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Committee and Date  
St Oswald and  
Llanymynech Local Joint  
Committee

11<sup>th</sup> February 2014  
7.00 p.m.

Item

**14**

Public

## **2012/13 FINANCE REPORT, INCLUDING UPDATE ON FUNDING REQUESTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

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### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report considers the devolved funding allocated to the St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee (LJC) for the period 1 April 2013 up until 31 March 2014
- 1.2 A total of £19,574 has been devolved to the committee to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC for 2013/14. This is made up of an annual budget of £15,500, arts funding at £1,150 and budget carried from 2012/13 at £2,924.
- 1.3 Prior to each LJC, a planning meeting takes place to discuss applications for funding and agree recommendations.
- 1.4 Seven applications have been received for this reporting period plus two cluster applications. These were considered at the planning meeting held on 21st of January 2014. The recommendations from the planning meeting feature in this report, and are put forward to the LJC to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February 2014.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the LJC considers the applications received, and awards funding to those organisations and their projects as recommended in this report.
- 2.2 That the LJC adopts a mechanism for approving applications between LJC meetings by using the Community Action Officer's delegated authority and where all members of the Committee are in approval. This is not designed to replace decision making at meetings, but to be used when it is in the interest of an applicant to receive a decision between meetings.
- 2.3 Applications for funding were considered at the planning meeting 21<sup>st</sup> of January and recommendations totalling £ 8,700 are now put forward to the St Oswald LJC for consideration. These are as follows:

8.54 Llanymynech Bowling Club	<b>£700</b>
8.55 Melferley Village Hall	<b>£1800</b>
8.56 Oswestry Rural Parish Plan	<b>£1000</b>
8.57 Shropshire Union Canal Society	<b>£1200</b>
8.58 Friends of the Montgomery Canal	<b>£1500</b>
8.59 Porthywaen Silver Brass Band	<b>£1500</b>
8.60 Shropshire Scouts ( Cluster)	<b>£500</b>
8.61 Knockin Youth Club	<b>£400</b>
8.62 Oswestry Photographic Society (Cluster)	<b>£100</b>

**£ 8,700**

## **TOTAL**

	2013/14 budget	£15,500
	2012/13 budget carried	£2,924
	2013/14 Arts Funding	£1,150
	Spend to date in 2013/14	£10,776
	Total request round 3	£10,700.40
	Current balance remaining	£ 8,798.11
	Recommendations round 3	<b>£8,700</b>
	Budget remaining	<b>£98.11</b>

## **REPORT**

### **3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal**

- 3.1 In determining this recommendation the Council has considered reputational risk and the course of action minimises this risk.
- 3.2 The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.
- 3.3 The proposals under consideration will improve the levels of community based and community driven activity in the LJC area.

### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 The funding devolved to the LJC can be used for a number of different purposes over the year. At the present time, the Committee has not allocated funds to any specific purposes but has indicated that it will receive applications from local organisations for eligible purposes. Funding by the LJC must comply with the general Financial Rules for LJC's.

## 5. Background

- 5.1 From 1 April 2009 Shropshire Council created 28 Local Joint Committees (LJC) to operate across the whole of Shropshire. The LJC's are legally constituted decision making Committees of Shropshire Council
- 5.2 The LJC for St Oswald and Llanymynech wards has membership from Shropshire Council (4 members) and parish councils (6 members) all with equal voting rights.
- 5.3 The St Oswald and Llanymynech LJC are responsible for the award and expenditure of the devolved budget. The amount available to the LJC in 2011/12 was reduced as a result of Shropshire Council budget decisions, and a review of locality working in Shropshire. The amount was however supplemented by the transfer of funding previously available for community arts projects in to the LJC budgets and some under spend carried forward. The 2013/14 budget remains the same at £15,500, with additional arts funding and small amount of carry forward from 2012/13.
- 5.4 The LJC delegated their 2013/14 arts budget to Oswestry and District Arts Association, to enable it to continue to run its arts grants programme in the Oswestry area in round one on the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013.
- 5.5 The LJC delegated 5% of its 2013/2014 budget to Oswestry and District Sports Council to enable it to continue to run its sports grants programme in the Oswestry area in round one on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June 2013.
- 5.6 Following full council on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 2011 it is recommended that Community Action Officers are given delegated authority to determine urgent and time sensitive matters in consultation and agreement with the Local Joint Committee Chair and/or Vice Chair. Details in this instance can be circulated with other members of the panel to obtain a consensus. This will obviate the need for additional meetings and allow for applications to be agreed between meetings if they are urgent
- 5.7 The total amount available to St Oswald and Llanymynech LJC is calculated as follows:

