

**2012/13 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 Gobowen, Selattyn, St Martins and Weston Rhyn Local Joint Committee (LJC) for the period 1st April 2012 up until 31st March 2013.
- 1.2 A total of £17403 has been devolved to the committee to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC for 2012/13.
- 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 15 applications have been received for this reporting period for consideration at the planning meeting held on 5th February 2013. 1 application was approved by the committee under delegated powers. 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 below. The recommendation is to approve the following funding applications as detailed:

17	Sports Development -Multi Activity Games	£ 200.00
18	All Saints Church – Water Boiler	£1200.00
19	Weston Rhyn Village Hall- Lift Repair	£1500.00 Ring Fenced
20	Moors Chapel- flooring/outside seating I	£ 950.00
21	Gobowen Old Friends- 6 trips and Coronation party	£1000.00
22	Green Room Gobowen – National Playday and resources	£ 350.00
23	St Johns Church – Salt Bins	£ 200.00

24	Gobowen IT project	£ 400.00
25	3 Parish Water Forum- Admin	£ 250.00
26	St Martins Youth Group- Equipment	£ 500.00
27	Gobowen Playing Field – Trim Track	£2000.00
28	O.O.L.A.P- Moving Forward	£ 200.00
29	Weston Rhyn Trust- Rec signage	£ 450.00
30	Oswestry Area Heritage Open Days- Promotion, transport etc.	£ 300.00
31	Oswestry Area Assoc for the elderly - Monthly Tea Dance	Defer
Total		£ 9500.00

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 Gobowen, Selattyn, St Martins and Weston Rhyn wards has membership from Shropshire Council (3 members) and parish councils (3 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 £ 17403 has been made available to the LJC for the current financial year. This is made up of £16,000 from the LJC budget; £1,310 from the arts funding which has been transferred to the LJC and £93 carryover from this LJC's 2011/12 budget. The sum of £11,000 has been reallocated to the 2012-2013 budget from 2009/2010. This reallocation relates to 3 projects that did not complete. The total recommended value for projects put forward in this round total £ 9500.00. The remaining budget of £3658 was discussed and Members of the Committee have agreed that priorities for the area are IT support to underpin community based learning, organised sports / recreational activities and Coronation events in the local villages.
- 5.4 The Committee have agreed that the annual budget should be allocated between the three meetings and under spend carried forward to the next meeting.

6. Additional Information

6.1 Sports Activity St Martins Leisure Centre

- 6.1.2 This project has been submitted by Shropshire Council Sports Development Team to assist with the costs related to host a multi activity sports session during the Easter Holidays at St Martins School. Young people aged 10-15 will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, these include: skate boarding sports and giant games. Partner agencies, Shropshire Council, Youth Service (positive activities). Also the local youth and scout groups. (St Martins Youth Club Green Room Gobowen and 3pya). Representatives from Big Local will be invited as they need to consult with young people.

Total cost £580 with £300 match funding available. The grant will cover hire of the sports hall and other associated costs.

- 6.1.2 Need and Demand – This is project will take place in half term and offer young people a safe free activity.

6.2 All Saint's Church – Hot Water Supply

- 6.2.1 This project has been submitted by All Saints Church to assist in the replacement hot water system for the church hall. 8 core groups hire the hall on a regular basis and bookings are made for parties and events. A hot water supply is vital to replace the existing system which is beyond repair.

The total cost £1920.00 with match funding of £420.00. The grant will cover the cost of replacing the hot water system.

- 6.2.2 Need and demand – The church hall is an essential venue and used by the community. Without a reliable source of hot water the hall will fail to meet user's expectations.

- 6.2.3 Reason for reduced offer – The committee felt that the group should seek funding from other local charities or hold a fundraising event.

6.3 Weston Rhyn Village Hall- Lift Repair

6.3.1 This project has been submitted by Weston Rhyn Hall Committee in order to repair and re instate the lift which was taken out of use last following an inspection report. This has made it difficult to use the upstairs meeting room and limited the income to the hall.

Total cost £3200.00 match funding £400. The grant will cover the cost of repair to the lift shaft.

6.3.2 Need and demand –This is one of 2 community venues in the village and there is a definite need and demand to use the first floor facilities.

6.3.3 Reason for Reduced offer – The committee felt that the group should seek funding from other local charities and hold a fundraising event.

