



Committee and date
Bowbrook, Copthorne and
Radbrook Local Joint Committee

12th May 2011

9.00 am

Item

3

Public

DECISION REPORT – GRANT APPLICATIONS

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Summary

This report considers an application for grant funding submitted to the Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook Local Joint Committee (LJC) for 2010/11.

A total of £29,766.29 remain in the budget from 2010/11 to fund projects in the local community served by the Local Joint Committee.

The application now under consideration is set out in the report, with details attached.

Recommendations

It is recommended to the Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook Local Joint Committee that the following decision is made on the submitted application:

- SAHA Bowling Club-approval of £740.56 towards materials to refurbish the Clubhouse.

Background

1. From 1 April 2009 Shropshire Council created 28 Local Joint Committees to operate across the whole of Shropshire. These LJC's are legally constituted decision making committees of Shropshire Council.
2. The LJC for Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook has membership from Shropshire Council (3 members) and Shrewsbury Town Council (3 members) all with equal voting rights. Currently, 3 councillors represent the wards on both councils. In these circumstances, the 3 individuals each have 2 votes.
3. One of the main responsibilities of the LJC is to determine expenditure of the devolved budget. Expenditure against this budget is agreed by the Committee after consideration of decision reports. Each member has 2 votes, with decisions determined by a simple majority.

Purposes of the funding

4. The funding devolved to the LJC can be used for a number of different purposes over the year. At the present time, the Committee has not allocated funds to any specific purposes but has indicated that it will receive applications from local organisations for eligible purposes. Funding by the LJC must comply with the general Financial Rules for LJC's that are attached to this report. Applications must demonstrate compliance with the following criteria:
- Expenditure must be consistent with achieving the aims, objectives and vision set out in Shropshire's Sustainable Community Strategy, the Council's Corporate Plans and local Neighbourhood or Parish Plans.
 - Expenditure must be for activity within the geographical area of the Local Joint Committee.
 - Expenditure must benefit the wider community and should not be used to fund a group which restricts membership based on views, beliefs etc. For example, it would not be appropriate to make a contribution to a religious group but a contribution to say, improvements to a church hall which is open for bookings from the wider community would be acceptable.
 - The budget must not be spent on mainstream council activities, but can be used to enhance mainstream activities.
 - The budget must not be a displacement of existing council funding. For example, a service cannot be reinstated from the local budget if the council has cut funding for it in the previous 3 years.
 - The budget should not be used to meet ongoing staffing costs of an organisation.

Decision-making procedure

5. The LJC elected Members will decide on applications for funding and their decisions will be taken in public, following the process below:
- a written report by the Lead Officer, setting out the details of applications received and recommending a course of action;
 - a brief verbal introduction to the applications, by the Lead Officer, at the meeting;
 - questions by the elected Members of the officers and/or the applicants (if present);
 - elected Members take the decision.

A slightly different process will need to be taken if there are fewer than three elected Members present, as that is the number required to form a quorum.

Applications under consideration

Applicant	Purpose of grant	Amount requested from BCR LJC	Comment
1.SAHA Bowling Club Shelton	Purchase of materials to refurbish the Clubhouse	£740.56	The SAHA Bowling Club is a long established Town Bowling Club. They will be based at their current site for at least the next two years with over 35 local people playing several times per week. The funding of £740.56 is for materials only with £1100 being provided through in kind labour to complete the work. It is anticipated that the refurbished Clubhouse will attract more people to the club particular younger people who the Club will provide training and equipment for. Suggest approval.

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

1. Locality Working – Local Joint Committees Supplementary Report – Implementation Executive 19 March 2009.

Human Rights Act Appraisal

At this stage the recommendations are unlikely to result in any implications for the Human Rights Act.

Environmental Appraisal

Risk Management Appraisal

The Council needs to address the risk of legal challenge to decisions through procedural or other errors. This has been carefully assessed. There are no risks specifically relating to the applications.

Community / Consultations Appraisal

Cabinet Member

Gwilym Butler

Local Members

Peter Nutting, Peter Adams, Keith Roberts

Appendices

None