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Committee and date

Ludlow and Clee Local Joint Committee

23rd June 2011

7.00pm

Item No

10

Public

2011/12 FINANCE REPORT, INCLUDING UPDATE ON FUNDING REQUESTS FOR CONSIDERATION

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1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report considers the devolved funding allocated to the Ludlow and Clee Local Joint Committee (LJC) for the period 1st April 2011 up until 31st March 2012.
- 1.2 A total of £26,470 has been devolved to the Committee, this includes £1,970 for arts funding, to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC for the 2011/12 year and with £6,600 unspent from last year the total available is £33,070
- 1.3 Prior to each LJC, a planning meeting takes place to discuss applications for funding and to agree recommendations.
- 1.4 The closing date for applications was 16th May 2011 and 8 applications have been received. The recommendations from the planning meeting feature in this report.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 that the applications from those organisations and their projects as detailed in this report be considered for funding.
- 2.2 that, following the budget reduction for the LJC, the following guidelines be taken into consideration when assessing applications:
 - To normally only accept one application per project per financial year
 - To normally have an upper limit of £3,000 per grant
 - To normally expect the project to include a financial contribution from the organisation applying
 - All projects must complete a monitoring form, and where possible, provide photographs to illustrate how the money has been spent
 - All grants to be claimed within 3 months

Report

3.0 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.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The funding devolved to the LJC can be used for a number of different purposes over the year. The Committee will continue to receive applications from local organisations for eligible purposes. Funding by the LJC must comply with the general Financial Rules for LJCs.

5.0 Applications, Summaries and Officer recommendations

5.1 A1 Working Together – youth club

Project cost £3,840

Amount applied for £2,400

Assistance from the Local Joint Committee, would see the continuation of a weekly youth club held at Ludlow youth centre specifically for young people with learning disabilities.

These weekly sessions mean that over 20 young people develop their personal and social skills with a wide range of activities, as well as short term respite for their carers.

The youth service provides 2 Youth Workers and Working Together provides 2 support workers and 3 additional volunteers, there has to be a high ratio of staff to young people in order for the group to be fully supported.

The money requested by the group is for the project to continue for at least another 12 months.

Recommendation: £2,400

5.2 **A2 Knowbury Village Hall – new chairs**

Project cost £2,070

Amount applied for £1,270

Two years ago the Village Hall replaced 50 chairs to ones of a more comfortable design – they are now asking the Committee to assist them with the purchase of a further 50 chairs which are required for larger functions – concerts, meetings, panto and wedding receptions.

This would be the finishing touches to the hall as committee members have made

Recommendation: £1,270

5.3 **A3 Ludlow Band – new uniforms and additional music**

Project cost £1,443

Amount applied for £940

Ludlow Band plays at many community events including: the Remembrance Parade, Christmas light switch on, carol services, Mayoral Civic Sunday etc. and also have organised a series of free clarinet workshops and also teach flute and clarinet to students who otherwise would not have the opportunity to learn music.

Members of the band pay membership fees which pay for the running expenses of the band but are asking for assistance from the Local Committee to help with the purchase of more uniforms and additional music to increase their repertoire.

Recommendation: £940

5.4 **A4 Ludlow Conference Centre – walls and traditional skills project**

Project cost £5,500

Amount applied for £2,500

The quinquennial survey of the centre in 1998 deemed the front boundary wall to be dangerous and need rebuilding, the wall was removed in 2001 and ‘temporary’ scaffolding erected – this is still in place today.

By working with Hereford College, who will provide traditional skills training opportunities, the wall can be reinstated in historic stone and ironwork.

The students will work with stone mason and blacksmith college tutors and Shropshire Council conservation team, providing the students with a unique experience in conservation work.

Recommendation: £2,500

5.5 **A5 South Shropshire Furniture Scheme – Rockspring activities programme**

Project cost £6,000

Amount applied for £3,000

South Shropshire Furniture Scheme have recently taken over the lease of the Rockspring Community Centre. Having taken over the lease SSFS are eager to work with partners to delivery a variety or services there that meet the needs of the local residents.

Extensive consultation is taking place to determine what activities and services the community want to see at their centre. Already initial feedback shows that activities for children and teenagers are required with this in mind the community centre is looking to arrange a week long programme of activities for the summer holidays – in addition to this the centre is looking at developing a weekly schedule of activities and opportunities for local people to learn new skills, gain confidence, build self esteem, have fun and make new friends.

The Local Joint Committee are asked to consider assistance with funding for the summer activity week and also towards the provision of taster sessions (either free or for a minimal charge) for activities proposed by the residents , from which a proper assessment of demand can be done, ensuring that the programme going forward meets local demand, is popular and ultimately sustainable.

Recommendation: £3,000

5.6 **A6 Ludlow Assembly Rooms – Marches Youth Festival**

Project cost: £10,500

Amount applied for: £3,000

The Marches Youth Festival is a day of positive arts, sports and community based activities for young people and their families. With activities to engage, challenge, develop and inform young people as well as a strong fun element.

Through partnership working with Shropshire Youth Forum, Shropshire Youth Association, Ludlow youth centre, Shropshire wide music, dance and theatre companies, local police, Ludlow Town Council last years festival attracted over 2,000 young people and their families.

Activities planned for this years festival include, go karts, climbing wall, youth theatre, music and dance performances, bike demonstration, samba drumming workshops, puppetry and storytelling.

Activities will be free at the point of access, which will enable more people to take part, increasing their skills and confidence

Recommendation: £2,000 with no guarantee that this can become an annual grant for future years.

5.7 **A7 Ashford parent and toddlers – new equipment**

Project cost: £ 378

Amount applied for: £332

This is a new parents and toddlers group which will be meeting each Wednesday morning at Ashford Carbonell.

Not only will it give children the chance to meet children of their own age, take part in arts, crafts, cookery, music and play but will also help some of the mothers. Already 11 parents are signed up to the group some who have suffered depression and been reluctant to attend groups in the past – the aim of this group is to provide a relaxed welcoming environment and support.

Sure start have helped with the setting up of the group and will lend some toys for the first few weeks – so the Committee is being asked to contribute towards new toys for the group which will be stored securely at the village hall.

This is a new group so in order to raise the money for the public liability insurance they held a table top sale.

The running costs of the group will then be covered by the subscriptions paid each week.

Recommendation: £332

5.8 **Ludlow Womens Centre – Regeneration for the next generation project**

Project cost: £ 2,423

Amount applied for: £1,500

Following a winter without water, the Women's Centre are working with 11 local young people from the Reach Project to do essential repairs and refurbishment – this involves painting, linseeding the beams and some minor repairs – the labour for this will be provided for free.

The other essential work needed following a survey is the replacement of two rotten windows. This will need to be done by professionals.

Recommendation : £1,500

6.0 Future applications

6.1 For applications forms and guidance, projects and groups wishing to apply to Ludlow and Cleve Local Joint Committee should contact

Vicky Turner, Community Action Officer

Email vicky.turner@shropshire.gov.uk

Telephone 07582 002 007

Closing dates for applications to be received are

12th September 2011 and 23rd January 2012

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 13th January 2011. Locality Working Local Joint Committees.

Report to Cabinet 9th December 2010. LJC application forms for the projects listed

Cabinet Member

Councillor Gwilym Butler - Portfolio Holder for Community Working and Customer Services

Local Member/s

Shropshire Councillors – Rosanna Taylor-Smith, Martin Taylor-Smith, Tracey Huffer, Richard Huffer