

**Committee and Date**

Meole, Column and Sutton  
Local Joint Committee

5<sup>th</sup> November 2013  
7.00 pm

**Item**

7

Public

## **MEOLE, SUTTON AND COLUMN LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE BUDGET AND FUNDING REPORT 2013/14**

**Responsible Officer** Lucy Roberts

Email: Lucy.roberts@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01743 252328

Fax:

### **1. Summary**

- This report considers the devolved funding allocated to the Meole, Sutton and Column Local Joint Committee (LJC) for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 up until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014.
- A total of £36,734 is available as of November 2013 for the funding of Local Joint Committee and Community priorities.
- The committee area asked to consider recommendations for funding applications and ring- fenced funding proposals.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the LJC Committee note £200 has been awarded to Sutton Community face support Public liability Insurance and publicity.
- 2.2 Salinka Stars Dance Troupe have applied for £6000 for competition costumes and transportation costs – the committee are recommended to defer this application in order for more work to be done to look in to supporting the group to become more sustainable.
- 2.3 Meole Brace Football Club Changing rooms improvements – recommendation to fund £6450.
- 2.4 Ring - fence £10,000 funding for future Community facilities on the Oteley Road Housing development – setting up of Community steering group and feasibility study.
- 2.5 Ring-fence £10,000 to investigate, and if suitable set up a community based IT facility in the Sutton/ Springfield area.

## **REPORT**

### **3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal**

- 3.1. In determining these recommendations the LJC has considered reputational risk and the course of action minimises this risk.
- 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, and in particular in those communities identified by local Councillors as not benefiting previously from LJC support

### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 The funding devolved to the LJC can be used for a number of different purposes over the year to address local priorities. Funding by the LJC must comply with the general Financial Rules for LJC's.

### **5. Background**

- 5.1 The Meole, Sutton and Column LJC is responsible for the award and expenditure of a devolved budget. The amount available to the LJC in 2013/14 is £14,090 plus carry forward.
- 5.2 The total amount available to Meole, Sutton and Column LJC for 2013/14 is calculated as follows:

Total LJC electorate as at August 2010:	8722
Budget based on this electorate (including arts funding)	£14,090
Carry forward	£22,844
<b>TOTAL budget for 2013/14 (including C/F)</b>	<b>£36,934</b>

- 5.3 LJC funding is available to support projects in connection with community identified priorities and need, and priorities highlighted as part of information gathered by a Community led plan survey in 2010.  
A Community Led plan survey was sent to all residents in the Meole, Sutton and Column areas, asking their thoughts and opinions on the areas they live in, services, facilities, the environment and planning. Speeding traffic, litter and dog fouling were all issues highlighted in the survey responses.
- 5.4 Funding has been ring fenced for the provision of mixed use litter bins, repainting of street lighting columns to enhance areas within the Meole, Sutton and Column LJC area and speed awareness initiatives.

### **6. Additional Information**

- 6.1 **Sutton Community café-** £200 was funded under delegated powers to support cover Public liability insurance and publicity.

At this year's Sutton Community café AGM, it came to the attention of new committee members that their reserves would not cover the Public Liability insurance for the next year (they had enough set aside but had an unexpected expense of several months garage hire, used for the storage of textile project – they were not using the garage but were still charged).

The Community café have always tried to be sustainable and they create an income to cover the room hire and refreshment expenses – over the next year they intend to fundraise and raise the suggested donation level for refreshments to ensure they have enough in reserve to cover the insurance the following year

They facilitated the textile project last year (which the LJC put funding towards in the last financial year) and will be using skills learnt there to help with fund raising. Without the public liability insurance they would have had to close until enough funds have been raised or find a way of paying monthly but could be fairly unpredictable due to the nature of the drop-ins and knowing how many people would be attending. They also asked whether funding of £20 could also be made available for promotional /publicity , they are very aware that they need to continually promote the session and encourage people to drop-in £20 would help towards a banner and posters to put up in the local area.

-As a result of the funding for Public liability insurance, the sessions have been able to continue running, they have increased the suggested donations to generate extra funds and produced posters which have been distributed in the local area (new people have come along as a result) and the committee are participating in a community event to encourage more people to come along.

## 6.2 **Salinka Stars** – Competition costumes and transportation

Amount requested: £6000 (although any support would be welcome)

Consists of: Dress maker £2000

Transport £3000 (£375 per bus x 8 Sundays)

Additional material for new dancer costumes £1000

Salinka Stars is a dance troupe from Meole Brace train girls and boys from the Meole area to dance in the 'American Morris' style and they then compete at competitions around the county.

