



<u>Committee and date</u>
Ludlow and Clee Area Local Joint Committee
26 October 2010

<u>Item No</u>
8
Public

## COMMUNITY CHEST FUNDING APPLICATIONS 2010/11

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### 1.0 Summary

- 1.1 The Local Joint Committee has a funding allocation of £49,000 for 2010/11 and the additional underspend of £24,090 carried forward from 2009/10 giving a total allocation of £73,090 for the current financial year.
- 1.2 Following the funding awarded at previous meetings in this funding cycle [£5,578.48 and £31,707.41 respectively] the Committee now has a balance of £35,804.11 available for allocation.

### 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the applications for funding be considered as detailed overleaf.
- 2.2 That the applications be considered in accordance with the Committee's updated grant awarding criteria, including:
  - 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 that restricts membership based on views, beliefs, etc.
  - Will not be used principally to meet ongoing staffing costs of the organisation/body making the application.

2.3 That the arrangements for determining future Community Chest Funding Applications be amended with immediate effect accord with the arrangements specified in Paragraph XX of this report.

(a) **Nash Parish Hall – Table Tennis Table and Storage**

Nash Parish Hall Management Committee is seeking funding of £977.98 out of a total project cost of £1,222.98 for the purchase of two new table tennis tables and some modification to an area in the Parish Hall for their storage.

The requisite quotation has now been supplied but no additional information has been supplied on potential usage. This makes an informed assessment problematic. The Committee may wish to temper its offer and fund one of the two new tables being sought.

**The Committee is recommended to fund one single new table tennis table in the sum of £459.**

(b) **Nash Parish Hall – Replacement of Three Windows in the Parish Hall**

Nash Parish Hall Management Committee is seeking funding of £1,404.12 out of a total project cost of £1,749.12 towards the replacement of three old timber windows with UPVC windows to match the existing in the hall.

The requisite quotations have now been supplied with the lowest being £1,404.12.

**The Committee is recommended to fund the cost of the three replacement windows in the sum of £1,400.**

(c) **Onny Juniors Ground Rent and Volunteer Courses**

Onny Junior Football Club is applying for LJC funding of £1,799 to cover its ground rent of £1,000 and coaching/referee training courses for four new coaches and four new referees.

The Club takes its membership from players largely in the Ludlow, Knowbury, Caynham, Ashford and Bitterley parishes, all within the area of the Ludlow & Clee Area LJC.

The Committee may wish to consider the merits of funding the Club's ground rent, as this is a year on year commitment for the Club and is not therefore sustainable by the LJC. Members may, however, consider it more appropriate to fund the training element of this application and meet the costs of the coaching/referee courses.

**The Committee is recommended to approve funding the four coaching and four referee training courses in the total sum of £799, subject to**

**Onny Juniors confirming that the money will be used only for this purpose and presenting satisfactory evidence to this effect.**

(d) **Young People and Alcohol Peer Education Project**

An application for £3,000 funding has been submitted by the Ludlow Community Alcohol Project [L-CAP] for funding towards the Young People and Alcohol Peer Education Project. The Project will be run with young people recruited in and around Ludlow using local youth providers and will focus on helping young people explore issues around alcohol and alcohol misuse with a particular focus on issues relevant to these areas and the findings from a recent survey undertaken by L-CAP. The aim is that young people themselves will develop ideas on what messages need to be passed on to other young people and how best the messages could be delivered. The application includes some £1,800 for staffing costs to facilitate the young people's focus groups.

Ludlow has been identified as the Shropshire pilot area for the Community Alcohol Project working model – a multi agency approach to underage drinking and tackling public perceptions. The L-CAP pilot began in July 2010 and will be running until January 2011 with plans for its future sustainability being discussed at some future date.

Given that the L-CAP pilot has yet to be evaluated and may even be extended beyond January 2011, the Committee may consider that providing additional funding is premature at this stage.

**The Committee is recommended to refuse this current application but once the future of L-CAP is clear, the applicants be advised to reapply at that time.**

(e) **Ludlow Conference Centre – Fletcher Wing Refurbishment**

The applicants are applying for funding in the sum of £2,000 out of total project costs of £21,665 towards the refurbishment of the Fletcher Wing, the replacement of all floor coverings, emergency roof repairs to a leaking flat roof, replacement of some of the windows and, of utmost importance, the upgrading of all wiring to bring it up to acceptable electrical standards.

