched funding for the grant will come from the Parish Councils own funds

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#### **4. 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 remaining budget of **£5,134.60** available to spend in 2013/14. There is **not** sufficient funding available to support all of the projects listed in this report.

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.

#### **5. Background**

**NA**

#### **6. Additional Information**

**NA**

<b>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</b>
<b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</b> Gwilym Butler
<b>Local Members</b> Nigel Hartin, Heather Kidd, Charlotte Barnes
<b>Appendices</b> None