The troupe is run by volunteers and ages range from 2-37 years old. They are constantly fund raising (bag packing, sponsored activities etc, performances at community events) to enable them to travel to different venues across the country to participate in competitions and as they are required to wear a specific costume, they have to fund raise in order to compete in new costumes each season,( each outfit costs approx. £40), so the fundraising enables everyone to compete/ travel to competitions despite ability to contribute financially .

Salinka stars had LJC funding over three years ago for costumes and these were well used and at the moment they have material for new costumes but need funding to pay a dress maker to make them up – They need to use a specific maker and this will cost £2000.

The group itself needs to look at how it can become more sustainable long term – they are constantly fund raising and are actively looking to do more. They are an

important group for the area and helped many youngsters in the past to build confidence and engage in physical activity

### **6.3 Meole Football Club Changing rooms**

They are asking for **£6450** (Total project costs of £11,150)

Consisting of:

Removal of portacabin £720

Modifications/ alterations to main building £5550

Boot wash facility £180

Flooring/tiling/decoration £1700

Security fencing £3000

Refurbishment of the Meole Football Club changing rooms– the football club changing rooms are in desperate need of an external and internal refurbishment- the refurbishment is necessary for the clubs to continue playing at the pitch. Internal work includes new showers, flooring, roof. Details on the application form.

The Town council own the ground that the club uses and leases but the club own the hut.

The Town council are contributing £3000 for security fencing around the club house – this would deter vandalism and ASB around the hut which has been a concern for local residents.

The Club will raise funds to cover the floor coverings, tiling and decoration as well as volunteer time.

They are looking for £6450 from the LJC towards the work.

There is a great deal of damage to the plumbing/ floors from the last bad winter, graffiti. It is in need of repair and without it the club will cease to play there over time and that would be a great loss to local sporting activity. Any refurbishment could also encourage new sports to be played on the pitch – there has been the suggestion that Rounders clubs could be set up and use the facilities in the summer.

### **6.4 Ring fence funding for future Community facilities on the Oteley Road Housing development. £10,000**

Community facilities have been earmarked on the Sustainable Urban extension South plans (Development on Oteley Road) and despite there not being any development currently and no residents to engage with, thought needs to be given about what would be needed and utilised by the future community. In order to do this, a group of interested community members or organisations needs to be established to look at what could be achieved in the long term.

Land has been earmarked on the plans for community facilities and the developer has offered up a contribution plus the land to facilitate community based provision– in order to realise and release this long term plan, a steering group needs to be set up to look into this further (this needs input from community based organisations and individuals ). This group could potentially commission a feasibility study into what would be suitable – funding could support this work and enable it to move forward.

There are already two interested groups willing to join the steering group and is suggested that **£10,000** is ring-fenced to pump prime this work and look into

feasibility work once the steering group is established ( this could be made up of Local elected members, local residents, organisations or groups that may be interested in being involved with the facility).

#### **6.5 Ring fenced funding for Community IT facilities in the Sutton/ Springfield area -£10,000**

There has been a request to ring- fence funding to look at the potential to establish a Community IT facility in the Sutton/ Springfield area. This could consist of a bank of computers to be used by local residents either in an empty shop unit or community facility. Support to use computers and get on-line could be offered as well as sessions to help people to get back into work, homework sessions etc. The 'Digital-den' at Meole Estate, is an example of this run by Social Telecoms in partnership with Severnside Housing and has gone from strength to strength, proving to be a valuable resource for the whole community – especially as many services are now being moved on line. Work could be done to look into whether something similar could be established in the Sutton/ Springfield area and if so, funding could be released to support this initiative.

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

<p>Draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2011/12 – 2013/14, Appendix 5. Report to Cabinet 13<sup>th</sup> January 2011.</p>
--

<p>Locality Working Local Joint Committees. Report to Cabinet 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010.</p>
---

<p>LJC application forms for the projects listed</p>
--

<p>Meole Sutton and Column Community led plan report Aug 2011</p>
---

<p><b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</b></p>
---

<p>Councillor Gwilym Butler- Portfolio holder for partnership working, performance and productivity and customer service.</p>
---

<p><b>Local Member</b></p>
----------------------------

<p>Shropshire Councillors – Mike Owen, Jon Tandy, Jane Mackenzie, Ted Clarke</p>
--

<p><b>Appendices</b></p>
--------------------------

<p><b>Application forms available to view on request</b></p>
--