



Committee and date

St Oswald and
Llanymynech Local Joint
Committee

13 January 2010

Item/Paper

10

Public

Decision Report – Community Fund Round Two

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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 Community Fund was oversubscribed and it was agreed to allocate £13,979 to the fund and a further £8,000 for a 'Round Two' under the same criteria as Round One. Four of the application's from Round One were deferred to Round Two with further application's invited before the closing date of 30 November 2009.

By the closing date a total of 13 applications had been received (including deferred) requesting funding to the value of £16,317.94.

Clearly the LJC is unable to contain this level of bids within the funding set aside for the second round of the Community Fund. The recommendations below set out an approach which would deliver a compromise which in summary would be to:

- 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 future round of the Community Fund
- Not fund the remaining bids

In agreeing the recommendations, the committee would allocate £7,231.68 of funds, leaving a total of £9,789.32 for future use.

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 Two):
 - a. £984 to Telescope Parish Magazine covering Knockin, Kinnerley and Molverley for the purchase of IT equipment.
 - b. £2,000 to Llanymynech Football Club towards the purchase of kit for 230 players.
 - c. £397.68 to Peel's Plantation Management Group in Kinnerley for hedge laying along one boundary of community woodland.

- B The following bids are provided with partial funding from the Community Fund (Round Two):
 - a. £500 to Packet-boat Duchess Countess Trust against an original bid of £2,000 towards the costs of promotional leaflets to encourage use of the centre.
 - b. £500 to Morda Village Design Statement Group against an original bid of £2,000 towards the costs for stationary, postage and web page development.
 - c. £750 to Knockin Assembly Rooms against an original bid of £1,028 towards the purchase of crockery, cutlery and a storage cupboard.
 - d. £1,600 to Shropshire Union Canal Society against an original bid of £2,000 towards the cost of chainsaw training for volunteers involved in hedge laying. The grant is subject to training being provided to volunteers with a local connection to Shropshire.
 - e. £500 to Pant Pigeon Club against an original bid of £563 towards the purchase of replacement racing equipment.

- C The following bids are deferred for consideration against a further round of the Community Fund:
 - a. £1,000 to Pant Methodist Chapel to fund a net along the rear wall of the chapel. Future consideration of the application is subject to establishment of landownership
 - b. £1,000 to Cambrian Heritage Railways (Trust) against an original bid of £2,000. Future consideration of the application is subject to the trust raising the balance of funds required to undertake the project.

- D The following bids are not allocated funding from the Community Fund:
 - a. Tanat Valley Light Railway Company made an initial application, but this was withdrawn.
 - b. Maesbrook Methodist Society bid for £1,500 for updated toilet facilities.
 - c. Llanymynech & Pant Parish Council bid for £845 for signage on the village playing fields.

- E A third round of the Community Fund is established under the same criteria as Rounds One and Two. The value of Round Three would be set at £9,789.32, 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 LJC's 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 this budget was increased and a second round established.
5. In addition it is recommended in this report that a further round of the Community Fund is established with a value of £9,789.32. This round will automatically consider applications that have already been submitted to Round Two 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 LJCs across the County and will be used for applications to Round Three 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 Three, 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. Applications made directly by Parish Councils will not be considered, although Parish Councils can still act as 'Sponsoring' Organisations for informal groups.
 - d. The closing date for applications will be **26 February 2010**
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 **Monday 29 March 2010**.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Full Funding

9. A total of 13 bids were received by the closing date and of these 3 bids are recommended to receive the full funding they applied for. In total these 3 bids amount to £3,381.68. A breakdown of the bids with summary information is attached at Appendix A.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Partial Funding

10. Of the remaining 10 bids that were received by the committee, it is recommended that a further 5 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 5 successful bids for partial funding will receive £3,850 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 5 eligible bids received by the closing date, it is recommended that 2 of these are deferred. These bids amount to £2,000.00 in total and are for projects which the committee feel they may wish to support, but would like further clarification and also to consider against other bids that may come forward from the community in a future round. These 2 applications will automatically be carried forward for consideration against the Community Fund Round Three and will not require the organisations to resubmit (unless they wish to amend the bid in any way). A summary of these 2 bids is attached in Appendix C.

Eligible Bids Not Recommended for Funding

12. The final 3 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 £7,231.68 of the £31,000 budget devolved to the St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee. It is also recommended that the remaining £9,789.32 is set aside for a Community Fund Round Three in March 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