

## 2013/14 FINANCE REPORT, INCLUDING UPDATE ON FUNDING REQUESTS FOR CONSIDERATION

**Responsible Officer** Julie Ruler

Email: julie.ruler@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01691 677301

### 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report considers the devolved funding allocated to the Ellesmere Area Local Joint Committee (LJC) for the period 1 April 2013 up until 31 March 2014.
- 1.2 A total of £15040 has been devolved to the committee to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC for 2013/14. *An additional £1438 is also available as carry forward from 2012/2013.*
- 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 10 applications have been received for this reporting period for consideration at the planning meeting held on 29 January 2014. 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:

		Recommended
12	Ellesmere Town Council – Roof Repair	£1780
13	Welsh Frankton Church- Water Heater	£1000
14	Lakelands – IT and Community Hub	£3000
15	Cockshutt Millennium Hall – Village Security	Not funded
16	Ellesmere Youth Club	£ 100
17	Cockshutt Parish Council – Professional Services	£ 750
18	Friends of the Mere – Cremorne Toilets	£1000
19	Dudleston Parish Hall – Roof Repairs	£2000
20	Ellesmere Cricket Club- Ground Maintenance	£ 400
	Oswestry Photographic Society	Not Funded
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 10030</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 £ 15,040 has been made available to the LJC for the current financial year. This is made up of £14,000 from the LJC budget; £1,040 from the arts funding which has been transferred to the LJC towards funding of the arts and £1438 carryover from this LJC's' 2012/13 budget. Members agreed that the priority areas are community projects that offer IT support and support village based activities.
- 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**

A summary of applications has been compiled and included below.

#### **6.1 Ellesmere Town Council – Roof Repair**

- 6.1.1 This application has been submitted to enable Ellesmere Town Council to instruct a local architect to provide a feasibility study with drawings to repair the leaking roof and provide the best design to meet the current use and need to

reduce on going building costs. The funds will be used for the actual repairs identified.

Total funds required £2000. with nil match funding

6.1.2 Need and demand – The town hall incorporates 3 facilities which are used by the community. The leaks to the roof are over the bar area and this is causing concern with groups hiring the facility.

6.1.3 Reason for reduced offer – limited funding available

## 6.2 St Andrews Church Welsh Frankton – Kitchen Refurbishment

6.2.1 This project has been submitted to enable the church to offer hot drinks at meetings. The current boiler has been condemned.

Total funds required £1274.90 with £200.00 match funding available.

6.2.2 Need and demand – The church is used by the community and is available for community use.

6.2.3 Reason for reduced offer – limited funding available

## 6.3 Lakelands Academy – Community Technology

6.3 This project has been submitted by Lakelands School to support a newly built IT wing at the academy. In addition to offering pupils a state of the art IT communication equipment. The project build has been funded and the Academy is committed to raising funds for the equipment. They would like to offer students tablet computers, storage areas, and a Smart Screen for group work and interaction with other providers. The aim is to offer the use of the facility to local people, groups and create a community group to safeguard and promote community engagement. Pupils will work with the community as part of Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Total funds requested £39500 with £36000 match funding.

6.3.2 Need and demand – The project will offer hands on community involvement and support in addition to the possibility of intergenerational skill exchange. Partners in the project have been identified as Ellesmere Medical Practice and Ellesmere IT Group.

6.2.3 Reason for reduced offer – limited funding available

## 6.4 Ellesmere Youth Project- Soft Football Project

- 6.4.1 This application has been submitted to enable group to purchase soft balls netting and bibs for ball sports at the weekly youth session.

Total funds required £80.00 with nil match funding available.

- 6.4.2 Need and demand – The youth club members have requested this equipment because hard balls are not permitted.

- 6.4.3 This project was awarded £100 in recognition of their outstanding work with youth.

#### 6.5 Cockshutt Millennium Hall – Village Security Project

- 6.5.1 This application has been submitted to enable group to purchase and install 5 parking space barriers. This will allow the group to minimise the un- authorised parking at the site and possible allow them to offer parking to local residents in return for a fee.

Total funds required £1750.00 with £875 match funding available.

- 6.5.2 Need and demand – The village has limited on street parking and unauthorised parking at the hall is disruptive to normal bookings.

- 6.5.3 Reason for decline – The committee felt that the group need to consult with the community and resolve parking issues without reducing access.

#### 6.6 Cockshutt cum Petton Parish Council- Development of Jubilee Field

- 6.6.1 This application has been submitted to contribute towards the cost producing feasibility reports and costings preferred options for the newly acquired land adjacent to the Millennium Hall.

Total project cost £1500.00 with £750. match funding.

- 6.6.2 Need and demand – A project group has been formed and questionnaires within the village have highlighted options for use. The group wish to develop those ideas into reality.

#### 6.7 Crifftin's Village Hall and Playing Field- Essential Repairs to Roof

- 6.7.1 This application has been submitted by the hall committee to enable them to complete essential repairs to the hall roof.

Total funds required £2000. With match funding £4000

- 6.7.2 Need and demand – The hall is a community hub which is used for clubs, functions and table tennis.

#### 6.8 Friends of the Mere – Cremorne Gardens Toilet Refurbishment

6.8.1 This project has been submitted by FOM in order to repair and re instate the public toilets in Cremorne Gardens. Shropshire Council Outdoor Recreation Service will ensure that work is carried out to the required standard.

Total funds requested £4500. with £1500. match funding.

6.8.2 Need and demand – The toilet block has been out of use for 18 months and it is noted that this is not acceptable in a facility which attracts 240,000 visitors per year.

Please note Entrust have agreed £7000 for this project but the release of funds is not defined.

6.8.3 Reason for reduced offer – limited funds available

#### 6.9 Ellesmere Cricket Club – Ground Maintenance Project

6.9.1 This project has been submitted by Ellesmere Cricket Club to fund the purchase of a mower, strimmer and hedge cutter. The club has taken over land adjacent to the club which is classed as

Total funds requested £730. with £200. match funding.

6.9.2 Need and demand – The club has taken over additional land which is used as outfield. The ground needs to be cut back on a regular basis in order that balls can be retrieved

6.9.3 Reason for reduced offer – limited funds available

#### 6.10 Oswestry Photographic Society

6.10.1 This group has 39 members and meets at the Oswestrian in Oswestry between September to June. The group would like to purchase a replacement projector and laptop.

Total funds requested £2939.00. with £1000. match funding.

6.10.2 Need and demand – The group need to have this equipment to promote the work they are doing and maintain interest and communication with members.

6.10.3 Reason for decline- The committee felt the group members should cover the cost of the equipment required.

### **Conclusions**

7. 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.

8.0 The next LJC meeting is to be agreed following the Lets Talk discussion looking at the future format of the meetings.

Julie Ruler  
Community Action Officer  
Northern Area Community Action Team  
Shropshire Council  
Castle View  
Oswestry  
SY11 1JR  
Phone: 01691 677301  
Mobile: 07582002023  
[julie.ruler@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:julie.ruler@shropshire.gov.uk)

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

Draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2011/12-2012/14, Appendix 5. Report to Cabinet 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2011-07-04
---

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

<b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</b>
--

Councillor Gwilym Butler
--------------------------

<b>Local Member</b>
---------------------

Councillor Brian Williams Councillor Ann Hartley Councillor Steve Davenport
---

<b>Appendices</b>
-------------------

None
------