



<u>Committee and date</u>	<u>Item/Paper</u>
St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee	9
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Decision Report – Community Fund Round One

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Summary

This report considers the devolved funding allocated to the St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee (LJC) for 2009/10.

A total of £31,000 has been devolved to the committee to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC. At the St Oswald and Llanymynech LJC Meeting of 23 July 2009 it was agreed to establish a Community Fund of £10,000 and to request applications from organisations for up to £2,000 within the geographical area of the Local Joint Committee limited to one application per organisation in this financial year.

The closing date for applications was 11 September 2009 and by that date a total of 21 applications had been received requesting funding to the value of £31,555.85.

Clearly the LJC is unable to contain this level of bids within the funding set aside for the Community Fund, nor indeed within the LJC's entire devolved allocation. The recommendations below set out an approach which would deliver a compromise which in summary would be to:

- Increase the value of the Community fund above £10,000
- Agree to fund a number of bids to the level of the application
- Fund a number of bids at a reduced level
- Defer a number of bids to a second round of the Community Fund
- Not fund the remaining bids

Recommendations

It is recommended to the St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee that:

- A The following bids are allocated full funding from the Community Fund (Round One):
 - a. £450 to Morda Golden Community Garden for the purchase of a shed to keep tools in for a local community garden scheme

- b. £879.23 to Oswestry Hills Wildlife Watch Group for the purchase of equipment
- c. £1,474.87 to Llanyblodwel and Porthywaen Village Hall for a security cage to store valuable equipment
- d. £560 to Morton Church Choir to purchase musical resources and chairs to encourage young people to join
- e. £1,350 to Pant Memorial Institute to fund a sound induction system.
- f. £292 to Trefonen Playing Fields Association to fund consultation with local people about the vision for the village hall and playing fields development
- g. £2,000 to Knockin and Kinnerley Cricket Club for the purchase of nets to increase training facilities
- h. £572.90 to All Saints Breakfast Club and Sunday Club for the purchase of tables and chairs for young people

B The following bids are provided with partial funding from the Community Fund (Round One):

- a. £1,000 to Morda Youth Venture against an original bid of £1,990, towards the purchase of equipment for a new youth club aimed at 8 to 20 year olds at the village hall.
- b. £1,000 to Maesbury Canal Festival Committee against an original bid of £2,000, towards booking fees for local artists and crafts people to ensure attendance at the Maesbury Canal Festival 2010.
- c. £1,000 to Llanymynech Village Hall against an original bid of £2,000, towards the purchase of new tables and chairs for the Village Hall
- d. £1,000 to Kinnerley Parish Hall against an original bid of £1,750 towards the replacement of water heaters and hand basins for the ladies toilets in the village hall.
- e. £1,000 to Portywaen Silver Band against an original bid of £1,900 towards the purchase of chairs, music scores and music stands to support a thriving youth band.
- f. £1,000 to Trefonen Jubilee Club against an original bid of £2,000 towards extended activities and outings for the next 12 months.
- g. £400 to Trefonen Football Club against an original bid of £1,820 specifically for Village Hall Changing Rooms and Showers costs.

C The following bids are deferred for consideration against a further round of the Community Fund:

- a. £2,000 to Packet-boat Duchess Countess Trust towards the running and development costs of a new education and resource centre.
- b. £2,000 to Tanat Valley Light Railway Company for the provision of an information point at Nant Mawr Visitor Centre.
- c. £2,000 to Shropshire union Canal Society for chain saw training and accommodation for volunteer hedge laying activities to increase usability of towpaths.
- d. £563 to Pant Pigeon Club for the purchase of equipment.

D The following bids are not allocated funding from the Community Fund

- a. Rhydycroesau Village Hall bid of £1,953.85 for hanging acoustic drapes.

- b. Cambrian Heritage Railways bid of £2,000 for interpretation panels for the area of Lynclys Station
- E The Community Fund is increased from £10,000 to £13,979 to accommodate the above approved bids.
- F A second round of the Community Fund is established under the same criteria as Round One. The value of Round Two set at £8,000, with deferred bids show above automatically being considered against new applications.

