



Committee and Date Oswestry Local Joint Committee 8 March 2010 7pm

Item/Paper 9 Public

Decision Report for Oswestry Local Joint Committee

Devolved Budget and Community Chest

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Summary

At the meeting of the Local Joint Committee on 1 July 2009, £16,000 of the Committee's devolved budget of £54,000 was allocated to establish a Community Chest and an additional £8,000 was added to the fund in December 2009. Therefore a total of £24,000 has been allocated to the Community Chest.

Community Groups were invited to apply for funding for projects up to a maximum of £2,000 with all eligible bids being considered by Members of the Committee.

This report considers the applications received by 5 February 2010.

Recommendations

A - It is recommended that the Oswestry Local Joint Committee allocate funding for the following amounts to the following organisations and their projects:

P – Oswestry Church Bowling Club – purchase of powered aerator	£1,200
R – Oswestry and District Community First Responder – training and equipment	£ 500
S – Girlguiding UK, Oswestry District - Transport to centenary year activities	£1,010
T – Cambrian Studios Project – initial set up costs and promotion	£1,925
U – Oswestry and District Stroke Club –transport costs	£ 500
V – Friends of the Victoria Centre – respite for carers of disabled children and adults	£1,800
W – Viscount Bridgeman Court Social Club – purchase of Wii	£ 300

X – Oswestry and Border History and Archaeology Group – community history and archaeology activities	£1,000
Y – Shropshire Cruse Bereavement Care – training new volunteers	£1,000
Z – Oswestry and District Agricultural Society – internal refurbishment and external security improvement to Park Hall Show Pavilion and Ground	£ 800
AA – Oswestry Fencing Club – new fencing equipment	£1,000
AC – Oswestry Senior Citizens Club – replacement of timber structure of club building	£1,700

B - It is recommended that the Oswestry Local Joint Committee allocates £2,000 to Oswestry Town Cricket Club (O) towards the installation of Indoor Cricket Nets at the Marches School subject to confirmation of availability to the club and for wider community use over the lifetime of the nets.

C – It is recommended that the Oswestry Local Joint Committee does not fund the following projects:

I – Cambrian Heritage Railways Limited - Oswestry Station Platform	£ 2,000.00
AB – Oswestry Education Centre – Walford and North Shropshire College – Educational Garden at Tuition, Medical and Behaviour Support Service – Shropshire Council Pupil Referral Unit	£ 963.50

D – It is recommended that the Oswestry Local Joint Committee commits an additional £4,106.14 to the Community Chest budget to meet the funding requirements of these recommendations.

E - It is recommended that the Oswestry Local Joint Committee allocates £10,000 from its funds in order to improve the Tourism Offer in Oswestry.

Background

- At the Implementation Executive on 19 March 2009 it was determined that there will be 28 Local Joint Committee's for the new Shropshire Council. A devolved budget of £54,000 has been allocated to the Oswestry Local Joint Committee based on its electorate (12,976).
- The Constitution governing Local Joint Committee's states:
 - Each Local Joint Committee (LJC) has a delegated budget which will be confirmed on an annual basis.
 - The LJC must use the standard guidelines and application form when granting funding to third parties.
 - The LJC budgets will be subject to Shropshire Council's audit procedures.

Report

Community Chest

3. The round one and two allocation amounted to a total of £13,371.14 leaving an available budget for this final round of bids of £10,628.86.
4. The closing date for applications to be considered at the March LJC meeting was 5 February 2010. By the closing date 14 new applications had been received, totalling £19,198.50, all of which meet the key eligibility criteria. Further information on those projects recommended for funding is shown at Appendix A together with details of any terms and conditions that apply.
5. At the December 2009 meeting the Local Joint Committee deferred the decision on whether or not to fund the application made by Cambrian Heritage Railways Limited to refurbish part of the Oswestry Station platform and the railway line. Given the pressures on the community chest fund it is being recommended that the Local Joint Committee does not fund the project and that any future application for funding must be considered alongside the applicants other projects and in the context of the overall vision for the railway.
6. Oswestry Education Centre, Pupil Referral Unit (Tuition, Medical and Behaviour Support Service) applied for funding to establish an educational garden at Walford and North Shropshire College. Given the pressures on the community chest fund it is being recommended that the Local Joint Committee does not fund the project at this stage and that the Community Regeneration Officer works with the applicants to offer advice on alternative sources of funding.
7. The recommendations have been made on an assessment of each application against the rules of the Local Joint Committee and the Community Chest rules as set out in the decision report by the Committee on 1 July 2009. It must be noted that, the Committee has the authority to fund any eligible project considered on a case by case basis.

Budget Implications

8. The budget position prior to the March LJC meeting is as follows:

Oswestry Local Joint Committee - Budget Monitoring 2009/2010

			<u>Notes</u>
<u>Budget</u>		£ 54,000.00	
Community Chest	£ 24,000.00		
Oswestry TC/ Powis Hall	£ 10,000.00		Cabinet 20 Jan 2010
Unallocated	£ 20,000.00		
	<u>£ 54,000.00</u>		

Community Chest

Budget		£ 24,000.00	
Allocated round 1	£ 8,111.80		Approved 22 Sept 2009
Allocated round 2	£ 5,259.34		Approved 3 Dec 2009
Total allocated	£ 13,371.14		
Balance	<u>£ 10,628.86</u>		

9. The bids recommended for agreement total £14,735.00 which exceeds the available budget of £10,628.86 by £4,106.14. Should recommendations A-C be agreed then the Local Joint Committee needs to commit an additional £4,106.14 to the Community Chest budget from its uncommitted funds.
10. To date all the 2009/2010 expenditure has been awarded following an application from an organisation for a grant. The Tourism agenda item offers Members an opportunity to allocate a sum of funds to an area which, following a successful meeting in September 2009, was identified as a local priority. It is being recommended that the Oswestry Local Joint Committee allocates £10,000 from its funds in order to "Improve the Tourism Offer in Oswestry". This will provide Members with an opportunity to listen to the issues raised and to consider before the next LJC meeting how this money should be spent.
11. Should all recommendations be agreed by Members the Local Joint Committee's budget will stand at £5,893.86 and this will be carried forward to next years budget allocation.

