



Committee and date
Underdale and Monkmoor
Local Joint Committee

29th June 2009

Item

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Paper

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UPDATE REPORT ON PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE FOR UNDERDALE, MONKMOOR AND ABBEY 2008-2009

Summary

This report provides members with an update on the progress made on those projects funded by the Underdale and Monkmoor Local Joint Committee

Recommendations

- A. Members are asked to note the progress made in respect of earlier funding.
- B. Members are asked to make a decision regarding the new application for funding received from Disability Arts in Shropshire (DASH).
- C. Members are asked to note the additional information received and make a decision regarding the application for funding for the establishment of a BMX Club at Upton Lane which was deferred at the previous meeting.

Report

1. Details of work completed to date as far as we have them are as follows:

Shrewsbury Baptist Church

2. Shrewsbury Baptist Church was granted the sum of £4,996 towards the provision of audio-visual improvements to the main Crowmoor church building this also contributed towards running a Marriage Course. The Marriage Course has now started with twelve couples taking part and will run one evening per week for eight weeks. Resources such as tables have been purchased from the sum granted and each week the evening begins with a meal for all twelve couples with food also purchased from the sum granted.

3. Expressions Media have now completed the majority of the work required to install new cabling and sockets to improve the audio-visuals of the building. This will enable many more groups and organisations to hire the facilities. Microphones, a projector screen and monitors will be purchased shortly.

Shrewsbury Music Therapy Unit Trust Fund

4. Shrewsbury Music Therapy Unit Trust Fund was granted the sum of £2,000 to help the Fund carry out its work with children and adults with severe learning disabilities and behavioural problems. To date two instruments have been purchased – a table top Steel Pan and an instrument called a “Waterfall”. Some of the Severndale children recently attended the Trust Fund’s 20th Anniversary Concert where a Steel Drum Band took part and they were very impressed by the Steel Pan. The Waterfall will be very effective for two of the children, who find it difficult to hold things, they will be able to achieve a sound by stroking or shaking it and therefore making the sound of a Waterfall.
5. Some of the money is also being spent for the use of rooms and subsidy of sessions.

The Shropshire Playbus Association

6. The Shropshire Playbus Association was granted the sum of £4,650 to provide 30 half day visits in the Underdale and Monkmoor areas. The Association have started their visits at Bridgford Way, Connyger Crescent, Clive Green and Buttington Road and plan to undertake four future visits per month focusing on holiday periods.

Shrewsbury Furniture Scheme (SFS)

7. The Shrewsbury Furniture Scheme was granted the sum of £1,000 towards funding its existing operation to collect donated household goods, repairing if necessary and then supplying them, at a small charge, to those in need and also carry out its work with the charity Headway. During the financial year up to 31st March 2009 SFS supplied goods to 398 disadvantaged households in the Monkmoor Ward and a further 70 in the Underdale Ward, this represented some 22% of the households helped during that year.

Richard Onslow Sunday Lunch Club

8. The Richard Onslow Sunday Lunch Club was granted the sum of £500 to run a Sunday Lunch Club for the people in the local community. To date the Club has used the grant twice, once for a Sunday lunch and once for a Fish and Chip Supper, both events taking place locally. In between times the Club participates in Bingo Night evenings where a raffle is held to top up the coach fund, as £120 is deducted for the coach fee. The grant was well received as it gave a much needed breathing space for the organiser to raise extra funds each month.

Shrewsbury Basketball Club

9. Shrewsbury Basketball Club was granted the sum of £1,500 towards setting up a new venture in the Underdale and Monkmoor area. The basketball season has now come to an end and to date the grant received has been ring fenced. The Club are in the process of organising a basketball camp which will be held at Belvidere School during the summer holidays. The camp will consist of a two hour session of basketball once a week for any children aged 9 to 14 years from the Monkmoor and Underdale areas to take part in. There will be no charge for the children and the grant received will be used to pay the hire costs of the school sports hall and the coaches fees.
10. The Club restarts in September and can offer any children who are eligible for Passport for Leisure either half price or free training sessions, depending on their circumstances, using monies from the grant to subsidise the scheme. The grant will also be used to help players already with the club who are from low income families or using Passport to Leisure to help with the payment of their fees and membership with England Basketball.

Shrewsbury Friends of the Earth and Marches Energy Agency

11. Shrewsbury Friends of the Earth and Marches Energy Agency were granted the sum of £4,317 to help train up to 30 volunteers from Underdale and Monkmoor to conduct door to door surveys about ways to reduce energy consumption and give away a free energy saving light bulb. To date the light bulb library has been delivered and will shortly be on display at the Shrewsbury Wildlife Centre. One outdoor event has taken place, which was the Light Fantastic.

Through the Doorway to Healthy Living

12. Through the Doorway to Healthy Living were granted the sum of £3,300 to provide weekly activities and opportunities for people to adopt and maintain a healthy lifestyle and promote positive mental health and wellbeing.
13. The project has encountered a number of problems with regards to identifying suitable venues and finding tutors which has meant that the project has not started to deliver. However a potential tutor for the yoga and belly dancing classes has now been found and is currently undergoing a CRB check and a venue in Monkmoor has also been identified, it is anticipated that delivery will start within the next two months.