The Ludlow Conference Centre, formerly the Bishop Mascall Centre, is a well-used community facility that provides meeting space and amenities for over 200 different groups annually and also provides 'budget' accommodation for up to 48 people in the centre of Ludlow. Operating as a 'not for profit' organisation, the Centre's charges reflect its aims of providing an affordable service to the whole community.

**The Committee is recommended to approve funding of £2,000 towards the refurbishment of the Fletcher wing, Ludlow Conference Centre.**

(f) **South Shropshire Peer Information Network [SSPIN]**

The project will be youth led and facilitated by a Youth Leader from the South Shropshire Youth Forum. Approximately 15 young people would be selected to design and develop the leaflet ready for the Ludlow Youth Festival in July 2011. Lottery funding in the sum of £2,034.20 for the Youth Leader wages has been secured.

The SSPIN project, for which funding is being sought, centres on the creation of a database of youth activities in the form of a leaflet that would help young people access 'what's on' in and around Ludlow. The total cost is estimated at £5,642.70 and a grant of £3,608.50 is requested.

**Given that some of the project costings are as yet unclear and require accompanying quotations, the Committee is recommended to defer consideration of this application pending the receipt of further information.**

(g) **Winter into Spring**

The Older Person's Team at Helena Lane Day Centre are applying for funding of £1,570 towards a series of weekly sessions for forty older people, some with learning disabilities, to establish the impact of the seasons through thought, emotion, art, physical activity and music. The total cost of the project, which will look at how seasons affect mood and what people can do to influence and enhance their mood for the better, is estimated at £2,342.

The application includes payment for the two local artists to facilitate the 24 individual sessions, per artist at a cost of £25 and £30 per session.

**The Committee is recommended to approve funding in the sum of £1,570 towards the Winter into Spring project at the Helena Lane Day Care Centre.**

(h) **Ludlow Amateur Boxing Club**

Ludlow Amateur Boxing Club is now seeking £15,000 funding from a total project cost of £65,000 towards the provision of a purpose built facility for use by the Boxing Club and the surrounding community although its original application was for £2,000. The extra being requested would reduce the level of contribution from the Club's own balances.

The Club has a membership in excess of 50 drawn from the local community and surrounding areas. It provides a focus, discipline and outlet for the energies of young people that might otherwise be channelled in a negative, anti-social way.

The new facility would provide community facilities for use by the whole community and other groups operating in the area. The nearest similar Club-based facility is in Craven Arms.

**The Committee is recommended to approve funding in the sum of £4,000 towards the new purpose built facility for the Ludlow Amateur Boxing Club.**

(i) **Caynham Village Hall**

Caynham Village Hall Committee is seeking funding to redecorate the interior of the village hall, smarten up the exterior, improve the signage, update the cleaning and kitchen equipment and install blinds in the kitchen. Estimates have been received for the works required in the sum of £2,562 for labour and materials.

The village hall is well used by the community but, following the opening of the new Bishop Hooper school in Ashford Carbonel, it will lose two of its main hirers, the current school based in Caynham and the Butterflies play group. The Village Hall Committee intends to remarket the hall to attract new custom to replace this loss and the improvements to the hall are considered to be a major step in ensuring the success of the hall's relaunch.

The Hall Committee has not offered any match funding/voluntary labour toward the full cost of the project.

**Subject to the receipt of a breakdown of costs, the Committee is recommended to approve a grant of £500 towards the cost of materials only.**

(j) **Engineering Clubs in Ludlow Schools**

This application is for £1,450 funding out of a total project cost of £1,757.30 to enable the South Shropshire Engineering Ambassadors [SSEA] to set up Engineering Clubs at Bitterley and Caynham primary schools. These Clubs would constitute a maximum of 12 in each Club. SSEA are already supporting 8 schools in the Craven Arms and Bishop's Castle areas and have been supported in their funding by the respective LJs.

Part of the project for which funding is sought includes the purchase of a Goblin kit car to introduce green power racing to the two schools concerned. However, the application form specifically states that the kit car would remain the property of the SSEA and therefore could then be used for the work of SSEA outside of the area of the Ludlow & Clee Area LJC.

Given the relatively small number who could benefit from this project there is a concern over value for money. It is not usual for the applicants to benefit from the purchase of a capital asset. Consequently, the Committee is recommended to defer this application for further discussions with the applicants.