6.4 Moors Chapel Community Hall- Flooring and Recreation Area

6.4.1 This application has been submitted by the hall committee in order to replace the hall flooring, further improvements to the kitchen area NAD the creation of an outside seating area and hard standing.

Total cost 3200.00 with match funding of £2000.00. The grant will be used to purchase flooring.

6.4.2 Need and demand – This hall is used by the community and is used most days. The group have engaged with the community payback team and have commitment for their further support.

6.4.3 Reason for Reduced offer – The committee felt that the group should match fund further amount by holding a fundraising event.

6.5 Gobowen Old Friends – Outings and Coronation Event

6.5.1 This application has been submitted by Gobowen Old Friends have offered social support to elderly people from the area since 1947. They would like a contribution to the cost of coach hire for 6 trips taking place in 2013. The coach hire is estimated at £2110. There are plans for the group to hold a garden party to celebrate the Queen's Coronation anniversary.

Total cost £2500 with £1000 match funding available.

6.5.2 Need and demand – Social activities for elderly people is an important as many do not have sufficient funds to get out and these trips are their only contact with others. The group self-fund and save for the trips and are happy to contribute.

6.5.3 Reason for reduced offer – The committee felt that the members of the group should contribute towards the trips and any surplus used to cover the coronation celebration.

6.6 Green Room Youth Project – National Playday Event

- 6.6.1 This application has been submitted by the Green Room Youth Project which was formed in 2011 to provide a weekly youth drop in for young people. The group have facilitated National Playday since 2011 and partners wish to provide an activity session in August 2013 to promote outdoor recreation. Support from Shropshire Council Sports and Recreation Team is required. The team will bring out-door sports and games equipment and ensure the event has suitable first aid support.

Total cost £560.00 with £210.00 match funding available. The grant will be used to cover activity costs and purchase of art and expression board materials.

- 6.6.2 Need and demand – The increased usage of the pavilion by the community is helping to foster a community in the village. Outdoor recreation is a superb way of engaging with families in the summer holidays. The group foster a true partnership approach to staging this event which is noted on the National Playday information.

6.7 St Johns Church – Winter Safety

- 6.7.1 This application has been submitted by church committee to enable them to purchase a salt bin and materials to avoid possible accidents during poor weather conditions. With the newly completed disabled access a need to limit risk in the churchyard.

Total cost £251.61 with £0 match funding.

- 6.7.2 Need and Demand – The church is a used and open to all the community. During services there is a need to keep parishioners safe.

- 6.7.3 Reason for reduced offer – The committee felt that the group should match fund a small amount.

6.8 Gobowen I.T. Learning Project – Provision Support

- 6.8.1 This application has been submitted on behalf of 3 volunteers who are running a community IT sessions attract between 6-8 people who have a range of IT skills. Volunteers work on client agenda and introduce internet use etc. Gobowen Parish Council will hold the funding.

Total cost £800.00 with £400.00 match funding. The grant will cover facility hire for 20 of 40 weeks.

- 6.8.2 Need and Demand – The Community have limited public access to the internet and this group are supporting the community and helping them to improve their skills.

6.9 3 Parish Water Forum – Provision Support

- 6.9.1 This application has been submitted on behalf the forum who have lobbied for improvements to water and sewage supplies in the 3 villages. The group are all volunteers and have spent a lot of time addressing and campaigning about issues. They would like funds to cover the cost of meetings and also items such as stamps, paper and printing.

Total cost £250.00 with £0 match funding. The grant will cover facility hire and incidental charges for stamps, printing etc.

- 6.9.2 Need and Demand – The 3 villages are benefiting from having one voice and the group are part way to solving issues with the water authorities.

6.10 St Martins Youth Club - Equipment Grant

- 6.10.1 This application has been submitted by St Martins Youth Club who would like to re cover and repair their pool table, purchase a trolley/jack and replace their table tennis table. The group meet on Friday evening and have 35 attendees aged 10 and above.

Total cost £900.00 with no match funding available.

- 6.10.2 Need and demand – This rural youth club is providing essential diversionary activities on a Friday evening. It is run by volunteer.
6.14.3 Reason for reduced offer – The committee felt that the group did not have a clear vision and that seminars should reflect cost recovery. A reduced grant is awarded to complete the botanical survey and for admin expenses.

- 6.10.3 Reason for reduced offer – Following recommendation from the Community Action Officer the group were successful in obtaining funding from Charlotte Hartey Foundation to cover the purchase of a table tennis table. The committee made a reduced offer to the group to enable them to purchase other equipment or arrange further activities.