Report

1. From 1 April 2009 Shropshire Council has created 28 Local Joint Committees to operate across the whole county. These LJsCs are legally constituted decision making committees of Shropshire Council.
2. The LJC for St Oswald and Llanymynech has membership from Shropshire Council (4 members) and the Parishes in the area (6 members) all with equal voting rights.
3. One fundamental responsibility of the LJC is to determine expenditure of the devolved budget. A budget of £31,000 has been made available to the LJC based, fundamentally, on population size. Expenditure against this budget is agreed by the Committee after consideration of decision reports then voting by Committee members. Voting is undertaken by the ten members of the committee as detailed above, all with equal votes, with decisions determined by a simple majority.
4. The funding devolved to the LJC can be used for a number of different purposes over the year. For this reason it was recommended that an initial allocation of £10,000 was put forward to establish a Community Fund with the remaining £21,000 held in reserve. In view of the number and quality of applications received by the closing date, it is recommended above that the value of the fund is increased to accommodate more of the bids than would otherwise be possible.
5. In addition it is recommended that a further round of the Community Fund is established with a value of £8,000. This round will automatically consider applications that have already been submitted to Round One but which the Committee have chosen to defer, alongside further bids from the community.
6. A standard Application Form has been produced for use by all LJsCs across the County and will be used for applications to Round Two of the Community Fund. A copy is attached to this report along with the Finance Procedure Rules that must be followed (Appendices E and F).

7. Specific rules for the Community Fund round Two, in addition to the Finance Procedure rules, are:
 - a. Only **one application** will be allowed from any one organisation over the financial year
 - b. Applications will be limited to **£2,000**.
 - c. The closing date for applications will be **30 November 2009**.
8. Applications received by this date will be reviewed for eligibility against the criteria laid down above and a formal decision on which applications to fund will be taken at the next LJC Meeting on **Wednesday 13 January 2010**.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Full Funding

9. A total of 21 bids were received by the closing date and of these 8 bids are recommended to receive the full funding they applied for. In total these 8 bids amount to £7,579.00. A breakdown of the bids with summary information is attached at Appendix A.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Partial Funding

10. Of the remaining 13 bids that were received by the committee, it is recommended that a further 7 receive partial funding. This approach will allow a greater number of bids to receive funding from the Community Fund than would otherwise be possible. In total the 7 successful bids for partial funding will receive £6,400 between them. A breakdown of the bids with requested and recommended funding against each is attached in Appendix B.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Deferral

11. Of the remaining 6 eligible bids received by the closing date, it is recommended that 4 of these are deferred. These bids amount to £6,563.00 in total and are for projects with the committee feel they may wish to support, but would like to consider against other bids that may come forward from the community in a future round. These 4 applications will automatically be carried forward for consideration against the Community Fund Round Two and will not require the organisations to resubmit (unless they wish to amend the bid in any way). A summary of these 4 bids is attached in Appendix C.

Eligible Bids Not Recommended for Funding

12. The final 2 bids received by the Committee are not recommended for funding. A summary of these bids is attached at Appendix D.

Funding

13. The recommendations within this report seek to allocate £13,979 of the £31,000 budget devolved to the St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee. It is also recommended that a further £8,000 is set aside for a Community Fund Round Two.

14. The balance of funds remaining, therefore, amounts to £9,021. These funds are not currently committed by the LJC and will be considered alongside bids to the Community Fund Round Two in January 2010.

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

1. Locality Working – Local Joint Committees Supplementary Report – Implementation Executive 19 March 2009.
2. Local Joint Committee Budget – St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee 23 July 2009

Human Rights Act Appraisal

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

Community / Consultations Appraisal

Consideration has been given to the results of recent consultations and community responses in the St. Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee area.

Cabinet Member

Gwilym Butler

Local Members

Arthur Walpole, Joyce Barrow, David Lloyd, Trevor Davies.

Appendices

- A Eligible Bids Recommended for Full Funding
- B Eligible Bids Recommended for Partial Funding
- C Eligible Bids Recommended for Deferral
- D Eligible Bids Not Recommended for Funding
- E Application Form
- F Finance Procedure Notes