Total LJC electorate as at August 2010:	6,757
Budget based on this electorate	£15,500
Plus apportioned allocation of community arts budget	£1,150
Plus carry forward from 2012/13 budget	£2,924
<b>TOTAL budget for 2012/13</b>	<b>£ 19,574</b>

- 5.8 The value of recommended projects put forward in this current round total £8,700 leaving a remaining balance of £98.11.

## 6. Additional Information

- 6.1 A summary of applications received has been compiled and included below.
- 6.2 Llanymynech Bowling Club

6.2.1 The aim of the project is to purchase equipment as per estimate to enable the Llanymynech Bowling Club to continue with their project to improve the playing surface at Llanymynech Bowling Green. This is due to the condition and current state of the bowling green. **Total project costs at £853.20, no match funding included and LJC request at £853.20**

6.2.2 Need and Demand – In 2012 the condition of the bowling green had deteriorated to the state it had become an embarrassment for the club. A.L.S Telford were consulted and the main cause was found to be the green had become compacted and moisture was not getting to the roots. A programme to improve this was agreed upon which included scarifying, vertidrainage and reseeding. The programme would provide a better bowling surface for the 40 members who enjoy both social and competitive bowling for an age ranging from 12 to 85 years old. The equipment required will enable the club to spike the green during the playing season and let moisture to the roots. The present equipment can only be used out of season because of the condition it leaves the green.

The bowling club provide both competitive and social crown green bowling with 1 team in the Wem League and 3 teams in the Oswestry and District League. They also have a veterans teams which play in both the Oswestry and Shrewsbury Leagues. On a social side the club run a competition every month open to all members and run doubles every other Saturday throughout the season. The club are having their 10 year oldmower refurbished too and using internal finances to do this.

6.2.3 Reason for proposed recommendation- the committee recommended supporting the project based on local community use and young people links.

### 6.3 Melverley Village Hall

6.3.1 Thanks to the efforts of previous committees the Committee now find themselves in a position to undertake the most pressing elements of the much-needed refurbishment and modernisation of Molverley Village Hall. Most elements of the project have been allocated internal funds or drawn upon the services and generosity of the villagers of Molverley.

The following elements of the project have already been addressed:

- a shipping container has been purchased, using existing funds, to provide vital storage that the building itself does not offer
- in January 2014, the lighting in the main hall will be modernised and the whole building will undergo electrical testing and replacement sockets and switches, using existing funds
- in February 2014, the dirty, stained and damaged oak flooring in the main hall will be sanded, repaired and resealed, using existing funds
- a volunteer is currently repainting the main hall covering the current pink and red colour scheme with a neutral palette, and addressing areas of damp where they exist, at no charge
- the worn and inadequate stage carpet will be replaced and refitted completely free of charge by a Molverley resident.

There remains one area of significant need which the committee must address: the furniture is not fit for purpose and as such presents safety issues as well as limiting the hall's usability and hire-ability. Replacement of the hall

furniture is a critical element of the project and whilst the committee have been able, through allocation of own resources, to fund the majority of this pressing project, they do now, nevertheless, have a shortfall and one for which they feel they can make a good case for financial assistance.

