



Committee and date
Brown Cleve and Highley
Local Joint Committee.

Brown Cleve Zone.

Wednesday, 18th April 2012

7pm

Item

7

Responsible Officer

Email: linda.monteith@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01746 713103

1. Summary

This report considers the devolved funding allocated to the Brown Cleve Zone of the Brown Cleve and Highley Local Joint Committee (LJC) for the period 1st April 2012 up until 31st March 2013.

- 1.1 A total of **£7,500** has been devolved to the Committee, this includes **£528.00** arts funding, to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC for the 2012/13 year and, with **£ 1,254** under spend from last year, the total available is **£ 9,282**.

To note that any under spend can be carried over but has to be related to clear strategic goals and either committed to recognised projects/priorities or allocated to projects/priorities.

- 1.2 Prior to each LJC, a planning meeting takes place to discuss applications and to agree recommendations.

The closing date for applications was 5th March 2012, 5 applications have been received.

- 1.3 The following grants were awarded out of the 2011/12 Budget. The committee awarded £5,000 to Neenton Community Society Ltd on 3rd February 2012 under the urgent and time sensitive delegated powers. The grant was awarded to help with legal fees and a security system. The Committee also awarded £255.00 to Eardington Parish Council for a Queen’s Jubilee Oak Tree on 5th March 2012.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the applications from those organisations and their projects as detailed in this report be considered for funding.

- 2.2 The Local Joint Committee Guidelines are taken into consideration when assessing applications.
- 2.3 That the following guidelines be taken into account when assessing applications:
- To normally only accept one application per project per year.
 - All grants must be claimed within 3 months
 - All projects must complete a monitoring form and where possible provide photographs to illustrate how the money has been spent
 - All projects must supply a set of recent accounts or recent bank statement at the same time as the LJC grant application.
 - All projects with items up to £1000.00 must supply two quotes per item, and all projects with items over £1000.00 must supply 3 quotes per item.

The recommendations from the planning meeting feature in this report.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 All of the funding applications have been assessed against agreed criteria which will minimise any risks associated with these projects.
- 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

4. Financial Implications

The funding devolved to the LJC can be used for a number of different purposes over the year. The Committee will continue to receive applications from local organisations for eligible purposes. Funding by the LJC must comply with the general Financial Rules for LJCs.

5. Applications, Summaries and Officer Recommendations

5.1 Chetton Village Hall

Project – Provide a server

For some years, parishioners have been complaining about the lack of bar facilities at the hall and the cramped space available for serving refreshments. The counter, which is currently available, is used for serving both hot drinks and cakes/sandwiches etc., and in crowded conditions, drinks are often spilled, creating danger of scalding. The counter also has to be used as a bar for functions when an

outside bar is engaged. It is proposed to remedy this situation by partitioning an area near to the toilets to form a self-contained servery area with its own water supply, sinks etc. to provide a separate area for serving drinks.

It is hoped to convert an area near to the entrance to provide a servery/bar space for functions. Local tradesmen (i.e. electrician and plumber and carpenter), will be employed to carry out the professional work and Village Hall members (volunteers) will undertake labouring work and clearing up and tidying the site.

The Parish Council is applying for the grant in order to be able to recover the VAT on the purchase.

The hall is used for children's birthday parties, wedding receptions, parishioners' funeral wakes, dances, and charity events. The extra servery area will comply with health/safety regulations and add to the safety and convenience of all Hall users.

Total project cost - £1887.00

Amount requested -£1487.00

Amount recommended - £1487.00

5.2 Eardington Village Hall

Project – Provide New Village Hall Chairs

To provide new upholstered chairs and a chair trolley for the village hall.

The Parish Council is applying for the grant in order to be able to recover the VAT on the purchase.

The Village Hall Committee has the necessary planning approval for the village hall refurbishment and members will be inviting quotations for the work in the next week or so. new chairs will greatly add to the comfort of users.

The old plastic chairs are worn, cold and uncomfortable and need to be replaced.

Users of the hall are constantly complaining about their condition.

Total project cost - £1680.00

Amount requested - £1680.00

Amount recommended – £1330.00 A Millichope Foundation grant is being applied for too for £350.00 the LJC grant will therefore be reduced to account for this.

5.3 Four Parishes Heritage Group – Computing Facility

Four Parishes Heritage Group is a locally based historical research group which investigates and records historically archaeological sites in the area roughly covering the parishes of Highley, Kinlet, Stottesdon, Ditton, Chetton, Middleton Scriven and Billingsley. Activities include onsite recording of data such as archaeological surveys, historical observations and geophysical readings. The group gives regular talks and presentations to schools and public meetings and makes detailed contributions to the Shropshire Councils Historical website.

