



<u>Committee and date</u>
Ludlow and Clee Area Local Joint Committee
25 May 2010

<u>Item No</u>
11
Public

LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE BUDGET 2010/11

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1.0 Summary

- 1.1 A funding allocation of £49,000 has been confirmed for 2010/11 and the Local Joint Committee needs to determine how to allocate this funding.
- 1.2 This is in addition to the underspend of £24,090 which has been carried forward from 2009/10, resulting in a total allocation of £73,090 being available for the current financial year.
- 1.3 As in previous years, the Committee needs to determine how to allocate this funding. Last year £19,000 was allocated for the establishment of a Community Chest and, initially, £30,000 was retained for Area Action Plans. To date, no bids have been received for the monies reserved for the Area Action Plans and, as the 2009/10 financial year progressed, this provision was reduced to £20,000 when additional monies were transferred to the Community Chest in order to fund the number of grants received. At the end of the year £24,910 had been committed and a further six applications were deferred for additional information.
- 1.4 Two of the six applications have subsequently been withdrawn, but if the four remaining applications are approved, the total spend on Community Chest applications received in 2009/10 would increase by £3,519.70. The available balance for the remainder of this financial year would then be £69,570.30.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the applications for funding be considered as detailed overleaf.

3.0 Deferred Applications

- 3.1 As mentioned above, there were initially six applications deferred at the last meeting. Two of these have been withdrawn, leaving four to be determined. These need to be considered in accordance with the rules that applied at the time the applications were made, rather than the new rules being presented to Members at this meeting.
- 3.2 All the applicants were invited to clarify their bids in the interim so as to provide the Committee with as much relevant information as possible. Such information as has been received is incorporated into the individual paragraphs set out below.

(a) **Clee Hill Choir**

The Clee Hill Choir has applied for £1,399.70 for the purchase of sheet music and items of clothing. The applicants were invited to provide a schedule of their bookings over coming months, as well as a breakdown of the cost of the music scores. The programme of events for 2010 is attached at Appendix 1 to the report for information. Since the last meeting Grassroots has awarded the choir £2,000 to fund the purchase of sheet music (£1,700), rehearsal room hire and Making Music membership, which enables it to obtain cheaper insurance. Consequently the Choir has sufficient money for its present music needs and it does not require the £1,064.70 it originally bid for.

However, the applicants have asked if the Committee would fund the following: cost of music folders (£50), uniforms (£285), other overheads including ink cartridge (£28.99), paper/card (£8.99), flyers and posters (£45), totalling £417.98.

As they were turned down by Shropshire Council Arts Grant Scheme, from whom they sought £462.99 for a Casio CDP200R keyboard and stand, Laney AH100 amplifier (£176), and hand held battery operated Christmas candles (£19.50) total £658.49, they have asked if these items could also be funded. The total grant funding now being sought therefore totals £1,076.47.

The Committee is recommended to part fund the bid by making a contribution of £600.

(b) **Home-start Family Support Project**

Homestart is a leading family support charity body whose purpose is to deliver one-to-one support, friendship and practical help to young families. Each Home-start is set up and run by people from the local area who are responsible for raising all its own funds.

The deferred application relates to the purchase of a laptop computer and software, totalling £720. The applicants advise that their intention is to purchase a Toshiba laptop L500-1D1 for £495.63, an HP Desk Jet D5560

Wireless Colour Printer at £69.22, software costing £135 and a laptop carry case at £20.15.

Despite a further prompt, no further information about the use to which the equipment will be put has been received.

The Committee is recommended to refuse this application.

(c) **Caynham Broad Place**

Following deferral of the application for £300 for Nintendo Wii computer handsets, the applicants were requested to provide information on the location and frequency of the after-school Club as well as the numbers attending.

The reply received indicates that this has essentially become a computer club which operates from the Caynham Village Hall every Wednesday from 3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. during term time. Approximately 20 children between 5 and 11 years attend and the Club is staffed entirely by volunteers. It has no other form of income and, as it has grown in popularity, desperately needs funds to purchase additional laptops and/or possibly a Nintendo Wii to keep the additional children occupied.

The Committee is recommended to approve the application.

(d) **Ludlow 21 - Ludlow Green Festival Craft Workshops**

The original application from this organisation was for £500 towards funding the craft workshops. Following the last meeting the applicants were asked to clarify the status of the Green Festival and whether it was a commercial or an informative/ educational project.

The reply from the Chairman of the Ludlow 21 Events Committee is attached at Appendix 2. As members will see this states that Ludlow 21 is a not for profit venture, whose purpose is informative/educational.

The Committee is recommended to approve the application.

Grant Awarding Criteria

The following applications are those which should be considered against the Committee's latest criteria.

