



Committee and date

Ellesmere Area Local Joint Committee

13 March 2012

7pm

Item

**8**

Public

**2011/12 FINANCE REPORT, INCLUDING UPDATE ON FUNDING REQUESTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Responsible Officer** Julie Ruler

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**1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report considers the devolved funding allocated to the Ellesmere Area Local Joint Committee (LJC) for the period 1 April 2011 up until 31 March 2012.
- 1.2 A total of £17,584 has been devolved to the committee to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC for 2011/12.
- 1.3 A planning meeting takes place to discuss applications for funding and agree recommendations to be taken to the LJC where decisions will be made.
- 1.4 Fourteen applications have been received for this reporting period. These were considered at the planning meeting held on 23 February 2012. The recommendations from the planning meeting are listed in this report.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the LJC considers the applications received, and awards funding to those organisations and their projects as recommended in this report. The recommendation is to approve or not approve the following funding applications as detailed:

Cockshutt Millennium Hall Group – CCTV	Defer
Ellesmere Rotary Regatta	£250.00
Mere Melodies Choir - New Start	£180.00
Lyneal with Colemere Parochial Church	£500.00
Ellesmere Patients Group	Not Approved
Ellesmere Bowling Club	£1000.00

Shropshire Union Canal Society	Not Approved
Friends of The Mere	£ 1000.00
Criftins Parish Hall	£750.00
Ellesmere Ducklings	£500.00
Welshampton Caterpillars	£2000.00
Ellesmere Cricket Club	£1500.00
Welshampton Parochial Church	Not Approved
Friends of Cockshutt School	1000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£8680.00</b>

## REPORT

### **3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal**

- 3.1 In determining this recommendation the Council 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.

### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 The funding devolved to the LJC can be used for a number of different purposes over the year. At the present time, the Committee has not allocated funds to any specific purposes but has indicated that it will receive applications from local organisations for eligible purposes. Funding by the LJC must comply with the general Financial Rules for LJC's.

### **5. Background**

- 5.1 From 1 April 2009 Shropshire Council created 28 Local Joint Committees (LJC) to operate across the whole of Shropshire. The LJC's are legally constituted decision making Committees of Shropshire Council
- 5.2 The LJC for Ellesmere wards has membership from Shropshire Council (3 members) and parish councils (4 members) all with equal voting rights.
- 5.3 One of the responsibilities of the LJC is to determine expenditure of the devolved budget. A budget of £ 17,584 has been made available to the LJC for the current financial year. This is made up of £14,000 from the LJC budget; £1,044 from the arts funding which has been transferred to the LJC

and £2,540 carryover from this LJC's' 2010/11 budget .The total recommended value for projects put forward in this round total £8680 leaving a remaining balance £370 for future funding requests.

- 5.4 The committee have agreed that the annual budget should be equally split between the three meetings and under spend carried forward to the next meeting.

## **6. Additional Information**

- 6.1 A summary of applications has been compiled and included below.

### **6.2 Cockshutt Millennium Hall Group – CCTV**

- 6.2.1 This project has been submitted install CCTV to the hall building and perimeter. The hall suffered lead theft recently and the committee have recently upgraded the play area. Some minor vandalism occurs and the CCTV may deter this. Total funds required £2000 with £1000 match funding available.

- 6.2.2 Need and Demand – This is a popular area and CCTV will improve the possibility of detection and act as a deterrent.

### **6.3 Ellesmere Rotary Regatta**

- 6.3.1 This project has been submitted by Ellesmere Rotary to fund the cost of providing 20 life jackets for use in water based events. The group will loan the equipment to other groups after the event. Total funds required £500 with £250 match funding available.

- 6.3.2 Need and demand – Leisure opportunities based on the Mere whether they are canoes, bell boats or sailing craft all require buoyancy aids and it is clear that insufficient are held centrally to meet the needs of each group using the water.

### **6.4 Mere Melodies Choir - New Start**

- 6.4.1 This project has been submitted by Mere Melodies a group of 30 performers who give 2/3 performances each year. The group require paying a musical director and having costs relating to practice hall hire and song sheet reproduction cost Total funds required £3000 with £1500 match funding available.

- 6.4.2 Need and demand –The benefit of choirs has been established as a cultural recreational activity.

### **6.5 Lyneal with Colemere Parochial Church**

- 6.5.1 This application is submitted by the parish church to contribute towards the replacement of pew runners with washable tweed cushions. Total funds required £2400 with £900 match funding.

- 6.5.2 Need and demand – The existing pew runners are old and deteriorated.

