



Committee and date  
Burnell and Severn Valley  
Local Joint Committee  
24<sup>th</sup> June 2013

Item  
**8.**  
Public

## **BURNELL AND SEVERN VALLEY LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE FUNDING REPORT**

**Responsible Officer** David Fairclough

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### **1. Summary**

In 2013/14 this Local Joint Committee had a total budget of £19,963 available to spend. This is made up of £15,000 from the LJC budget and £940 from the arts funding. £4,023 has been brought forward from the financial year 2012/13.

### **2. Recommendations**

Members are asked to review projects LJC16.21 to LJC16.23 and suggest a level of grant award to each project at the LJC meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

## **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.

The LJC has received 3 applications for funding and the full project details are outlined below. Additional paperwork i.e. quotes, constitutions and accounts will be available at the meeting, on request.

### **A. Condover Broadplace Technology improvement**

**Project Description:** At present we have several old laptops that are no longer fit for purpose. Due to this we are finding that residents no longer wish to access the technology and are going without internet access. This project proposes to update the technology to encourage residents and groups of the community to come back to the broadplace to use IT and access the internet.

The increase of modern technology – In the form of a tablet computer will help draw in a higher footfall which in turn will lead to more local citizens having access to technology and the internet. This access will help stave off social isolation and will help elderly residents connect virtually with their families who may not be local through use of a built in web-cam and Skype features.

The new technology will not only be used by the broadplace but will be on offer to other community groups within the area, for example the Condover Youth Group. The young people have often described how they wish to have access to this technology as it is quick, reliable and interactive. This project hopes to provide them with this opportunity.

**Need and Demand:** The Young people at Condover Youth group have been engaged with and have all stated that they'd enjoy having access to a tablet device such as an Ipad, Nexus, Kindle Fire etc. They also believed access to this technology would encourage more young people to attend as news spreads of the type of technology on offer at the youth group. Free games can be accessed via the Samsung online store.

The broadplace also undertook a local survey with Condover residents by involving the local school, butchers and post office – all of whom supported the project. The survey had 10 questions designed to see how many people currently access the broadplace, how many don't and also how many would if new technology was installed. The response was average for a survey of this kind. In total we received just over 20 responses. The results were:

- 40% of respondents access the Social Club 'a few times a week'.
- The main reasons for visiting were to have a drink, socialise and access the internet.
- 68% of respondents actually use the technology despite its poor reputation
- Of those that don't use the technology the main response why they didn't was to due poor performance of the existing laptops e.g. speed.
- Over 85% of respondents claimed the equipment was 'below average' or 'poor' with none claiming the technology was excellent.
- Of all respondents 75% claimed they would access the broadplace if they had a tablet device to offer.

**Added Value:** At present due to the age and condition of the current laptops activity at the broadplace has stagnated and we have had a dip in footfall. It is hoped that with this project we can incorporate more usage from the site.

**Total Project Costs: £500 Amount requested from LJC: £300**

## **B. Improvements to pedestrian access to the Condover Village Sports Ground**

**Project Description:** The objective is to improve the pedestrian access to the Condover Village Sports Ground. The existing access is extremely narrow. We aim to make the existing opening wide enough to allow access for disabled wheelchair users and also children's pushchairs. The design will be a large kissing gate that will enable this access.

**Need and Demand:** The existing pedestrian access prevents disabled wheelchair users and parents with young children from accessing the area. An improved gateway will provide access to the sports field to wider community groups including walkers, children, football and cricket players (with their equipment) and dog walkers. The Condover Village Sports Ground management committee have been fully consulted. There is also a safety aspect to this project. The gate would be able to stop young children and dogs not on leads from simply jumping the entrance on to the busy road which they can now do. By installing this kissing gate, it would prevent any unnecessary accidents from occurring.

**Added Value:** It is clear that some members of our community do not use the field as they are put off by the narrow entrance and do not use the field to walk and exercise. By allowing these groups to access the field will provide more opportunities in our community for people to use and visit the sports field at their leisure.

**Total Project Costs: £555.60    Amount requested from LJC: £275.60**

## **C. Dorrington Sound System**

**Project Description:** We would like to purchase a music and lighting system which would enable local community groups to organise discos which help them to raise revenue and remain sustainable. At present we have to borrow or hire music systems in order to hold our discos and this can be awkward and often costly. The aim therefore is to purchase a sound system by the village hall committee which could be utilised by any local community group for their events, as either a music system or a PA system.

**Need and demand:** Over the past year community groups such as the school PTA and youth club have organised events such as discos in order to raise much needed funds which enable them to be viable and sustainable. The Youth club aim to have at least 3-4 discos a year and the PTA have at least 1 a year. We believe demand would grow if the system was available to all. Other groups have been consulted such as Stapleton Village Hall and Condover youth club. Also some groups which already use the village hall have expressed that they could be interested if there was a good system available, such as WI, Zumba, The village show's annual event. It would be used on a monthly basis by the youth club for the children to listen to music or could be used as just a PA system. Over the course of a year the sound system would not only save the community groups money in hiring charges but would help make them sustainable through using them for fundraising activities too.

**Added value:** This project would add value to the village hall by helping to make other community groups sustainable as they could raise their own revenue. It would also encourage the general public to hire the village hall for private parties as the music system could be added to the hire cost for the hall for a nominal amount, and this would also help to raise more revenue for the village hall by including it as an extra cost but being much cheaper than hiring it separately or hiring a DJ.

**Total Project Costs: £400    Amount requested from LJC: £250**

#### **4. Financial Implications**

If these grants are awarded in full the total expenditure will be £825.60. There are sufficient funds in the budget to meet these grants.

#### **5. Any other information**

<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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<b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) Cllr. Gwilym Butler</b>
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<b>Local Members Cllr. Claire Wild and Cllr. Tim Barker</b>
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<b>Appendices</b>
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