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| Committee and date Bridgnorth, Worfield, Alveley & Claverley |
| Local Joint Committee |
| 16 th May 2012 |
| 6.30 p.m. |

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| Item No |
| 10 |
| Public |

2012/13 FINANCE REPORT, INCLUDING UPDATE ON FUNDING REQUESTS FOR CONSIDERATION

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1. Summary

- 1.1 This report considers the devolved funding allocated to the Bridgnorth, Worfield, Alveley & Claverley Local Joint Committee (LJC) for the period 1st April 2012 up until 31st March 2013.

A total of £35,040 has been devolved to the Committee to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC for the 2011/12 financial year. In addition £2,927 has been allocated to the Committee from the apportionment of the Shropshire Community Arts Budget making a total budget of £37,967 for the 12/13 financial year.

The Committee has chosen to allocate its funding into three pots:

- Community Chest - £10,000 providing small grants up to £750. The Committee has agreed to consider funding community activities related to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics from this allocation.
 - Larger Grant Scheme - £24,967 providing funding for projects over £750 with grant applications not normally exceeding £2,000
 - £3,000 allocated to support arts projects
- 1.2 Prior to each LJC, a planning meeting takes place to plan the meeting and to consider applications for funding, make proposals for ratification at the full meeting and to enable any further information to be gathered from applicants.

2. Recommendations

- That the LJC considers the applications received, and awards funding at its discretion based on the recommendations made.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 In determining these recommendations the LJC has considered reputational risk and the course of action minimises this risk.
- 3.2 The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.
- 3.3 The proposals under consideration will improve the levels of community based and community driven activity in the LJC area, and in particular in those communities identified by local Councillors as not benefiting previously from LJC support

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The funding devolved to the LJC can be used for a number of different purposes over the year to address local priorities. Funding by the LJC must comply with the general Financial Rules for LJC's.
- 4.2 The Bridgnorth, Worfield, Alveley & Claverley Local Joint Committee has agreed individual criteria in addition to the general financial rules. These are detailed in appendix 1.

5. Background

- 5.1 A total of 9 applications have been received for consideration at the May 16th meeting. 4 are for the larger grants scheme, 4 for the community chest scheme and one project is appropriate for consideration under the arts allocation. The combined funding request is £10,646.
- 5.2 1 application has been approved from the 2012/13 budget that was deferred from 2011/12 (equipment to Alveley Cricket Club £463)

| | Project | £ requested |
|----|---|--------------------|
| C1 | Alveley & Romsley Jubilee Celebration | £585 |
| C2 | Kemberton Jubilee Celebration | £626 |
| C3 | Norton & Stockton Jubilee Celebration | £100 |
| C4 | Bridgnorth Town Football Club Under 9's | £115 |
| L1 | Crucial Crew | £2,000 |
| L2 | Bridgnorth Male Voice Choir Uniform & Equipment | £2,000 |
| L3 | Jubilee Year Twin Towns Concert | £1,500 |
| L4 | Shared Equipment | £5,000 |
| L5 | Bridgnorth Walk Jubilee Medals | £1,720 |
| | TOTAL | £10,646 |

6. Additional Information on projects

6.1. Community Chest Applications

Three applications are for support towards Diamond Jubilee Celebrations within outlying communities. The LJC agreed at its January meeting that it would consider supporting applications towards events in communities to celebrate this special occasion.

All three events have undertaken significant fund raising within their communities and greatly involve community groups within their geographies. As such, these events should have a legacy of benefit. Following feedback from the planning meeting, a supporting letter has been sent by the Kemberton Jubilee Committee that will be tabled at the meeting.

Bridgnorth Town Juniors Football Club- Formation of Under 9's

This project is to support the set up costs for an under 9's team which currently does not exist within the town and for which there is considerable demand, particularly from local schools.

Following feedback from the Planning meeting the Club have submitted an updated application which displays the full value of the set up costs of the team (£430), which includes kit, insurances and registration costs that will be funded by the club and by parents or sponsors.

6.2 Larger Grant Applications

Crucial Crew

Crucial Crew is an extremely popular and valuable event for schoolchildren from across the Bridgnorth and South Shropshire area and provides a unique learning opportunity in community safety matters for over 1,000 pupils each year.

The project is extremely well supported by a range of partners and has a massive volunteer input every year.

The application is requesting support from the LJC towards the significant costs of the event.

Crucial Crew has received £16,000 support from Shropshire Council towards the cost of the 2011 and 2012 events and support is being given to help the organisation become more financially self- sustaining in future years.

Bridgnorth Male Voice Choir

This project is to provide support to a very active group that provides significant support to a range of organisations and individuals within the area and also fundraises significantly for a range of local charities.

The group has grown significantly within the last year and is recruiting new members regularly.

This application is to provide capital resources to assist the group to grow and to continue to fulfil its valuable role in the community. Following feedback from the Planning meeting the Choir have agreed that they would be very pleased to utilise an LJC grant to fund the equipment rather than the uniform.

Jubilee Year Twin Towns Festival

This project is to provide funding support towards the costs of a range of musical events to maximise the town's role in celebrating the Diamond Jubilee as the host town of the 2012 Twinning activities.

The events will involve and benefit a wide range of local groups, organisations and individuals and will further enhance the role of twinning and the Jubilee on the town's economy and community infrastructure.

The application is to contribute to the costs of putting on the events and hosting guests from the twin towns.

Any contribution from the LJC would be gratefully received and would make a big difference to staging this event.

Shared Equipment Project

This project is in development and feedback is sought from the Committee at this preparatory stage. The ethos of the project is to minimise the ongoing dependency of our many events and festivals on grants and public sector funding (including the LJC) and to provide a valuable asset for the town for many years to come.

Given the widespread and long lasting benefit of the project and the partnership approach involved, the Committee are requested to consider a greater contribution than their £2,000 larger grant cap.

The committee are also requested to consider granting delegated authority to the Chairman to approve the project in order that the project can commence prior to the next LJC meeting which is not until October.

Bridgnorth Walk Jubilee Medals

This project is to support the costs of providing special Jubilee and Olympic medals to all walkers and volunteers involved in the 2012 Bridgnorth Walk.

The Walk plays a unique role in the area for bringing together local people and organisations to fundraise for local and national charities and is a special feature of the town's community make up.

This project will help to celebrate the role of the walk as part of the wider Jubilee and Olympic Celebrations and help to sustain the crucial role of the walk in local fundraising and community well-being.

Following feedback from the Planning meeting further efforts to find sponsors for the medals are underway but a contribution from the LJC towards this special occasion would make a real difference to the project.

Work is also underway to engage with key departments of Shropshire Council and partner agencies to ensure the Walk Committee are given the support they need to sustain the vital role of the walk.

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

Draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2011/12 – 2013/14, Appendix 5. Report to Cabinet 13th January 2011.

Locality Working Local Joint Committees. Report to Cabinet 9th December 2010.

LJC application form for the projects listed

Bridgnorth LJC funding guidelines

Funding Priorities for 2012/13- paper x

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Councillor Gwilym Bulter

Local Member

Councillors John Hurst-Knight, Christian Lea, William Parr, Les Winwood, Michael Wood and Tina Woodward.

Appendices

1 Funding criteria

APPENDIX 1

Criteria for Consideration of Applications

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.