

Community Fund-Consideration of Funding Applications

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Summary

This report considers devolved funding allocated to Gobowen, Selattyn, St Martins and Weston Rhyn Local Joint Committee.

A total of £32,000 has been allocated to the committee to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC in 2010/11. In addition there was £6502.66 carried over from 2009/10 as unallocated funds. The first round was considered at the LJC meeting on 11th May, allocating funds of £2,910, leaving a sum of £35,592.66. In addition £4,000 previously ring-fenced money was returned to the funds unused, leaving a total budget for round 2 of £39,592.66.

One bid from Round 1 has been deferred to Round 2 for consideration alongside new applications received before the closing date of 4th June.

By the closing date a total of 7 applications had been received (including deferred) requesting funding to the value of £14,235.90.

The recommendations below are set out using the following approach:

- Agree to fund a number of bids to the level of the application
- Fund a number of bids at a reduced level
- Defer a number of bids to a future round of the Community Fund
- Not fund the remaining bids

In agreeing the recommendations, the committee would allocate £8,695 of funds, leaving a total of £30,897.66 to be rolled forward for the next round.

Recommendations

It is recommended to the Gobowen, Selattyn, St Martins and Weston Rhyn Local Joint Committee that:

- A The following bids are allocated full funding from the Community Fund (Round Two):
- i. £225 to Selattyn Holiday Club to provide materials to run a summer club in the village.
 - ii. £1,670 to Weston Rhyn Bowling Club to install new low energy lighting plus a shed for storage of chemicals.
 - iii. £1,800 to Weston Rhyn Welsh Chapel for replacement of discoloured plastic window cladding plus some new seats
 - iv. £1000 to Weston Rhyn Youth Club to support running costs.
- B The following bids are provided with partial funding from the Community Fund (Round Two):
- i. £1,500 to Friends of Ifton Heath School (against an original bid of £3000) to purchase play equipment
 - ii. £2,500 to St Martins Scout Group for the purchase of climbing and camping equipment (against an original bid for £3,500 which also included bus hire)
- C The following bid was deferred until the next meeting (Round Three)
- i. £3,040.90 to Weston Rhyn Village Institute Management Committee for woodworm and wet rot treatment for the roof of the Institute. This project will be considered once further information about the scope, and other funding sources available for the project, have been provided.
- D No bids were refused funding from this round of the Community Fund.

Report

1. From 1 April 2009 Shropshire Council created 28 Local Joint Committees to operate across the whole county. These LJs are legally constituted decision making committees of Shropshire Council.
2. The LJC for Gobowen, Selattyn, St Martins and Weston Rhyn has membership from Shropshire Council (3 members) and the Parishes in the area (3 members) all with equal voting rights.
3. One fundamental responsibility of the LJC is to determine expenditure of the devolved budget. A budget of £32,000 has been made available to the LJC based, fundamentally, on population size. Expenditure against this budget is agreed by the Committee after consideration of decision reports then voting by Committee members. Voting is undertaken by the six members of the committee as detailed above, all with equal votes, with decisions determined by a simple majority.

4. The funding devolved to the LJC can be used for a number of different purposes over the year.
5. For the second round of the Community fund a balance of £39,592.66 remains uncommitted. This round automatically considers an application that had already been submitted to Round One but which the Committee chose to defer, alongside a further six bids received from the community.
6. The recommendations made to the committee are that £8,695 is allocated to six bids from the second round. This would leave a balance of £30,897.66 uncommitted in the year.
7. A standard Application Form and Financial Procedure Guidance have been produced for use by all LJCs across the County. Applications to the LJC for funding must be made using the agreed application form, which will be available at the meeting. It will also be available from Shropshire Council's website (www.shropshire.gov.uk), or by telephoning Maggie Rowlands, Community Regeneration Officer on 01691 677301 or 07818 587740 or by email Maggie.rowlands@shropshire.gov.uk, or the Lead Officer on the above details.

Specific rules for the Community Fund, in addition to the Finance Procedure rules, are:

- a. Applications made directly by Parish Councils will be considered, providing Parish Councils are not applying for funds for projects which they have previously funded or which are otherwise previously covered by precept money. New projects and 'sponsoring' informal groups are allowed.
 - b. The closing date for applications for Round 3 will be 27th August 2010.
8. Applications received by this date will be reviewed for eligibility against the criteria laid down above and a formal decision on which applications to fund will be taken at the next LJC Meeting on 28th September 2010.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Full Funding

9. A total of 7 bids were received by the closing date and of these 4 bids are recommended to receive the full funding they applied for. In total these 4 bids amount to £4,695. A breakdown of the bids with summary information is attached at Appendix A.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Partial Funding

10. Of the remaining 3 bids that were received by the committee, it is recommended that two receive partial funding. These will receive £4,000 between them. A breakdown of the bids with requested and recommended funding against each is attached in Appendix A.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Deferral

11. One bid was recommended for deferral pending further information being provided. Details are attached in Appendix A.

Eligible Bids Not Recommended for Funding

12. No bids have been refused funding in this round.

Funding

13. The recommendations within this report seek to allocate £8,695 of the £32,000 budget devolved to the Gobowen, Selattyn, St Martins and Weston Rhyn Local Joint Committee.

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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| 1. Local Joint Committee Budget –Gobowen, Selattyn, St Martins and Weston Rhyn Local Joint Committee 23 July 2009 |
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Human Rights Act Appraisal

At this stage the recommendations are unlikely to result in any implications for the Human Rights Act.
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Environmental Appraisal

Environmental appraisals will be carried out as necessary.
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Risk Management Appraisal

The County Council needs to address the risk of legal challenge to decisions through procedural or other errors. This has been carefully assessed.
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Community / Consultations Appraisal
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Consideration has been given to the results of recent consultations and community responses in the St. Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee area.

Cabinet Member

Gwilym Butler

Local Members

Steve Davenport, David Lloyd, Trevor Davies..

Appendices

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| A Summary of Applications for Funding. |
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