**Total project costs at £3,661.44, match funding included at £1,661.44 with LJC request at £2000.**

- 6.3.2 Need and demand- The Village Hall currently has approximately 45 many-decades-old wood and steel framed stackable chairs. Some of these chairs are splintering, many have lost their rubber 'feet' causing extensive scratching to the oak floor and they are too heavy to lift more than 3 or 4 in a stack. They are also extremely uncomfortable and it is not uncommon for people to use coats or jumpers as makeshift cushions. Considering the age of the average hall user these chairs are simply not fit for purpose. The appearance, and in many cases appalling condition, of these chairs can be seen in the photo appendix attached to the application.

Chairs are currently stacked in groups (not all of the chairs do stack as some are misshapen) which takes up a lot of hall space (please see photo appendix). These chairs cannot be put away to prevent children from climbing on precariously stacked chairs, which has happened in the past. A safer alternative would be to have all the (new, lightweight, folding) chairs stored on a trolley where each chair can be easily lifted and stacked by one person and then moved to an area of neat, safe storage. The hall desperately needs new chairs and a chair trolley for safe handling and storage.

The existing tables are from the same era as the chairs and have many of the same issues. Steel frames with sliding catches risk pinching fingers and tables are so heavy that they require at least two strong people to move them. They are often leaned against the hall walls to store and are always at risk of sliding down. The village hall only have 6 rectangular tables so they are supplemented with outdoor pub-garden style wooden tables with integrated benches which are even heavier and more dangerous to handle. They are 'home-made' in style and as they have a hinged construction they swing unpredictably and uncontrollably when carried. The surfaces of these tables are filthy, splintering and uneven meaning that plates and glasses tip over or slide off. The joints also provide a perfect breeding ground for hatches of thousands of flies; at the Christmas party just gone, the committee had to spray the benches with antibacterial cleaner and put tablecloths over them. Most users of the village hall are appalled and alarmed at the prospect of using them.

In summary, the tables and chairs at Molverley Village Hall are not fit for purpose, and fail every hall-user, event organiser and community member in terms of their functionality, usability and safety. The inadequacy, lack of usability and safety issues surrounding the furniture at Molverley Village Hall has had an impact on the suitability of the hall as a hiring venue. The refurbishment of the hall and the replacement of the tables and chairs will not only provide the people of Molverley and surrounding areas with a safer and more pleasant environment in which to meet and socialise as a community, but the hall will be better placed to enhance its own income through a wider range of hirings to a wider community.

- 6.3.3 Reason for proposed recommendation- the committee felt that they remembered facilities and the need for modernisation was necessary for long term sustainability of the hall.

#### 6.4 Oswestry Parish Plan Group

- 6.4.1 Oswestry Rural Parish Council and Steering Group are currently working towards a new Parish Plan for the area. The project gives the Parish Council the opportunity to look again at their local priorities and identify what is strategically important. It is important that the Parish Plan embodies an accurate representation of local infrastructure needs to ensure that any future CIL funding and monies are spent on the most appropriate projects and priorities. The Parish Plan will enable the Parish Council to respond to the annual review process of the Place Plan with evidence of community needs and aspirations.

A new Parish Plan gives guidance, helps to capture knowledge of the area and highlights local issues important to the local community. The current Parish Plan was produced in 2006 and an updated one will carry more weight when deciding what infrastructure is needed for the future. **Total project costs at £8979, match funding at £6711 and LJC request at £1240**

- 6.4.2 Need and demand – The current plan produced in 2006 is now out of date. Many changes have taken place in local government and the Parish Council are seeking options of the local community to allow them to respond in an appropriate manner. The Parish Council is the largest in the area and is divided into five wards, meaning that it is a considerable piece of work. Public consultation meetings have been held for each ward where the local community volunteered their views and the feedback has been included in a questionnaire. The questionnaire will be sent out to approximately 1850 households in the Parish but in addition it will be sent to stakeholders such as schools, shops and other business premises. When this project is completed the Parish Council will take forward any actions that the final analysis report highlights. The project hopes to give new impetus to the area in driving forward new priorities and provide evidence of need for any external funding bids that may need to be made in the future.