The group feel that possession of a laptop would enhance presentations and be useful out in the field for onsite advice and information. The group do not currently possess computer/printer facilities nor have access to a laptop for away from home activities.

Total project cost - £450.00

Amount requested -£450.00

The LJC has requested some additional information on where the group has delivered presentations and to look into match funding this project. The committee are awaiting this information.

5.4 Cleobury North Village Hall – Renewing areas of the Car Park

Areas of the car park have become worn with potholes from use. Remedial work needs to be carried out to stop this deteriorating and turning into a larger more expensive job. The car park is well used with the village hall hosting many different events.

Total project cost - £1060

Amount requested - £860

Amount Recommended -£860.00

5.5 Friends of Morville School – Morville Community Play Extension

To extend provision of leisure equipment to a wider age groups in the community. Currently, leisure equipment installed is aimed at children aged 7-12 years with no provision for younger children or teenagers

- Current equipment is approximately 10 years old and is aimed at older junior aged children, (7-12)
- Younger children currently use the existing equipment, although it is not suitable for their age range or abilities. There is no choice for them.
- The older children and teenagers are another neglected group, with no age-suitable equipment provided. The tendency for this, rapidly enlarging local group, is to gather on the equipment most suited to the juniors, which can sometimes be intimidating for the younger users.
- Living in the immediate village of Morville there are at least 7 under 5s, 7 junior aged children and 9 teenagers. In the wider community (villages surrounding Morville, which is the catchment area for the school) there are at least 60 primary aged children, regularly using the existing equipment.

Consultation to date.

Since summer 2009, Morville School Head and Governors have led discussion about the equipment maintenance, insurance and provision; however, the equipment is not on school land and is available out of school hours for community use, so it has taken some time to establish responsibilities. Discussions held to date as follows:

- Discussion between Friends of Morville School (FOMS) and Shropshire Council Play Development Officer Oct 2009, to see options for local authority grants. At the time, insurance provision was not understood and needed to be resolved before pursuing.
- School & governors liaison with Shropshire Council and Parish Council to make a tri-partite agreement to establish ownership of land, equipment and responsibilities for safety checks, maintenance and insurance.
- Parish Council have discussed the play area, but have insufficient funds to contribute to improvements.
- “Safer Schools” meeting with Shropshire council Safety Officer and also Police Community Support Officer discussing intimidation of younger children by teenagers on play area. This was where the concept of a separate covered meeting area for teenagers was suggested “Youth Shelter”, away from the climbing frame area. Estimate of cost for wooden structure obtained from catalogue, but further investigation of cost of metal shelter to be conducted.
- Meeting between FOMS and school head and early years teachers about suitable equipment for younger children.

- Morville Toddler Group (who currently meet in Morville Village Hall) have discussed this community area and are currently not attracted to the area due to lack of provision for the pre-school children. They have expressed an interest in having a local meeting place which is outdoors and grass/chipping-covered, as currently they meet indoors with only tarmac area for outdoor play.
- Informal discussions between FOMS and local parents, for suggestions of equipment.
- Informal discussions between governors and local residents about field and its use for ideas.
- Informal discussions between children and teenagers about other play areas which they like.

FOMS have done some fundraising previously, and after consultation with children at Morville School (School Council), established a wish-list of outdoor equipment. To date, FOMS have provided funds for outdoor seating and shade umbrellas.

As the proposed project is for community use, not exclusively for school use, being available in holidays and after school hours, the raising of funds should not be exclusively by FOMS. This is why additional fundraising via the Local Joint Committee is being sought. FOMS are actively fund-raising, but would not be able to raise the complete project sum in the timescale proposed. With extra funding, we could complete the project for all age groups.

Kerry Rogers Community Action Officer for the Morville Area has arranged to meet the group and talk about an Awards for All application to help with funding along with Amy Davies, Community Green Space Officer with Shropshire Council in early April. Amy will help and advise the group on equipment needed and other possible funding sources. Once the group are further into their project and have more of an idea of costs and heard from other funding bodies the LJC will consider their application

Total project cost - £17,000

Amount requested - £4,000

The LJC are awaiting further information on the project and from other grant sources.

6.0 Additional Information - Future applications

For applications forms and guidance, projects and groups wishing to apply to the Brown Cleve and Highley Local Joint Committee (Brown Cleve Zone) should contact:

Linda Monteith, Community Action Officer

Email linda.monteith@shropshire.gov.uk

Telephone 01746 713103

List of Background Papers

(This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)
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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 forms for the projects listed

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)
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Councillor Gwilym Butler - Portfolio Holder for Community Working and Customer Services

Local Member Shropshire Councillor Robert Tindall
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Appendices
