

Decision Report – Community Fund Round 4

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Summary

This report considers the devolved funding allocated to the St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee (LJC) for 2010/11.

A total of £31,000 has been devolved to the committee to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC. This sum was added to by £2,670 carried forward from the previous year and also £1,175 as a result of earlier grants being repaid. At the St Oswald and Llanymynech LJC Meeting of 29 March 2010 it was agreed to establish a Community Fund for 2010/11 and to request applications from organisations for up to £2,000 within the geographical area of the LJC limited to one successful application per organisation in this financial year. The first three rounds of the Community Fund have seen successful applications, with the LJC committing £19,269 of available budget. This leaves £15,576 available for round 4 of the Community Fund.

By the closing date a total of four applications and one confirmation of other funding for a previously ring-fenced application had been received requesting funding to the value of £5,990.

Using the established criteria as previously, 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 £5,990 of funds, leaving a total of £9586 for future use.

Recommendations

It is recommended to the St Oswald and Llanymynech LJC that:

- A The following bids are allocated full funding from the Community Fund (Round Four):
- i. £2,000 – Knockin Parish Paths Partnership - Accessible (stile free) footpaths/circular route Phase 1. Upgrading existing footpath networks with self-closing gates and kissing gates. Grant to pay for materials while local volunteers will provide the labour for installation. The award of this grant is conditional on confirmation that landowners or tenants (as appropriate) have given their permission.
 - ii. £2,000 – Morda Youth Club – set up costs (mainly materials and equipment) for volunteer run youth club.
 - iii. £290 – Kinnerley Village Welcome Group – costs associated with production of an A5 welcome booklet (cover and changeable insert) for newcomers introducing the village and giving details of local groups, services and amenities
 - iv. £700 – Church View Residents, Knockin – improving parking arrangements for residents using ‘grasscrete’ and signs
- B The following bid is provided with partial funding from the Community Fund (Round Four):
- £1,000 - The Llimeys for the design and construction of a toposcope on Llanymynech Hill. This formed part of an application for £1,970 made in Round 3. £970 was awarded in Round 3 for the reprinting of leaflets. The remaining £1,000 applied for was ring-fenced to the project for the rest of the financial year to be made available to the organisation subject to securing the outstanding match funding. Formal confirmation has now been received that the match funding has been secured.

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 (four members) and the Parishes in the area (six 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 10 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. In 2009/10 £28,330.71 was allocated across 28 successful applications received by the LJC.
5. A standard Application Form has been produced for use by all LJC's 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. Copies, along with the Finance Procedure Rules that must be followed, are available at LJC meetings, from the website or by contacting Peter Dunhill, the Community Action Officer for this LJC.
6. Specific rules for the Community Fund (Round Four), in addition to the Finance Procedure rules, are:
 - a. Only **one successful 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. Retrospective applications will not be considered for funding i.e. where specific expenditure has been incurred by an applicant before a decision has been taken by the LJC to fund that expenditure.
 - e. The closing date for applications to Round Four was **13 December 2010**.
7. Applications received by this date have been 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 **Tuesday 1 February 2011**.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Full Funding

8. A total of four bids were received by the closing date and of these all four are recommended to receive the full funding they applied for. In total these four bids amount to £4,990. A breakdown of the bids with summary information is attached at Appendix A.

Eligible Bids Recommended for Partial Funding

9. One request for a previously ring fenced grant was received. A description of that bid and the recommended funding is attached in Appendix B.

Funding

10. The recommendations within this report seek to allocate a further £5990 of the £31,000 budget devolved to the St Oswald and Llanymynech LJC (plus £2,670 carried forward and £1,175 returned grants) leaving a total of £9,586 for future use.

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