- 6.4.3 Reason for proposed recommendation- the committee felt there was a need to support local priority setting which would support strategic work in the area.

#### 6.5 Shropshire Union Canal

- 6.5.1 Shropshire Union Canal Society are a voluntary body whose main activity is to ensure that the Shropshire Union canal, of which the Montgomery canal is part, is maintained and improved for the benefit of the local community and visitors. The society devote the great majority of their volunteer effort to the restoration of the Montgomery canal, which they regard as their first priority out of all of their activities. The Society have actively worked on restoring the Montgomery canal for in excess of 40 years and have successfully completed a number of projects in the past as part of the overall restoration. The Society are much encouraged by the significant support that they receive from the local community as they progress in restoring the Montgomery canal, as well as the many visitors who walk along the towpath as they carry out their work parties. In the months of spring, summer and autumn the Society carry out

channel works to restore the canal .In the winter months the society devote usually 3 or 4 work parties to restoring the long neglected hedges which run along the towpath using traditional hedge laying techniques. The society have a number of skilled, experienced and qualified members who are able to provide training in keeping these ancient skills alive as well as to enhance the canal towpath. Over the winter the society anticipate costs of in the order of £3,000 consisting of the costs of hiring welfare equipment, attending training courses, specialised tools purchase and hire and accommodation for distant members who require overnight accommodation (who pay for their own travel costs).

The society believe that the canal is a great public amenity for both locals and visitors as an ideal destination for walking, with a great diversity of wildlife and landscape to enjoy as well as being a haven of tranquillity open to the public. Furthermore there is a great diversity of wildlife within the canal corridor. Hedgelaying has long been known to enhance biodiversity as it provides a greater degree of cover for nesting birds and provides more nutrition for insects which enhances the whole biosphere. The full restoration will greatly enhance this appeal and furthermore will provide a significant added attraction to stimulate visitors whether holiday makers or day visitors. The society volunteers are highly motivated in the tasks involved and greatly appreciate the support received from other organisations and individuals. The website, which has numerous sections on the restoration work, canal history and many other aspects can be found at:- <http://www.shropshireunion.org.uk/> More information on the subject of hedgelaying can be found at the website of the BritishHedgelaying Society at:-<http://www.hedgelaying.org.uk/>

In past years the society have received a commendation from the Oswestry and District Agricultural Society recognising the work that has been done on previous sections of canal hedge. The application has a component for the training of some of our volunteers to drive certain items of machinery (tipping dumpers and brushcutters) and CITB site safety. Because the restoration work is classed as a building site the society have to ensure that they comply fully with Health and Safety regulations and ensure that volunteers are properly qualified for the work they carry out.**Total project costs at £4,730 with match funding at £2,730 and LJC request at £2000**

- 6.5.2 Need and demand –The society have carried out similar work in the past and had strong support from local residents and canal walkers. The current state of the canal bed is self evident, having been derelict for 78 years. As the canal restoration progresses it becomes an ever increasingly attractive feature. It is worth noting that the canal when restored will have a number of specific features to attract the visitor including picnic areas, parking areas, interpretation signs and for boaters, moorings and turning points (known as winding holes). There will be significant opportunities for activities such as canoeing, trail boating (for those bringing water craft by trailers), aquatic nature walks, fishing and other leisure activities, appealing to a wide range of local residents and visitors. The process of hedge laying represents part of the overall restoration process of the canal. Not only does it provide a most pleasing appearance but it is part of the process of restoring the heritageasset which the canal represents.

While the project is a component of the wider effort to restore the whole canal, the speed at which the work progresses is dependent on the funds available. Grant funds are an extremely important part of the financial support that the

society seek to continue the work of restoration. The society have received grants from the LJC in the past and gratefully acknowledge the financial support that has been given.