Underdale and Monkmoor Community Committee

14. The above Committee was granted the sum of £880 to cover general running costs from room hire, correspondence and postage and miscellaneous costs associated with running a community committee. The aim of the Committee is to strengthen engagement between residents of Monkmoor and Underdale, their elected representative and other public service providers.

15. To date the Committee is looking at how best to transfer the grant into the working team's pot.

1st Monkmoor Scout and Guide Group

16. The 1st Monkmoor Scout and Guide Group were granted the sum of £7,000 to rewire and carry out various improvements to their Headquarters in Upton Lane. To date the rewiring work has been undertaken along with further work such as installing new lights, heaters, security lights on the outside of the building, new sockets throughout, hot water boilers, emergency lighting and the installation of a fire alarm. This refurbishment has brought the building up to date with current standards and allows other members of the community to use the facilities.

Shrewsbury East Youth Group

17. The sum of £8,000 was granted to the Shrewsbury East Youth Group towards the costs of providing positive activities for young people aged 15+ in the Upton Lane area of Shrewsbury which has a history of anti social behaviour.
18. Unfortunately due to the long term sickness absence of the Youth Worker the project has taken a little time to get off the ground however I am pleased to report that the Thursday night outreach work is now up and running. The worker is currently working with this group of young people to try to ease them into accessing the centre on Friday evenings. Although it takes time to effectively engage this client group, things are progressing well and the staff are looking to commencing the Friday evening sessions next month. To get the Friday activity underway, on the last Friday in June the group will be introduced to a Graffiti Artist who will be running a workshop on 3rd July.
19. Three days of activity have been delivered to students in Year 11 in Belvidere School, exploring Democracy, Health and team building. Work in the school is also underway to identify potential "at risk" year 11s and direct them towards the new Friday session.
20. A residential for the girls group has also been arranged and they will be going to Nant-y-Yr centre next month.
21. The new area manager, who has only been in post two weeks, will be keeping a watching brief in the absence of the Youth Worker and we will give further updates of progress at future meetings.

New Applications for Funding

22. The Committee has a budget of £40,000 for the 2009/10 financial year. This must be spent to improve service standards, support the delivery of parish plans or to provide grants to local voluntary organisations.
23. The Committee are asked to confirm grant approval or rejection and any terms and conditions for the application as detailed below:

£

- A. Provision of funds to assist DASH in promoting practical activities and support for disabled and deaf artists and to promote and support disabled and deaf people as an arts audience. 4,200

Disability Arts in Shropshire (DASH)

24. DASH is a practical Disability Arts Organisation and has two broad aims:
- to support and promote disabled and deaf artists and
 - to support and promote disabled and deaf people as an arts audience
23. DASH recently moved to new premises in Monkmoor and have been renting out the space to a variety of groups. They are now ready to develop the Artspace and meeting space which will allow more groups to use the building. To market the space they plan to hold a launch party in September where all members of the community will be invited, this will be an active day where performances and a consultation event will be led by Disabled artists. DASH are seeking a sum of **£1,000** to fund this launch day.
24. DASH is also requesting the sum of **£3,200** to fund a caretaker post. As the area does not have a community centre there is a shortage of meeting spaces in the area, therefore the demand for the hiring of the DASH space is beginning to grow. Volunteers could cover this post but the position of a caretaker has health and safety responsibilities and it is felt it would not be fair to ask a volunteer to take this responsibility. Also included are marketing and advertising costs which is hoped will lead to an increase in bookings. It is hoped that the post will become self financing after the first year, as the increased bookings resulting from having a caretaker will finance the post in the future.

Deferred Applications for Funding

25. The Committee are asked to reconsider the previously deferred application for funds to establish a BMX Club at Upton Lane.

£

- B. Provision of funds to develop a proper BMX Club which would be the first of its kind in Shrewsbury. 5,000

Project BMX

26. The BMX track at Upton Lane has recently been developed. The Sports Development team of Shropshire Council would like to develop a proper BMX Club at that venue.
27. There are eight BMX tracks throughout the Shrewsbury area and the applicant would like to set up a formal club for Shrewsbury to run organised activities. The funding would help to supply equipment and provide training to newcomers and also provide coaching sessions. The club would initially be set up by Sports Development Team of Shropshire Council but as the membership grows it would transfer to a community sector club run by its members with funding support from Sports Unlimited. By getting young people involved, it would be a positive step for the Upton Lane area.
28. This application was considered at the previous meeting of this Local Joint Committee and the decision was to defer consideration of the application until confirmation of support from other partners and until there was additional funding available to allow for the full amount to be funded if the Committee wished to do so .

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

Human Rights Act Appraisal

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998.

Environmental Appraisal

The work of Shrewsbury Friends of the Earth and Marches Energy Agency should reduce energy consumption in the Underdale and Monkmoor area.

Risk Management Appraisal

In determining these recommendations the Council has considered reputational risk and the appropriate course of action to minimise those risks.

Community / Consultations Appraisal

Consideration has been given to public opinion expressed at the previous Local Joint Committee Meetings.

Local Member

Shropshire Councillors – Miles Kenny, Tony Durnell and Jo Jones

Appendices

None