These include:

- Consistency with the aims, objectives and vision set out in the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy, its Corporate Plan and/or Local Neighbourhood or Parish Plans.
- Demonstrating how the project will use the funding provided to make a difference in the local area.

- Ensuring that an activity is within the geographical area of the Local Joint Committee.
- Benefiting the wider community and no funding being used to fund any group which restricts membership based on views, beliefs, etc.
- Will not be used principally to meet ongoing staffing costs of the organisation/body making the application.

(e) **Clee Hill Rugby Football Club**

The Clee Hill Rugby Football Club has applied for £2,000 towards the construction of pitch side sponsorship barriers and boards. These are intended to provide the Club with an additional revenue stream which would be used to improve the playing surface of the pitches by addressing drainage issues. In addition, the Club wishes to improve the changing facilities required to increase usage of the facilities by juniors and ladies. The estimated costs for undertaking these projects are £15,000 and £6,000 respectively.

The applicants confirm that they are prepared to make a contribution of £200 towards the total cost and provide volunteer labour, estimated at £600, making a total contribution of £800 towards a total project cost of £2,800.

Despite this, this scheme does not provide an obvious community benefit in itself. Members may feel that an application directed towards pitch drainage or the provision of improved changing facilities would be more appropriate in the circumstances.

The Committee is recommended to defer the application.

(f) **Marches Youth Festival**

The Marches Youth Festival is seeking project funding of £2,000 towards the production of the Marches Youth Festival at the Wheeler Road Playing Field and Skate Park, Ludlow. The total project costs are estimated at £12,800 of which £7,000 has already been secured.

The aim of the Festival is to provide an annual platform for young people to showcase performances of art and sport across the Marches area. It is also intended to increase the ambition and aspiration of local young people by providing them with exciting volunteering opportunities and increasing local community art and sport participation throughout the year in local arts and sports clubs and leisure centres.

In support of their bid, the organisers claim that the Marches Youth Festival will be a day of positive arts, sports and community based activities for young people and their families. It will be professionally led with a large participatory element and there will be activities in which to engage, challenge, develop

and inform, as well as containing a strong fun element. The application is entirely consistent with the Committee's latest grant criteria.

The Committee is recommended to approve funding of £2,000 towards the project cost of £12,800.

(g) **Ludlow and Clee Home-Start**

The Ludlow and Clee Homestart is bidding for £144.95 towards the cost of purchasing child car seats and booster cushions to enable its volunteers to safely transport children on planned visits and trips.

The applicants state that some of the families which they support live in outlying villages where there is limited public transport and so they rely on volunteers for transport. At present the organisation has very few car seats which makes it difficult to transport children safely in vehicles.

The application is consistent with the Committee's allocation criteria.

The Committee is recommended to approve funding of £144.95.

(h) **Nash Parish Hall**

The applicants are applying for funding of £1,033.53 for the purchase and fitting of replacement heaters for the Parish Hall.

The total project cost is estimated at £1,533.53 and a contribution in kind towards the cost of scaffolding and redecoration of the ceiling, estimated at £500, has been secured.

The application is consistent with the Committee's allocation criteria.

The Committee is recommended to approve funding of £1,033.53 towards the project cost of £1,533.53.

(i) **Ludlow Food and Drink Festival**

An application has been submitted by the Ludlow Food and Drink Festival for £1,000 towards the cost of providing lamp post banners throughout Ludlow Town Centre as a result of changes in the banner display laws. These laws now prevent banners being displayed across roads in the centre of the town, thereby requiring fixings to be made to lamp posts. It is felt that the scale of demand in Ludlow would mean that the banner frames would be utilised for the majority of the year, with the possible exception of January.

The project would provide highly visible advertising throughout the centre of Ludlow which would be both uniform and provide good information about events and festivals taking place throughout the year within the town. The four festivals, Ludlow Spring Festival, Ludlow Arts Festival, the Ludlow Food Festival and Ludlow Medieval Fair would all have the opportunity to benefit from the investment.

Funding of £840 has been secured from “Festivals Together”.

The banner frames would not just be used to advertise festivals and could be used by such organisations as Ludlow in Bloom, Ludlow Green Fair and Ludlow Market. Visitors to the area would be able to see immediately what event was happening within that fortnight in the town as the banners would be up two weeks prior to the event and taken down immediately thereafter.

The application is consistent with the Committee's allocation criteria.

The Committee is recommended to approve funding of £1,000 towards the project cost of £1,840.00.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)
Human Rights Act Appraisal The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights act 1998
Environmental Appraisal
Risk Management Appraisal
Community / Consultations Appraisal
Cabinet Member Councillor G Butler
Local Members Councillors Mrs T Huffer, M Taylor-Smith and Mrs R Taylor-Smith
Appendices Appendix 1 – Clee Hill Choir programme Appendix 2 – Ludlow 21 correspondence