An additional voluntary group (The Waterways Recovery Group – a national organisation) have started a project on a separate section of the canal close to their current work area. However they have not been able to work on hedge laying and the group is the sole one carrying out this work at this time.

- 6.5.3 Reason for proposed recommendation- the committee felt that a recommendation would be made but at half the request due to previous support provided.

## 6.6 Friends of the Montgomery Canal

- 6.6.1 The project aims to raise awareness and support for the restoration of the Montgomery Canal by holding a bi-annual Canal Festival at 'Canal Central', Maesbury. The Festival will be held on the week-end of 5th - 7th September 2014, when over 30 narrowboats will make their way down the Monty to moor between Maesbury and Crofts Mill. The Festival will provide a large variety of activities and entertainments for all ages and attracts families from a wide surrounding area. It provides a format for several local producers to show off their wares from cakes to wines, and for other Societies to illustrate their activities to a wider audience. The major capital expense involved in staging the event, is hiring a large marquee to provide protection for all, in case the weather is inclement. The marquee is used to house musicians, providing entertainment during the day, and on the Friday and Saturday evening the festival will hold diners for the 'boaters' and helpers and supporters. The festival was first held on a rather wet week-end in September 2008, but was such a success in spite of the downpours that the group were asked to organise it again in 2010. Better weather, and a larger event brought more crowds to the canal, and in 2012 when the sun came out, the car parks were full after the group had a visit from Radio Shropshire. Access for the public is from the towpath, and via car parks next to the Rally Fields, and at Peate's Mill. The group do not charge for parking, and access to the Rally is also free, the income being from the stall-holders, raffles, and the boaters. **Total project costs at £5037.30 and LJC request at £2000**

- 6.6.2 Need and demand- The first Festival was part of Monty'08, an event supported by all the Societies involved in the restoration of the Montgomery Canal. The small profit from that Maesbury Festival was carried forward to 2010 when the Festival raised £2,500 towards the Shropshire Union Canal Society's 'Buy a Boulder' appeal. This was successful in providing the blocks and lining for the quarter of a mile of canal restored by volunteers over the last 5 years, and completed on Nov 17th 2013. The Friends have also allocated £4,500 towards the current HLF bid which has recently passed the first round, being awarded £160,000 towards finalising the application for 3.7 million pounds next year. This will provide funding so that the canal can be restored another half a mile to the winding hole at Crickheath, and for the completion of Aston Nature Reserve which will then allow more boats to visit the Monty.

The small committee that organises the Festival raises funds by other events such as concerts, an annual lockwind to help holiday boaters negotiate what is often their first lock, and in June 2012 the Friends hosted the first Triathlon



along the whole 36 miles of canal towpath. This event was so successful that it won the Recreation and Tourism category of the National Waterways Renaissance Awards. The group are grateful for the support of the LJC for the Triathlon, and for funding the road signage required in 2013. The publicity resulted in a visit to the Brec canal who are holding their own Triathlon in September 2014, following the third event on the Montgomery on May 10th. The funds raised from the events, including many donations of sponsorship from those taking part in the two Triathlons give the committee the confidence to stage the Maesbury Festival in 2014, but the group still feel that they need support to be able to finance the event. In return, the group expect to continue to raise the profile of the restoration nationally, and attract more people to the Borders to visit the canal, and the surrounding area.

- 6.6.3 Reason for proposed recommendation- the committee felt that based on tourism outcomes from the project that a recommendation of support would be made.

## 6.7 Porthywaen Silver Band

- 6.7.1 Porthywaen Silver Band was established to provide musical opportunities and tuition, and to give public performances for the enjoyment of the surrounding community. Many local villages used to have bands but most no longer exist. Porthywaen has been in continual existence since 1934 partly because it puts a strong emphasis on helping young people to learn to play brass instruments. The band currently has around 120 active members and new members are always welcome. There are adult members in the starters, beginners and youth band. The senior band has some very competent musicians who are only 13 or 14 years old. Parents bringing their children to learn to play in the band often stay and learn themselves and we have a number of whole families who have been with the band over the years.