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(k) **Youthful Communities**

This project submitted by the Marches Housing and Charitable Trust [MHCT] in partnership with the Craven Arms Community Centre has submitted a Big Lotteries funding application, which, if successful, would secure youth and play provision for the communities of Craven Arms and Ludlow East MHCT for the next three years.

Although the costs detailed within the application have been broken down to relate solely to Ludlow for a period of 12 months, the application details a three-year project.

**Given that the LJC is unable to commit to funding over a three-year period this application is considered to fall outside the remit of the Committee and is therefore recommended for refusal.**

(l) **Ludlow Tourism and Official Public Website**

An application has been received from the Ludlow Chamber of Commerce for funding in the sum of £2,000 out of a total project cost of £3,000 to develop a new visitor website which will list things to do, places to shop and eat in the town as well as historic, event and travel information for the town and its hinterland.

The Chamber wishes to create a new website that will be independently owned by the Chamber and, with the use of new technology, become less expensive to update and maintain in future years.

However, the current website will still exist and will remain in the ownership of the current owner and will continue to appear top of a Google search results list for the foreseeable future.

From an internet search it is apparent that there is a wealth of information currently available on Ludlow tourism with at least four websites featuring similar information.

In addition the applicants have provided no estimates so, together with the volume of information currently freely available already, Members may wish to consider whether this application provides value for money given the potential for duplicating information that is already available.

**The Committee is recommended to refuse this application.**

(m) **Lower Broad Street Information Board**

An application has been received from the Lower Broad Street Residents' Association for funding in the sum of £444 towards the erection of an information board outlining the history of Lower Broad Street in order to enhance the visitor experience in that area. The total project cost is £944.

Design, research and composition of the text estimated at £500 will be contributed in kind by a local business and a local resident.

The siting of the sign in front of 'The Wheatsheaf' public house within the Conservation Area will necessitate an Advertisement Consent application to be made and approved.

**Subject to the granting of the necessary Advertisement Consent being obtained in advance, the Committee is recommended to approve funding in the sum of £444 towards the provision of an information board in Lower Broad Street, Ludlow.**

(n) **Ludlow in Bloom – Tiered Planters**

Ludlow in Bloom has submitted an application for £1,990 funding out of a total project cost of £2,190 towards two, five tier planters to be located in Ludlow Town Centre.

Ludlow in Bloom displays have been awarded a Gold award for the last two years in the Heart of England in Bloom competition and is looking to enhance its future displays and become more adventurous in the future.

**The Committee is recommended to approve a grant of £1,990 for this application.**

### **3.0 Future Grant Awards**

3.1 The current arrangements for processing applications for Community Chest grants provide for the members to determine requests at the relevant public meeting of the Local Joint Committee. In the recent past this has included giving applicants details of the other recommendations and inviting them to attend the relevant meeting to clarify any areas of uncertainty before a decision is reached.

3.2 In future it has been suggested that the procedure should be modified as follows: -

(i) All applications for Community Chest Funding Awards will be considered at the planning meeting immediately preceding the Local Joint Committee.

- (ii) To be considered all applications must be technically complete and comply with the other conditions relating to the award of a grant under the scheme.
- (iii) Subject to (ii) above, applications will be considered and a recommendation made by the members of the Local Joint Committee for each application.
- (iv) Applicants will be notified of these recommendations prior to the meeting of the Local Joint Committee and invited to make any comments or representations in writing.
- (v) All representations will be reported to members in advance of them endorsing their earlier recommendations so that modifications may be made before any application is formally determined by the Local Joint Committee.

<p><b>List of Background Papers</b> (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</p> <p>LJC application forms</p>
<p><b>Human Rights Act Appraisal</b></p> <p>The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights act 1998</p>
<p><b>Environmental Appraisal</b></p> <p>Not applicable</p>
<p><b>Risk Management Appraisal</b></p> <p>All funding applications are assessed against agreed criteria which will minimise any risks associated with these projects</p>
<p><b>Community / Consultations Appraisal</b></p> <p>None</p>
<p><b>Cabinet Member</b></p> <p>Councillor G Butler</p>
<p><b>Local Members</b></p> <p>Councillors R Huffer, Mrs T Huffer, M Taylor-Smith and Mrs R Taylor-Smith</p>
<p><b>Appendices</b></p> <p>Nil</p>