



Committee and date

St Oswald and Llanymynech
Local Joint Committee

29 March 2010

Item/Paper

10

Public

Decision Report – Community Fund Round Three

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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 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. Two rounds of the Community Fund were considered at the LJC meetings in October 2009 and January 2010, allocating £21,210.68 across 23 bids. A sum of £9,789.32 is therefore available for applications to Round Three.

Two bids from Round Two were deferred to Round Three for consideration alongside new applications received before the closing date of 26 February 2010.

By the closing date a total of 6 applications had been received (including deferred) requesting funding to the value of £9,579.48.

Using the established criteria from previous rounds, the recommendations below set out the following approach:

- 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 £7,420.03 of funds, leaving a total of £2,369.29 to be rolled forward for allocation in 2010/11 providing funds for future use totalling £33,369.29.

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 Three):
- i. £1,720.03 to Meverley Village Hall Management Committee to repair the floor and lighting.
 - ii. £2,000 to a BMX Group in Kinnerley towards a project to create a BMX track in an unused area of the playing fields, subject to the group obtaining planning permission and confirming the balance of funds are in place.
- B The following bids are provided with partial funding from the Community Fund (Round Three):
- i. £1,000 to Cambrian Heritage Railways against an original bid of £2,000 towards construction of a railway line halt at Pen y Garreg Lane in Pant and a short footpath. This application was deferred from Round Two.
 - ii. £1,200 to Morda pre-school against an original bid of £1,209.45 for IT equipment and books subject to the provision of a detailed breakdown of items to be purchased and finalised costs.
 - iii. £1,500 to Trefonen Hill Walk Group against an original bid of £1,650 towards the cost of banners, marquee, tables, chairs and crockery.
- C No bids are deferred from this round of the Community Fund.
- D The following bids are not allocated funding from the Community Fund:
- i. £1,000 to Pant Methodist Chapel to fund a net along the rear wall of the chapel. Consideration of a future application is subject to further work being undertaken to provide a satisfactory solution to all parties.
- E A Community Fund is established for 2010/11 under the same criteria as the current Community Fund. The value of the first round would be set at £10,000.

Report

1. From 1 April 2009 Shropshire Council 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. To date £21, 210.68 has been allocated across 23 successful applications received by the LJC.
5. For the third round of the Community fund a balance of £9,789.32 remains uncommitted. This round automatically considers applications that had already been submitted to Round Two but which the Committee chose to defer, alongside a further four bids received from the community.
6. The recommendations made to the committee are that £7,420.03 is allocated to five bids from the third round. This would leave a balance of £2,369.29 uncommitted in the year. This would be rolled forward to 2010/11 and added to the allocation due for that year (£31,000) providing a total devolved budget for 2010/11 of £33,369.29.
7. It is further recommended that a Community fund is set up for 2010/11 using the same established rules as the current fund. To this end, a sum of £10,000 would be set aside for the first round, to be considered at the LJC meeting on 13 May 2010.
8. A standard Application Form has been produced for use by all LJCs across the County. A front sheet has been added to this form to identify the rules pertinent to the St Oswald and Llanymynech LJC and will be used for applications to the Community Fund. A copy is attached to this report along with the Finance Procedure Rules that must be followed (Appendices E and F).
9. Specific rules for the Community Fund, in addition to the Finance Procedure rules, are:
 - a. Only **one application** will be allowed from any one organisation over the financial year 2010/11.
 - 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 **19 April 2010**

10. 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 **Thursday 13 May 2010**.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Full Funding

11. A total of 6 bids were received by the closing date and of these 2 bids are recommended to receive the full funding they applied for. In total these 2 bids amount to £3,720.03. A breakdown of the bids with summary information is attached at Appendix A.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Partial Funding

12. Of the remaining 4 bids that were received by the committee, it is recommended that a further 3 receive partial funding. In total the 5 successful bids for partial funding will receive £3,700 between them. A breakdown of the bids with requested and recommended funding against each is attached in Appendix B.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Deferral

13. No bids are recommended for deferral for this round, attached at Appendix C.

Eligible Bids Not Recommended for Funding

14. The final bid received by the Committee is not recommended for funding and is attached at Appendix D.

Funding

15. The recommendations within this report seek to allocate £7,420.03 of the £31,000 budget devolved to the St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee. It is also recommended that the remaining £2,369.29 is rolled forward to provide a devolved budget of £33,369.29 for consideration in 2010/11.
16. Over the financial year 2009/10 the LJC has received 34 applications for funding amounting to £48,890.01. The Committee having considered each of these bids, and subject to the recommendations contained in this report, will have allocated a total of £28,630.71 across 28 of these applications in 2009/10.

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