



Committee and date  
Bridgnorth, Worfield,  
Alveley and Claverley Local  
Joint Committee

18<sup>th</sup> May 2011

6.30 p.m.

Item No

**10**

Public

## Consideration of Funding Applications

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### Summary

14 organisations in total have submitted bids requesting funding from both the Community Chest and also the Larger Grant Scheme.

### Recommendations

- A. That the Committee consider the applications received in light of Officers' recommendations for the Community Chest and the Larger Grant Scheme
- B. That the Committee confirms grant approvals or rejections and any terms and conditions for each application considered.

## Report

### Allocation of resources

1. Bridgnorth, Worfield, Alveley and Claverley Local Joint Committee have a devolved budget of £35,000 with carry over of £10,747 from 10/11 with a total budget of £45,747 which the Committee has allocated as follows:-

Community Chest - £10,000 providing small grants up to £750 (subject to the criteria agreed by the Committee and which are referred to later within this report ).

Larger Grant Scheme - £35,747 providing funding for projects over £750 with grant applications not normally exceeding £3000 (subject to the criteria that are referred to within this report ).

2. The closing date for Round 1 funding applications was 18<sup>th</sup> April 2011 and within the relevant period fourteen applications were received. Three applications for the Community Chest totalling £1,517 and eleven from the Larger Grant Scheme totalling £19,874.
3. This is the first round of applications for the financial year 2011/2012.

### Criteria for Consideration of Applications

4. As Members are aware an assessment pro forma has been developed for use in the initial consideration of these applications by Officers. All of the projects have therefore been assessed against the following criteria:

#### Eligibility

- Projects will be delivered in the eligible area
- Project meets approved financial/grant criteria

#### Assessment

- In the local area
- At least 25% of match funding for Larger Grant Scheme, an element of match funding for the Community Chest
- One application per applicant per year
- Is for £750 or less (Community Chest ) or £3000 or less (Larger Grant Scheme ).
- Is not for profit
- Demonstrates need
- Delivers local community benefit
- Assures that application can deliver project
- Demonstrates sustainability with evidence where relevant on how any future revenue funding costs will be met, e.g. through fund-raising
- Demonstrates no adverse environmental impact

- Provides benefit to wider community in the Committee area.
- That applications from Town and Parish Councils with a precept below £5000 be considered only in exceptional circumstances and that funding applications from Town and Parish Councils with a precept above £5000 should not be considered.
- Applicants who are not the owners of the property or land for which they are applying must provide evidence of security of tenure or lease.

## **Applications, summaries and officer recommendations**

### **Community Chest 2011/12**

#### **C1 Bromford Support- ICT for the vulnerable at Squirrel Court**

**Project Cost £ 399.98**

**Amount Applied for £399.98**

**Previous Applications to LJC – none**

This application to the committee is to purchase a laptop and dongle for the residents of squirrel court and vulnerable adults assisted by outreach services. The laptop will be used to teach the residents basic IT skills, email and internet access with the overall aim of increasing the independence and confidence of vulnerable adults.

**Officer Recommendation: Recommend match funding from applicant and reduced funding amount from LJC**

#### **C2 St Mary's Playgroup- Childcare for 2 year olds**

**Project Cost £819.60**

**Amount Applied for £699.60**

**Previous Applications to LJC – None granted**

This application is to enable this busy playgroup to extend its offer to 2 year olds and to purchase suitable outdoor equipment for this new age group.

**Officer Recommendation: Fully support**

#### **C3 Bridgnorth Athletics Club- Starter pack for new under 11 group**

**Project Cost £417.12**

**Amount applied for £417.42**

This application is to purchase a range of equipment specifically for children of this age group to increase participation, enjoyment in athletics.

**Officer Recommendation: Fully support**

## **Larger Grant Scheme 2011/2012**

### **1 Bridgnorth & District Visually Impaired Group- MyReader project**

**Project Cost £3,738**

**Amount Applied for £2,804**

**Previous Applications to LJC – None**

This application is to assist the Visually Impaired group to purchase a My Reader- this is a piece of equipment that enables people with severe visual impairments to read written documents of any size or format. The My Reader will be available for use by all members of the Group at the monthly meetings where fellow members will be able to assist new users, and also the machine will be available for members to borrow.

**Officer Recommendation: Fully support**

### **2 Bridgnorth & District Twinning Association- Bridgnorth Bypass and 2011 Festival**

**Project Cost £7,345**

**Amount Applied for £3,000**

**Previous Applications to LJC –2009/10 £492**

Assistance is requested towards the costs of running this year's Twinning Festival a key part of the work to build community and economic links between Bridgnorth, Thiers and Schrobenhausen. This involves a programme of events and activities at local schools, community buildings and locations throughout the town involving a wide range of local groups, organisations and local people which over the weekend brings significant benefit to local people and the town's economy. As part of the programme two road islands will be named, one after Thiers and one Schrobenhausen with the design and manufacture of these plaques taking place at Blists Hill.

**Officer Recommendation: Fully support with supply of further information on ongoing fundraising and sustainability of festival in long term**

### **3 Friends of Castlefields School- Active Kids Project**

**Project Cost £4,350**

**Amount Applied for £2,500**

**Previous Applications to LJC – none**

This application is to support the provision of a new sandpit and a range of equipment to create an outdoor garden to enable children within the school, the nursery and the wider community to be more active and to take responsibility in the growing and eating of their own food. This project forms part of the Committees' annual fundraising activity that has rewarded the school and the local community with several key projects including an outdoor classroom.

