



Committee and Date

Loton and Tern Local Joint Committee

24th November 2011
Alberbury Village Hall 7pm

Item

7

Public

**LOTON AND TERN LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE
FUNDING APPLICATIONS REPORT 24th NOVEMBER 2011**

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1. Summary

In 2011/12 the Local Joint Committee has a total budget of £21,598 available to spend. This is made up of £17,000 from the LJC budget; £1,118 from the arts funding which has been transferred to the LJC and £3,480 carryover from this LJC's 2010/11 budget.

Following the July meeting of the LJC the Committee had allocated £6,050 to projects, leaving £15,548 to be allocated.

Since that meeting the following projects have been approved by the Committee outside of the formal meetings:

1. Montford parish pantomime 2012 - £900
2. Withington village green committee – New PA system £453
3. Nesscliffe Winter event – Insurance for Christmas lights switch on – £122

The means the LJC has so far allocated £7,615.18 to projects, and has **£13,982.82** remaining to be allocated.

The LJC Committee will normally only consider funding upto a maximum of £2000 per project, and for projects of over £350 the Committee will give priority to applications that have 50% or more of matched funding. Projects of less than £350 can be 100% funded.

2. Recommendations

- A. Members are asked to review the application from Bomere Heath Cricket Club, as their project has altered since the grant of £2000 was allocated to them in July.
- B. Members are asked to review applications b – f and suggest what level of grant funding, if any, they wish to allocate to these projects.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

3.1 All of the funding applications have been assessed against agreed criteria which will minimise any risks associated with these projects.

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

In 2011/12 the Local Joint Committee has a total budget of £21,598 available to spend. This is made up of £17,000 from the LJC budget; £1,118 from the arts funding which has been transferred to the LJC and £3,480 carryover from this LJC's 2010/11 budget.

There is **£14,104.82** remaining in the 2011/12 budget which is sufficient to fund all the projects contained in the report at their requested levels of funding

a) Bomere Heath Cricket Club – New Cricket Nets for the Club.

This project was awarded a grant of £2,000 at the July meeting for new cricket nets. This was matched funding towards a total project cost of £26,202. Matched funding of £12,000 from an ECB loan, and £2,202 from the clubs own funds had been secured and it was hoped a further £10,000 would be secured from an Awards for All grant. Unfortunately this grant application has been turned down, meaning that the original project is unlikely to go ahead in this financial year, or indeed in the immediate future as the matched funding gap is too high.

As an alternative, the Cricket Club has looked at purchasing mobile nets, the cost of these nets are reduced in cost because Bomere Heath Cricket Club are members of Cricket Force. The cost of the nets are £1,600 + VAT and £80 delivery. To allow for the use of the nets when the ground is wet the club would also need to purchase a roll out cricket mat which will cost £564 including VAT. Meaning the total cost of these nets would be £2,564.

The mobile nets need to be put up and taken down after each practise session; have a shorter life span and do not provide as good a practise environment as the permanent nets originally proposed in this application. However these nets could be purchased and installed in the spring and ready to use for the new cricket season, and would provide a better option than the current nets.

The Committee are asked to review their grant award to Bomere Heath Cricket Club. Possible options are:

1. Maintain the grant of £2,000 to the cricket club despite the overall project costs being reduced.
2. Agree to fund 50% of the costs of the alternative nets – a grant of £1,282
3. Agree to carry forward the grant into 2012/13 financial year to allow the club time to secure additional funding for the original project.

b) Montford Countryside Society – Replacement Equipment for Society

Total project costs: £350

Total grant requested from LJC: £350

Project outline: The Montford Parish Society is a group of volunteers who help maintain and improve the footpaths, parish green, pond and open countryside in Montford Parish. Their work involved grass cutting, hedge trimming, weed clearance and pond clearing. The project is coordinated by the Parish Ranger Carl Stanton who supports the Parish work parties to undertake the work.