Porthywaen Band does not charge people a subscription to play or learn an instrument within the band. It gains its income from concert fees, donations and grants. The band is lucky enough to own its own band hall in the village of Porthywaen and this offers it a stable base, practice and concert venue and storage facilities. The band hires the hall to the community and it is regularly used by local clubs (table tennis and football) and for private functions. The hire charges contribute towards the hall upkeep and maintenance.

The band is requesting support from the LJC for additional Youth Band uniform and Youth Band stand banners. The band has run out of the new style uniform for new (and younger/smaller) youth band members. Uniform is important to the band and the young people- it helps the children to perform as a team and gives the band and the players a clear identity. When a player moves into the Youth Band they are presented with their red jumpers and tie and this is an important moment. The stand banners are important as they add a professional touch to the Band and they help promote the group. We frequently receive new Band bookings whilst playing at events. The band needs to create new booking to continue to generate income. **Total project costs at £2110, £500 match included with LJC request at £ 1610.**

- 6.7.2 Need and demand – One of the strengths of the band is its provision of free musical tuition and free instruments to anyone who wants to come and learn to play. Music learning works best when young people are making music. Many children come and join the band and benefit from its services. To give

an example for the monetary value of this it currently around £80 a term for child to learn a music instrument through school, which is in addition to instrument hire or purchase. The high cost can be prohibitive to many families and Porthywaen has helped hundreds of children over the years to experience and enjoy playing music together.

Children can come to Porthywaen from the age of 8 although the majority of the young people involved are between 11 and 18 years. This can be the time when young people lose interest in formal music teaching and the Band offers an alternative opportunity for these young people to join together, enjoy making music, feel pride in their groups musical achievements, experience being part of a group which requires discipline, commitment and a smart turn out for the concerts. The regular attendance of these young people tells us that they enjoy their time at Band. The Band allows for the young people's progression in both musical ability and in personal and social confidence (listening skills, self esteem, teamwork, commitment to practice). It also provides an important social role for the adults who play in the older groups- they enjoy meeting each other each week and performing together. The players tell us that the Band has a family feeling and when times are hard with issues such as bereavement or the loss of a job the Band is still there to support.

The Band believe strongly that there is a clear need for the Porthywaen Band to exist and that there are clear benefits to the community from its existence. The Band are very busy and deliver on average around 60 concerts/ events/ performances for the community each year. Due to the increasing numbers the band has run out of smaller sizes of the Youth Band red jumpers and ties. The beginners band has attracted many players in the recent years and many now increased in skills level and have moved up to the Youth Band. This has caused a surge in demand for smaller sizes for the youth band uniform.

6.7.3 Reason for proposed recommendation- the committee recommended support based on work with young people in the area and wider benefits.

#### 6.8 Shropshire Scouts 2015 Jamboree Group ( Cluster Application)

6.8.1 Four Oswestry Scouts have been selected to take part in the World Scout Jamboree in Japan. This is an amazing experience for these young people and will be a huge milestone in their lives. They are part of an 18 strong contingent of young people from Shropshire who will travel to Japan in 2015 to learn about the culture of the country and work with about 40,000 other young people from around the globe on activities focussing on world peace and the environment.

The young people have a big fundraising target to achieve and this is their first challenge. They must raise £3500 each to attend. They have started raising the funds and have worked really hard over Christmas doing bag packs in supermarkets. They have many sponsored events, business and community events to organise as well as individual sponsored challenges. It is important that they work hard to raise the funds as this is part of their personal journey and challenge.