6.6 Ellesmere Patients Group – Parking Contribution

6.6.1 This application has been submitted by Ellesmere Patients Group to enable them to contribute to 9 parking bays at Comrades Club Ellesmere. The practice has a footfall of over 200 patients per morning. Total project cost £540 with £360 match funding available.

6.6.2 Need and demand – The doctors surgery have 9 bays opposite the parking at the surgery. This will replace funding previously paid by Shropshire Council.

6.7 Ellesmere Bowling Club – Floodlight Replacement

6.7.1 Ellesmere Bowling Club has 93 members playing at league level. They need to replace 1 lighting pillar due to deterioration. The aim is that this will part of an ongoing project with energy savings expected. Total project cost £2663 with £1163 match funding.

6.7.2 Need and demand – The existing lighting pillars are old and deteriorating. The club has 93 members using the facility.

6.8 Shropshire Union Canal Society

6.8.1 Ellesmere Boat Rally- Contribution to cost of event which aims to promote canal tourism and craft. Horse Drawn Boat will target young people as educational heritage display. The aim is to provide a get together for boaters. Total project cost £2580 with £1580 match funding.

Need and demand – This annual festival will link to and promote the proposed development of British Waterways blacksmith project

6.9 Friends of The Mere Trish's Hut

Trisha's Hut is a small timber building and former changing facility in the children's play area at The Mere. The Friends of the Mere will use the hut as a base during their educational tours. The building requires sympathetic restoration and improved security. Total project cost £4800 with match funding of £3100

Need and demand – Trish's Hut has been neglected and is often a pinch point for anti social behaviour in summer months. Involving young people in the future use will encourage a responsible outlook.

6.10 Criftins Parish Hall

6.10.1 Criftins Parish Hall committee has recently worked in partnership with their community and facilitated the incorporation of The Post Office within the hall site. The Post Office will cover the cost of an alarm system. This will decrease the cost of future maintenance.

6.10.2 This example of a community taking action to retain a service. The alarm system will be of benefit to the Parish Hall

#### 6.11 Ellesmere Ducklings Sensory Wall

Ellesmere Ducklings would like to extend their sensory equipment due to having 2 children on their register with learning difficulties. The group have funded a sensory bubble tube (£1211) and have found that the sensory and tactile equipment is a good means of communication with the 52 children that use the 2-4 year olds. They would like to purchase a wall panel to stimulate tactile play and learning. Total project cost £1098 with no offer of match funding.

6.11.1 Need and demand – The group are willing to raise funds towards the equipment and have stated that the children are benefiting from participation in mainstream facilities.

#### 6.12 Welshampton Caterpillars

6.12.1 The access point to the facility is a cause for concern this project will re-locate the access to the building. The new floor plan will create a covered walkway and safer environment for the children. Sessions attract 12/14 young people at each session with a further 6 attending pre school. Total project cost £6016 with £1606 match funding.

6.12.2 Need and demand - At present the current layout means that parents/carers are arriving to drop off or collect children whilst the pre-schoolers need unrestricted access to the toilet facilities.

#### 6.13. Welshampton Parochial Church

6.13.1 The Village Fayre has run at Welshampton Village Hall for 7 years and is sponsored by Halls and Morris Cook. The group would like to hire an additional marquee and improve promotion and marketing this year. Scheduled for 7.5.12 the event is set to raise money for the church and charities. Total project cost £430 with £200 match funding.

6.13.2 Need and demand - The event is popular and the group feel an additional marquee will make the visitors and exhibitors more comfortable

#### 6.14 Friends of Cockshutt School

6.14.1 The group have been fundraising since 2010 and identified the need for an all weather outdoor play area within the school to encourage active play. Items selected are aimed at promoting co ordination and challenge young people to explore. The after school club has 15 children attending and will encourage them to access outside play. Total project cost £12700 with £1831 match funding.

6.14.2 Need and demand – The school is in a rural location with many families who do not have access to existing play areas. Having play equipment within the school will give children the opportunity to exercise.

### **Conclusions**

The applications recommended were considered to be of benefit to the community, following need, demand and assessment checklist. The LJC considers the applications received, and awards funding to those organisations and their projects as recommended in this report.

8. The next LJC meeting is scheduled to take place at 7.00pm on 26 July 2012  
Cockshut Millennium Hall Village Application closing date will be Friday 29 June 2012.

9. Bids for future funding should be address to:

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**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 2011/12-2012/14, Appendix 5. Report to Cabinet  
13 January 2011-07-04

Locality Working Local joint Committees. Report to Cabinet 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010

**Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)**

Councillor Gwilym Butler

**Local Member**

Councillor Brian Williams  
Councillor Ann Hartley  
Councillor Steve Davenport

**Appendices**

None