**Officer Recommendation: Fully support**

#### **4 Bridgnorth Musical Theatre Company – Beauty and the Beast**

**Project Cost £34,000**

**Amount Applied for £4,500**

**Previous Applications to LJC – 2009/10 £4,200- 2010/11 £3,500**

This application is to provide a contribution to the costs of the 2012 production, Beauty and the Beast. The productions have won awards in recent years and are recognised as being very professional. They provide great opportunities for young people to get involved in productions through the Bridgnorth Stage Academy. Expected audiences for this production are over 2,000 people.

**Officer Recommendation: Recommend lesser amount (up to £3,000 limit) and that this is the last year that LJC is likely to fund**

#### **5 Ackleton Village Green Sub Committee**

**Project Cost £4,046**

**Amount Applied for £3,046**

**Previous Applications to LJC – none**

This application is to support the costs of transforming a disused piece of land in the middle of Ackleton Village into a Village Green for open public access. The land is owned by Worfield Parish Council who are contributing £1,000 towards the project. Shropshire Council's Outdoor Recreation and Community Action Teams are assisting this emerging group to take on the management of the site.

**Officer Recommendation: Fully support (£3,000 maximum)**

#### **6 Mercian Housing Association- Parish Rooms**

**Project Cost £2,487**

**Amount Applied for £2,487**

**Previous Applications to LJC – none**

This application is to purchase a polytunnel and associated equipment to enable the residents of the Parish Rooms and other groups to grow fruit and vegetables as part of a wider programme of support to help residents and adults supported through outreach services to become more independent, develop skills and to more effectively tackle issues in their lives. Bedding plants will also be propagated that will provide plants for Bridgnorth in Bloom at a small cost which will provide income to sustain and expand the project and possibly develop into a Social Enterprise. The project also forms part of a wider piece of work to establish the Parish Rooms as a hub of training and support activity for the wider community.

**Officer Recommendation: Offer maximum grant of £1,865 (75%)**

#### **7 The Valley Community Radio**

**Project Cost £5,000**

**Amount Applied for £3,000**

**Previous Applications to LJC – None**

This application is to help with the equipment costs of the Valley Community Radio who have been offered some space for a studio within a local pub. The station will

provide Bridgnorth and surrounding area with a bespoke community radio station for the first time providing local news and information. The station will run as a community venture and will have a strong ethos of providing training and development opportunities for local people, particularly schools.

**Officer Recommendation: Defer unless further information is gained on market research on likely uptake and comparisons with similar stations and on how the station will be sustained long term**

### **8 Tasley Parish Hall Committee- Repairs and Improvement**

**Project Cost £12,550**

**Amount Applied for £3,000**

**Previous Applications to LJC – none**

This application is to support the costs of substantial repairs and improvements to this well used hall including toilets, changing facilities, new fire doors and the creation of a storage room. This work is particularly important as the population of the parish has expanded dramatically with the Wenlock Rise development for which the hall is the main community building.

**Officer Recommendation: Fully support**

### **9 Bridgnorth West and Tasley Taking Action Together Partnership- Tasley**

**Close car parking**

**Project Costs £35,000**

**Amount Applied for £3,000**

**Previous Applications to LJC – None**

This partnership was formed in response to a series of anti-social behaviour issues and has since developed into a strong multi-agency group working to continually improve the Tasley and Bridgnorth West area. The partnership has secured £30,000 towards the costs of a significant project in Tasley Close to improve the environment and to provide parking spaces for residents- currently these do not exist and parking on the road has caused serious issues with access for service and emergency vehicles and for the quality of life for residents.

**Officer Recommendation: Recommend lower amount of £2,500 with amount matched from local fundraising**

### **10 Stockton Bowling Club- Shelter and Sprayer**

**Project Cost £1,294**

**Amount Applied for £970**

**Previous Applications to LJC – none**

This application is to help support the costs of providing a wooden shelter for all users of the bowling green- a key facility within Norton Village alongside the village hall that is used at least twice a week during the playing season. The spray equipment is essential to provide the level of playing surface that is required.

**Officer Recommendation: Fully support if confirmed that membership is open to the community and is encouraged**

### **11 Norton Village Hall- new furniture**

**Project Cost £1,861.81**

**Amount applied for £1,400**

**Previous applications to LJC- none**

This application is to support the costs of providing 6 new tables for this well used village facility. The current tables are no longer fit for purpose and are a cause of complaint by hall users.

**Officer Recommendation: Fully support**

### **Budget Update**

5. Members are referred to the Appendix which sets out the applications to date and the financial position for the financial year 2011/2012.

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| <b>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</b> |
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| Funding applications |
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| <b>Human Rights Act Appraisal</b> |
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| The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights act 1998 |
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| <b>Environmental Appraisal</b> |
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| There are no environmental implications that arise from the recommendations within this report. |
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| <b>Risk Management Appraisal</b> |
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| All funding will need to be evaluated against agreed criteria and in accordance with agreed financial procedures. |
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| <b>Community / Consultations Appraisal</b> |
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| Decisions on the allocation of funding will be taken by the committee as local representatives of the community |
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| <b>Cabinet Member</b> |
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| Councillor Gwilym Butler |
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| <b>Local Member</b> |
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| All Members of the Local Joint Committee |
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| <b>Appendices - Budget Update</b> |
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