Shropshire Scouts is supporting these 18 young people. All Shropshire Scouts and Explorers were invited to attend a selection weekend and the 18 selected Scouts/Explorers had to prove to the team that they deserved a place. They

were selected because of their team work, their personal characteristics and their determination to fundraise. Shropshire Scouts is planning 5 training weekends over the next 18 months to support, develop and prepare these young people, not just for the actual 3 week experience abroad but also to help them with their community outreach to raise multicultural awareness in Shropshire, their fundraising and to plan how they can give back to their community upon their return. **Total project costs at £1530, £400 match included with LJC request at £ 1130 ( £469.20 St Oswald and Llanymynech based on 2 young people)**

- 6.8.2 Need and demand-.To provide 5 training workshops to support the local young people to prepare for their Jamboree experience.Workshops are needed to prepare the young people to take part in their Jamboree experience. This includes the following stages:

Pre-Japan period (fundraising, raising awareness of Japanese culture, representing the group and speaking to local businesses and community to increase understand and support, confident public speaking and media interviewing skills, recognition of Shropshire culture and what makes our county special)Japan experience (3 weeks) ( prepare to be a Young Ambassador for Shropshire – be fluent with what Shropshire has to offer the country and the world, be ready to share Shropshire stories, cultures and customs in a global situation; teamworking, tolerance, respect and independence)Post-Japan period ( sharing stories and cultural traditions in engaging and interesting ways, give back to the communities who have supported with fluent, reflective and well prepared public speaking, engage with other young people to encourage them to grab opportunities, evaluate risks, face up to challenges and make positive decisions in life).

Long term/sustainable benefit of supporting this project: Scouting is recognised as a good activity for young people to engage with. It offers positive role models, provides a local youth group setting for teenagers and encourages community focussed attitudes and volunteering. Nationally the Scouting movement is growing and the number of young people wanting to join is growing. The constraining factor is the number of adults who will take on the voluntary role of leader. This is particularly the case in rural areas where there are often fewer groups who have long waiting lists.

Young people who have positive experiences of Scouts are more likely to become the next generation of community leaders. The young people involved in this project will have a life enhancing experience and a large number of them will become Young leaders and in time Scout Leaders. Through supporting this group the project is investing in the long term, providing Shropshire with its community leaders, who will volunteer their time and work selflessly with others in the future.

The commitment by the young people and the adult volunteers supporting them is additional to their normal day to day Scouting activities. The World Scout Jamboree happens every 4 years and young people can only attend if they are within a certain age bracket (14-17yrs) and so for these young people this is their one chance to take part.

The young people's commitment to the Jamboree experience includes a commitment to raise cultural awareness of Japan in their home county.These Scouts will make a real and valuable contribution to their local community,

introducing other young people to different viewpoints, different values and cultures, alternative foods, traditions and lifestyles. In addition the Scouts will reflect upon their own Shropshire culture and prepare to explain and share this to others from all over the world. Folk stories of the Shropshire Hills, Fidget pie, Ironbridge's historical heritage and Oswestry's place on the Welsh/English border will be shared on a global scale!

- 6.8.3 Reason for proposed recommendation- the group agreed to fund a small amount based on young people in the area.

#### 6.9 Knockin Youth Club

- 6.9.1 The youth club was formed in September 2009. It caters for children aged 11 to 16 years old and meets every Friday evening during school term with on average 15 young people attending the group regularly. The Club is run for children from the surrounding area and enables them to meet in a safe environment to play games ( football, WII, table tennis, snooker etc) and have open discussion. The club was set up following the creation of the Parish Plan, which highlighted the need for some provision for young people in the Parish. It is the only youth club in the area and attracts young people from the Parishes of Molverley, Kinnerley and Knockin. The club is run by four volunteers and is not funded by any organisation, but has had donation from other groups to help with the running costs. The application request is to pay for replacement ceiling lights to ensure the young people can play ball games indoors safely during the winter when they are unable to access the Amenity Area. **Project costs at £ 678, match funding from Knockin Parish Council £50 and £200 request put to Mary Hignett Fund, LJC request at £428.**

- 6.9.2 Need and Demand- The main lighting in the Assembly Rooms comprises of 8 florescent tubes that are unprotected and hang down from the ceiling. The young people regularly enjoy playing indoor football sessions during the winter months and despite using sponge balls, these bulbs have been dislodged on three occasions, twice causing them to explode and shower the floor with glass. The group would like to replace these lights with florescent tubes, which are attached to the ceiling and have covers around them. The project is supported by Knockin Parish Council who are keen to see the youth group continue to meet in the hall as it is seen as a way of keeping anti social behaviour in the village low. Once the work is completed the club feel it will be a much safer environment for the young people and it will make the hall safer for the badminton club that meets on a weekly basis as well as Shropshire Borders Scout Group.