6.11. Gobowen Playingfield Committee – Trim Track

- 6.11.1 This application is submitted on behalf of the group of volunteers that support the Gobowen Playingfield. They would like to install a trim track around the perimeter of the field to encourage keeping fit, cycle practice for young children etc.

Total cost £9915 with £4358.00 match funding. The grant will cover groundworks and materials.

- 6.11.2 Need and demand – This project scheme is a result of public consultation and will benefit residents and local youth.

- 6.11.3 Reason for reduced offer – The committee felt that the group should raise funds from other local charities. A reduced grant is awarded to support the project which could take a phased approach.

6.12 O.O.L.A.P – Moving Forward

- 6.12.1 This application has been submitted by Old Oswestry Landscape and Archeology Project to enable them to reform the group and work with English Heritage to agree a way forward in managing the site. Two meetings have Taken place and there are 12 people interested in driving the group forward. The main aim of the group is to work towards practical activities on the site. 2 meetings with guest professional archaeologist will support training of volunteers.

Total cost £920.00 with £0 match funding. The grant will cover the cost of meetings, paper, printing, website creation and 2 training events.

- 6.12.2 Need and Demand – The site is of historic interest having an established group will steer future activity and widen support for the project.

- 6.12.3 Reason for reduced offer – The committee felt that the group did not demonstrate a clear vision and that seminars/ training should reflect cost recovery. A reduced grant is awarded to complete the botanical survey and for admin expenses.

6.13. Weston Rhyn Trust – Rec Signage

- 6.13.1 This application is submitted on behalf of the group who have recently agreed the purchase of play equipment on the recreation ground in Weston Rhyn. As the site is open plan they wish to install advisory signage regarding permitted use, safety issues and promotion of activities.

Total cost £470.50 with no match funding available. The grant will be used to purchase a safety sign/noticeboard.

- 6.13.2 Need and demand – The Trust wish to promote safe use of the equipment project and promote involvement.

- 6.13.3 Reason for Reduced offer – The committee felt that the group could negotiate a small discount.

6.14 OPHAG -Oswestry Area Heritage Open Days 2013

- 6.14.1 This application has been submitted by the group to support the event in Oswestry and the Hinterland. The events enable the area to promote and publicise our tourism offer whilst enhancing links with local visitor attractions such as the World Heritage Site, the Hillfort and Park Hall. Further links with Watts Dyke and St Martins Colliers Way are also being explored. The events are currently being developed in line with national schedule of events to take place from the 12th -15th of September 2013.

Total cost £5000 with £2925.00 match funding. The grant will cover contribution to the cost of leaflets. Applications will be put to all LJC cluster. This application is requesting £500.00 from LJC1

6.14.2 Need and demand – Last year's 4 day event was supported by 833 volunteer hours. Events in LJC 1 area included Hilfort Walks, St Martins Colliers Walk and activities at the Aquaduct and Chirk Bank. It helps promote Oswestry Nationally as a tourist destination. Estimated visitors 2000.

6.14.3 Reason for reduced offer – The committee felt that the group need to reduce the costs related to marketing the event or seek support from Oswestry Town Council. A reduced offer has been made to reflect support for this worthwhile project.

6.15. Oswestry & Surrounding Area Association for the Elderly – Tea Dances

6.15.1 This application is submitted on behalf of the group who arrange Tea Dances in the Oswestry area. The sessions attract 50-70 attendees with 14% coming from LJC1 area. The group wish to fund 6 tea dances at a cost of £960.00 and would like the LJC1 to cover a proportionate cost. Total cost £930.00 with no match funding available. The grant will be used towards the cost of facility hire and DJ for sessions.

6.15.2 Need and demand – The dances are a popular social event and the group is supported by volunteer organisers and helpers.

6.15.3 Reason For Deferment – The committee felt that there was insignificant information regarding future sustainability and inadequate evidence that the people attending the sessions contribute to the cost.

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. **The next LJC next LJC meeting is scheduled to take place at 7.00pm on 18th June 2013 at St Johns Church Weston Rhyn , SY10 7RE.**

Application closing date will be 24th May 2013.

8.1 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 13th January 2011-07-04

Locality Working Local joint Committees. Report to Cabinet 9th December 2010

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Councillor Gwilym Butler

Local Member

Councillor Steve Davenport
Councillor Trevor Davies
Councillor David Lloyd

Appendices

None