



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

17th October 2012

7.00pm

Item No

7

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 2012/13 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 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.

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 7 applications have been received for consideration at the October 17th meeting. 3 are for the larger grants scheme, 3 for the community chest scheme and 1 project is appropriate for consideration under the arts allocation. The combined funding request is £14,611.

5.2

	Project	£ requested
C5	Squirrel Bowling Club	£750
C6	Beckbury Defibrillator Project	£300
C7	Bridgnorth Sibling Group	£676
L6	Red Cross Young Carers	£1,390
L8	Alveley Village Hall, floor restoration project	£1,500
L9	Worfield Cricket Club Pavillion Project	£5,000
L10	Theatre on the Steps, Online booking system	£4,995
	TOTAL	£14,611

6. Additional Information on projects

6.1. Community Chest Applications

Squirrel Bowling Club, Alveley- Sprinkler System

This project is to support the costs of a replacement sprinkler system to irrigate the bowling green. The existing system has been in operation for many years and is now in need of replacement.

Following feedback from the Planning meeting the Club have confirmed that they have an agreement with Marstons Brewery for the use of the land for the bowling club that dates back to 1989. In a recent case with a similar agreement where the pub closed, the bowling club had to be offered the land as in situ tenants that resulted in the club securing the land. In a worst case scenario all of the club's equipment could be moved to another location.

Beckbury Defibrillator Project- back up batteries

Beckbury Defibrillator project have successfully secured a defibrillator for community use that is stationed at the Village Hall. A number of volunteers have been trained by the Ambulance Service as operators and local people have been provided with a contact list for these volunteers to ring in the case of emergency.

This project is to purchase back up batteries for the unit.

Bridgnorth Sibling Group

This project provides support to siblings of disabled children aged 8-12 in the Bridgnorth area with a range of information, support and fun activities at monthly meetings.

The group is one of 3 in Shropshire that provides this unique and much needed support.

Following the planning meeting the group is working with the Community Action Team to explore sponsorship opportunities to support on-going costs.

6.2 Larger Grant Applications

Red Cross Young Carers

This project provides support to young people up to the age of 19 who care for a family member with physical or mental health needs. The project provides them with a break from this role, helps them enjoy a wide range of activities and meet other young people with similar roles.

This project is to support the costs of the 12 young carers within this LJC area.

Alveley Village Hall- Floor Refurbishment

This project is to provide funding support towards the costs of professionally refurbishing the wooden floor in the Village hall that supports a very wide range of community organisations and events.

The floor has not been refurbished professionally in the lifetime of the building and as such this project will have a long lasting impact in supporting community activity for many years to come.

Theatre on the Steps- Online Box Office

This project is to provide financial support to the Theatre to establish online booking facilities to meet demand and to enhance its economic vitality and important role in the town's economy.

At the Planning meeting this application was discussed in detail and it was agreed that further support work was needed including obtaining other quotes for the work prior to a decision being made. Should this work not be possible in time for the October meeting the decision will be deferred.

Worfield Cricket Club- New Pavillion

This project is to provide financial support to the new pavilion project. The Club have secured very substantial funds from their Governing Body, the ECB and have invested a very significant amount of their own funding into the project.

The new pavilion will provide a purpose built facility to support the club's growing role in junior coaching and its important role in supporting the wider community.

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 Butler

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

Appendix: 1 Criteria for Consideration of Applications

2 Budget Spreadsheet

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 £2000 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.