



Committee and Date

Meole Column & Sutton Local
Joint Committee

30 March 2010

7 pm

Item

9

Public

BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

Responsible Officer Graham Chidlow

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Summary

The report provides the Committee with details of new bids for funding from the local budget. It requests that Members agree budget allocations for the provision of building improvements at Meole Brace Peace Memorial Hall (£4,351). In addition, it is recommended that Members agree a contribution towards improvement works at Wasford Road Allotments (£775) and improvements at Stanley Road Allotments (£1,000) subject to Meole Brace Garden and Allotment Club obtaining match funding for the project.

Decisions Required

Members are asked to agree budget allocations as follows :-

- A. contribution towards building improvements at Meole Brace Peace Memorial Hall (£4,351).
- B. contribution of £775 towards improvements at the Washford Road Allotments and £1,000 towards improvement works at Stanley Road Allotments subject to the Meole Brace Garden and Allotment Club obtaining match funding for the project.

REPORT

Background

1. The Committee has a devolved budget of £36,000 for the 2009/10 financial year. This must be spent to improve services in the locality.
2. The Committee has the opportunity to use the budget for a variety of purposes. It can seek to enhance service provision within the area. It is possible to use the budget to implement local priorities through enhanced service provision. The budget could also be used to offer grants to small scale local projects.

3. Any expenditure from the devolved budget must be in accordance with the Financial Procedures drawn up by Shropshire Council for the Local Joint Committees.

Meole Brace Memorial Hall

4. The Meole Brace Peace Memorial Hall have requested a contribution of £4,351 towards building improvements. The aim of the project is to improve the overall appearance of the building both inside and out with a view to encouraging more local use of the facility.
5. The project will reinvigorate the flooring in the main hall and on the second floor, provide new flooring in the lobby, lavatories and kitchen and paint the exterior of the building. The Community Payback Scheme will be used to provide the labour for painting the exterior of the building and the Management Committee will be working with the Community Regeneration Officer to increase the number of user groups operating from the building.
6. An application has been submitted for funding of the building improvements and the Committee are asked to agree an allocation of £4,351 to the Meole Brace Memorial Hall. Full details of the application are shown at Appendix A.

Meole Brace Garden and Allotment Club

7. The Local Joint Committee has received a funding bid from the Meole Brace Garden and Allotment Club for environmental and safety improvements to the Washford Road and Stanley Lane Allotments. The proposed project aims to deliver upgrade to the entrances, parking, roadways and pathways at these allotments. Full details of the application are shown at Appendix B.
8. The application requests £775 for improvement of the pathway and shuttering at the Washford Road site and it is proposed that the Committee approve this in full.
9. The application also requests funding for an external contractor to replace the existing surface to the entrance, driveway and parking area at the Stanley Lane Allotments. It is proposed that the Meole Column & Sutton Local Joint Committee reserve £1,000 of its budget allocation for this project subject to the Meole Brace Garden and Allotment Club finding match funding for the project.
10. The Meole Brace Garden and Allotment Club have also submitted a bid for funding from the Radbrook, Bowbrook and Copthorne Local Joint Committee because they have a number of members living in this LJC area. The Shropshire Council Community Working Team have offered to provide advice on obtaining external funding for the project.

Future Bids

11. Following the allocation of budgets to these applications the Local Joint Committee has remaining funding of £11,728 to be spent of the 2009/10 budget allocation. It has been confirmed that this underspend can be carried forward to the next financial year.
12. Projects that have received funding in the last year will be invited to provide feedback on the outcomes of their projects at the next Local Joint Committee meeting in May.
13. Bids for future funding should be addressed to;-

E-mail - communityworking@shropshire.gov.uk

Telephone - 01743 253077

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

N/A

Human Rights Act Appraisal

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998

Environmental Appraisal

Environmental appraisals will be carried out as necessary

Risk Management Appraisal

In determining these recommendations the reputation risk and the course of action to minimise risk have been considered.

Community / Consultations Appraisal

None

Cabinet Member

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

Local Member

Councillor Jon Tandy
 Councillor Mike Owen
 Councillor Ted Clarke
 Councillor Liz Parsons
 Councillor Kath Owen
 Councillor Jackie Brennand

Appendices

A – Meole Brace Peace Memorial Hall
 B – Meole Brace Garden & Allotment Club