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

1. Locality Working – New ways of working – Implementation Executive 19 March 2009
2. Oswestry Local Joint Committee – Community Chest decision report – 1 July 2009
3. Oswestry Local Joint Committee – Community Chest decision report – 22 September 2009
4. Oswestry Local Joint Committee – Community Chest decision report – 3 December 2009

Human Rights Act Appraisal

The recommendations are unlikely to result in any implications for the Human Rights Act.

Environmental Appraisal

Environmental appraisals will be carried out as necessary.

Risk Management Appraisal

The Council needs to address the risk of legal challenge to decisions through procedural or other errors. This has been carefully assessed.

Community / Consultations Appraisal

None

Cabinet Member

Councillor Gwilym Butler – Portfolio Holder for Partnership, Performance and Customer Service

Local Member

Councillor Keith Barrow
Councillor Martin Bennett
Councillor Vince Hunt
Councillor Bill Benyon

Appendices

Appendix A – Applications / projects recommended for funding

Applications/Projects Recommended for FundingAppendix A

Ref	Organisation and Project Overview	What will the grant pay for?	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
O	Oswestry Cricket Club – Installation of Indoor Cricket Nets	Towards the purchase of indoor nets and matting to create two lanes in The Marches School Sports Hall to enable winter/wet weather training in Oswestry area. It is recommended that the offer is subject to confirmation of availability to the club and wider community use over the lifetime of the nets.	£2000	£2000
P	Oswestry Church Bowling Club – Purchase of powered aerator	Purchase of one Supaturfman powered aerator (spiker) for use at Oswestry Church Bowline Club – the spiker will be hired to other local clubs to fund maintenance	£1200	£1200
R	Oswestry & District Community First Responder (CFR) – Training and equipment for 4 CFRs	Towards training and enhancing kit for Community First Responders to cover the Oswestry area The amount being recommended should be used to cover training and equipment for 1 CFR to cover the Oswestry Town area.	£2000	£500
S	Girlguiding UK, Oswestry District – Transport to centenary year activities	Payment for three coaches to travel to Girlguiding centenary events throughout 2010. This payment will enable local Guides to represent Oswestry at events which they, otherwise, would be unable to attend due to a lack of resources.	£1010	£1010
T	Cambrian Studios Project – Project initial set-up costs and promotion	Payment towards initial set-up costs for Cambrian Studios Project, including promotion. The Project are applying for 3 year funding from Arts Council England and then plan to become self-sufficient	£1925	£1925

Ref	Organisation and Project Overview	What will the grant pay for?	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
U	Oswestry & District Stroke Club – transport	Towards transport costs to get members to and from monthly meetings and towards transport costs for summer outings.	£500	£500
V	Friends of the Victoria Centre – Respite for carers of disabled children and adults	Payment of 6 coaches for day trips throughout the Summer period and payment towards lunch costs for 30 disabled children and adults for each trip.	£1800	£1800
W	Viscount Bridgeman Court Social Club – Purchase of a Wii and Wii Fit Board	Viscount Bridgeman Court Social Club is a club which runs from the communal block of a sheltered housing project for senior citizens, ages ranging from 55 to 96. The Wii and Wii Fit Board would enable the residents and visiting local community social club members to exercise safely within their own environment and have access to the technological advances of exercising.	£299.95	£300
X	Oswestry and Border History and Archaeology Group (OBHAG) – Community history and archaeology activities	Towards the costs of running exhibitions, summer visits, an introductory course, programme of evening talks and guided walks to increase awareness and understanding of Oswestry history and archaeology	£1000	£1000
Y	Shropshire Cruse Bereavement Care – Training new volunteers	Towards payment to train new volunteers and a Supervisor in Oswestry, plus on-going training costs and payment for conference attendance x 5 people. The amount being recommended should be used for training and not towards conference fees.	£2000	£1000

Ref	Organisation and Project Overview	What will the grant pay for?	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Z	Oswestry and District Agricultural Society – Internal refurbishment and external security improvement to Park Hall Show Pavilion and Ground	Towards costs to purchase new curtains to enhance the look of the building to maintain and increase the use and income from Park Hall Show Pavilion. Towards costs to improve the security fencing of the Showground. This work is required due to feedback from hirers, some hirers have not used the Pavilion due to the current condition.	£800	£800
AA	Oswestry Fencing Club – New equipment for fending foil	Payment of new equipment to increase participation in the sport of fencing. Free fencing lessons are given to schools in Oswestry and more equipment means more students can participate at any one time. Fencing is a cardiovascular sport and people of all ages can take part.	£2000	£1000
AC	Oswestry Senior Citizens Club – Replacement of Timber Structure of Club Building	Towards costs to refurbish the gable end of the Senior Citizens Clubhouse. Supporting timbers and Canadian cedar wood cladding show the presence of dry rot, which require remedial repairs to the left-hand gable end. Costs will include scaffolding, the removal of all cedar board cladding and disposal, repair timber framing, insulation between framing and supply and fit new purpose cedar boarding to match the existing wood cladding.	£1700	£1700