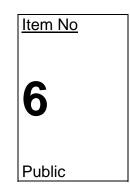


<u>Committee and date</u> Bridgnorth, Worfield, Alveley & Claverley Local Joint Committee

20th February 2013

7.00 p.m.



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

Responsible Officer Tom Brettell e-mail: <u>tom.brettell@shropshire.gov.uk</u> Tel: 01743 257 861

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 £2,930 has been allocated to the Committee from the apportionment of the Shropshire Community Arts Budget making a total budget of £37,970 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 £24,970 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 LJCs.
- 4.2 The Bridgnorth, Worfield, Alveley & Claverley Local Joint Committee has agreed individual criteria in additional to the general financial rules. These are detailed in appendix 1.

5. Background

A total of 8 applications have been received for consideration at the 5.1 February 20th meeting, 6 are for the larger grants scheme, and 2 are for the community chest scheme. The total funding request is for £13,818 and if these are agreed in full a total £2,670 will be left unallocated. In addition one project has expressed an interest in making an application to the LJC but were not ready for the deadline for the February meeting. As these are both time sensitive the Committee are requested to discuss this application and consider an in principle decision for delegated approval by the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

5.2		
	Project	£ requested
C8	Norton Defibrillator Project	£688
C9	Bridgnorth Disability Awareness Day	£330
L10	Bridgnorth Bathing Project	£5,000
L11	English Haydn Festival	£2,500
L12	Worfield Recreation Room	£2,300
L13	CCTV in Bridgnorth Library (Bridgnorth Historical	TBC
	Society)	
L14	Bridgnorth Foodbank set up costs	£2,000
L15	Crucial Crew	£1,000
	TOTAL	£13,818

6. Additional Information on projects

6.1. Community Chest Applications

Norton Defibrillator Project

This project is to support the purchase and installation of a defibrillator for community use that is to be stationed at the Village Hall. A number of volunteers will be trained by the Ambulance Service as operators and local people will be provided with a contact list for these volunteers to ring in the case of emergency.

Bridgnorth Disability Awareness Day

This project is to provide a disability awareness day in Bridgnorth for sufferers of diabetes and their families and carers providing a range of support and information. These events have proved especially effective in reaching people who are deemed harder to reach and unlikely to attend an event some distance from home.

6.2 Larger Grant Applications

Bridgnorth Bathing Project

This project is to support the costs of purchasing a new specialised bath for the Bridgnorth Bathing Project that provides essential care and support to individuals and a range of groups and organisations. At present around 150 people from the Bridgnorth area benefit each month.

The existing bath is reaching the end of its life (12 years old) and is beginning to become very expensive to maintain. A new bath will enable this essential service to continue and to be available to more people.

English Haydn Festival

This project is to provide assistance with the costs of the 2013 Haydn Festival in its 20th anniversary year. The festival continues to be a great success and brings many people into the town.

Worfield Recreation Room

This project is to provide support with the costs of renovation and redecoration of this extremely well used hall. This element is to provide support with the costs of external decoration and repair.

Bridgnorth Foodbank

Bridgnorth Foodbank has just been launched to meet an urgent need to provide food for people in need in the community. The project is supported by a wide range of groups and organisations and has significant volunteer input.

This project is to provide support with the set up costs for the project including shelving and IT equipment.

Crucial Crew

Crucial Crew provides an invaluable and interactive learning experience for year 6 pupils prior to moving up to secondary school. A range of community and personal safety messages are delivered by partners in exciting ways. This application is to assist with the costs of the 2013 event.

Bridgnorth & District Historical Society- CCTV coverage in Bridgnorth Library

Over recent months the activities of the group in providing key historical information and documents to the public have suffered from members of the public removing or damaging irreplaceable archives and reference papers from the library in Bridgnorth. A project is currently being developed with Library Services and the Community Action Team to provide CCTV coverage within the library to both deter this activity and to bring action against any perpetrators. We are currently awaiting details of an appropriate CCTV scheme and costs and as such have been unable to complete an LJC application form. As such, the Committee are asked to consider making a financial contribution to the project and to consider giving delegated authority to the Chairman and Vice Chairman if necessary. It is hoped that further details will be available for the Committee at the meeting.

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 7, Report to LJC on 18 January 2012 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: LJC Budget Spreadsheet