This application is for replacement equipment and fuel for the strimmers and mowers used by the group, together with some maintenance for the tractor used by the group.

The maintenance of footpaths is a high priority in the Montford Parish Plan and this project is supported by Montford Parish Council.

c) Bicton PCC – Pointing of Bicton Churchyard Boundary Wall

Total project costs: Range from £4,000 to £8,050 plus VAT

Grant requested from LJC: £2,000

Project outline: The roadside boundary wall of Bicton Church is constructed of natural stone from the Alberbury/Cardeston area. The wall dates from 1885 and forms part of the church boundary and forms an important feature within the village.

The lime mortar bonding with the stones has deteriorated to the point where stones are falling away. There is also a concern that the larger capping stones at the top of the wall could become unsafe and fall. Whilst emergency repairs have been carried out in the past it's important that a more structured repair is carried out, not just from a Health and Safety point of view but to conserve and protect this wall for future generations in Bicton.

The PCC has obtained quotes from three masonry companies, but each one suggests a different approach to the work. Some consider it best to do the work in stages, while others suggest carrying out the work all in one go. The PCC and Parish Council will hold meetings with the contractors ahead of the LJC meeting and report back on the quote and contractor they would prefer to use for this work.

Matched funding for the project would come from the PCC and Parish Council.

d) Alberbury Village hall – New Lighting System for the Hall

Total project costs: £5,040.00

Grant requested from LJC: £2,000

Project outline: Alberbury Village Hall Committee have been undertaking a modernisation project of the hall, to make it a safe and welcoming venue for community groups and private parties. This included installing new doors and windows which the LJC gave a grant towards in 2010/11.

Their next project is a new lighting system for the hall which will improve the quality of lighting, install more energy efficient lighting and also meet new safety standards. Quotes for this work have been obtained and the preferred contractor is Martin Pearce Ltd who will undertake the work for £4,200 plus VAT making a total cost of £5,040.00

Matched funding of £3,040 will come from the Village Hall Committee's own funds

e) Upton Magna Parish Council – Memorial Hall Decoration Costs

Total project costs: £4,700

Grant requested from the LJC: £1,000

Project outline: The memorial hall was modernised and renovated 10 years ago, and this is the last time the halls internal décor was undertaken. The halls management committee wish to undertake redecoration of the facilities in order to maintain the halls high standard or décor, and to maintain standards for hirers and users of the hall.

The hall is the only open access facility within the community of Upton Magna. The halls facilities are utilised by 15 clubs and societies each month, additionally the hall and its grounds are used for caravan club events, private parties and functions, flicks in the sticks, an annual summer fête and various talks and shows.

The work will include a painting the interior of the hall, and making good any dents, cracks etc that have occurred through wear and tear to the building. Included in the cost of the project are new curtains which will replace the existing curtains that are worn. The new curtains will also make the hall more welcoming, especially for evening meetings in the winter months.

Matched funding for the project will come from the hall committee's own funds. This project is supported by the parish council.

f) Halfway House Ladies Choir – New Organ for the Choir

Total project costs: £1,000

Grant requested from the LJC: £500

Project outline: Halfway House Ladies choir meet every Tuesday evening at the Wattlesborough Community Centre, Halfway House. The group have been in existence for 35 years, and are regularly invited to perform at concerts, charity events and weddings as well as staging their own concerts.

Meeting, date: Report heading

The group would like to purchase a new electronic organ to help their with their practise sessions and for performances. The choir are currently sourcing quotes for the organ, and will present these at the LJC meeting. It's thought that the cost will be in the region of £1,000 and the choir would like to ask the LJC for a grant of £500.

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 – 2013/14, Appendix 5. Report to Cabinet 13 th January 2011.
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Locality Working Local Joint Committees. Report to Cabinet 9 th December 2010.

LJC application forms for the projects listed.
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Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)
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Gwilym Butler

Local Member

David Roberts, John Overall

Appendices

None
