

**Committee and Date**

Loton and Tern Local Joint Committee

20th May 2010**Item/Paper****9**

Public

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COMMUNITY WORKING UPDATE**Community Grant 2010**

The Shropshire Community Fund is now open for applications. This is a capital grant scheme designed to help community led projects get funding for community buildings and facilities. The fund opened for applications on 1st March and will be open for applications until 4th June.

Two different grant pots are available, one pot is for grants of up to £10,000 and the second is for bigger projects and offers grants of between £10,000 and £50,000. In total £500,000 is available.

Anyone interested in applying for funding should contact their local Community Working Officer to see if their project is eligible for funding, the officer will also help you complete the application forms. Further details about the Community grant is on the Shropshire Council website at www.shropshire.gov.uk/communityworking

Site Allocations and Management of Development Consultation

The new Site Allocations and Development Management (SAMDev) document is the second major planning policy document of the Shropshire Local Development Framework, following the Core Strategy.

The SAMDev will allocate sites for various types of development and set out further detailed policies to guide future development across Shropshire up to 2026, in order to help to deliver the vision and objectives of the Core Strategy.

The first key stage in the preparation of the Site Allocations and Management of Development is called the 'Issues and Options' document, and has been prepared by Shropshire Council. It lists a wide range of potential sites for development and is designed to encourage communities to feed back whether these sites are appropriate for development, or if other alternative sites may also be available. This document is open to consultation between **Friday 2 April and Friday 25 June 2010**.

Details of the consultation for each Local Joint Committee area can be downloaded from the Shropshire Council Website. At www.shropshire.gov.uk/planning

Following this consultation a second Preferred Options paper will be produced towards the end of 2010, which will list the sites Shropshire Council considers appropriate. This will be influenced by the feedback received from the Sites Allocations and Management of Development consultation. It is therefore important that parish and town councils, community groups and members of the public take part in this consultation.

Road shows to promote this consultation will be taking place, and advice is also available from the Planning Policy team on 0345 6789004 or email planning.policy@shropshire.gov.uk

Community Spaces Lottery Programme

Shropshire Councils funding team have been notified that there is currently a shortfall of applications for this funding scheme. If your community group is interested in applying, support is available through the Community Working team and the Council's external funding officer.

Website link is <http://www.community-spaces.org.uk>

Advice Line 0845 3 671 671

What it is

Community Spaces is a £50 million open grants programme funded through the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces initiative. The programme is managed by Groundwork UK. Community Spaces empowers community groups in England to improve public spaces in their neighbourhood, with help and support from a network of trained facilitators.

How much is available

Grants of £10,000-£49,999 are available on a rolling basis until January 2011 and funding of 100% of eligible costs can be funded.

Community Spaces is a majority capital-funding programme – ensuring that money is spent on making physical and lasting improvements to people's neighbourhoods.

Who can apply

Community Spaces will provide funding for community groups across England that hope to create and improve their local environment.

To be eligible to apply for funding groups must meet the following criteria: Applications must be from community groups – defined as 'people living in one particular area or group of people focused on a neighbourhood who are considered as a unit because of their common interests, background, nationality or other circumstances'.

There is a simple eligibility test on the website, but note the majority of members should be voluntarily involved and live within 2 miles of the site.

A network of trained facilitators will help successful applicants to develop their projects at stage 2.

Outcomes

Outcomes are the changes that happen as a direct result of the project. These changes could make a difference to the environment, to the community or to the people who benefit from the project.

The Community Spaces programme outcomes are:

- A better local environment
- An increase in access to quality local spaces
- An increase in people actively involved in a practical environmental project
- An improvement in partnership between support organisations, communities and authorities.

Projects must be within a 2 mile radius of a residential area and projects must be open to the public '[most of the time](#)'. The applicant must have freehold or a lease for the land.

Examples of projects (list is not exhaustive):

Community gardens and parks; informal sports areas and multi-use games areas; nature reserves; squares and village greens; creation or improvements to churchyard gardens; ponds and projects which improve the local community's access to green space.

Future LJC applications

If you would like more information about the Community Working team, the Local Joint Committee or would like help finding funding for a project please contact me via the details listed below.

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