- 6.9.3 Reason for recommendation-The committee recommend supporting the project based on the youth element.

#### 6.10 Oswestry Photographic Society (Cluster)

- 6.10.1 Oswestry Photographic Society was formed on the 4th May 1956 at the Bell Inn Oswestry. The Society promotes active photography believing that doing is the best way to learn skills. In 1970 meetings were held at Oswestry college and this allowed members to use the developing equipment there. In the 1980's the society had to find new premises and held meetings at Oswestry Library at a cost of £12 per meeting, unfortunately they requested the room rent 12 months in advance and the club could not afford this so they moved to Bar 35. Following the closure of these premises the club have managed to secure their meetings at The Oswestrian, Festival Square in Oswestry.

The club runs a program from September to June with some informal additional meetings arranged by members through the summer- these are in the local area and on location shoots and we use the Flickr group and e-mails to arrange these. The winter meetings are every 2 weeks and the club have a good mix of male and female members with an age range from 18 to 80. Last year the club had a membership of 30. The club have visiting lecturers and speakers each year on various photographic subjects. They also hold annual competitions with other clubs such as Shrewsbury, Wrexham, Welshpool and Whitchurch.

The members come from Oswestry and a number of parishes as including the following areas:Knockin, Maesbrook, Whittington, Weston Rhyn, Melverley, English Frankton, Baschurch, Gobowen, Llangedwyn, Ellesmere, Selattyn, and Westfelton. As you can see a large area covered and the club is a focal point for these people with a photographic interest.**Total project costs at £2939, Match funding from club at £1000 and LJC request to cluster at £1939. (£100 based on number of members for St Oswald and Llanymynech LJC area)**

- 6.10.2 Need and demand- In the early days film was the main media for taking pictures either on prints or slides, colour or black and white. Around the late 1990's digital developed as the way forward and the club stopped projecting slides and moved to projecting digital images (as all the other clubs) they had to move with the times. In 2000 the club purchased a digital projector with the aid of a small grant. This was also available to other groups but was not successful due to the cost of the bulb and the photographic society had a number of repairs done to it costing over £100.

In the last year there have been a number of changes in the standards for projected images however our existing laptop and projector will not allow us to meet these standards and the club find it difficult when they have lectures and judges and also other club competitions to get anywhere near standard. This is letting the society and its members down. To maintain the club's reputation as a successful club in these competitions the club are looking to secure funding for a new updated laptop and projector, The club's existing equipment has lasted well for 13 years and shows the care and commitment that they have made to looking after such equipment.

The current projector that the club has can be moved on to another group that may benefit from it. It is ideal for presentations etc unfortunately the laptop has major issues and they are currently using one of our members.

- 6.10.3 Reason for recommendation-the committee recommend a small contribution dependent on match funding from other LJC's in the cluster being confirmed.

## 7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 The applications are recommended, not approved or deferred following consideration of benefit to the community, following need, demand and assessment checklist. The LJC considers the applications received, and awards funding to those organisations and their projects as recommended in this report.

- 7.2 For information about the LJC, contact Corrie Davies, Community Action Officer as follows:

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Community Action Officer  
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Shropshire Council  
Castle View  
Oswestry  
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**List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)**

Draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2011/12-2012/14, Appendix 5. Report to Cabinet 13<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Locality Working Local joint Committees. Report to Cabinet 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010

Amendment to LJC Constitution. Report to Council 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2011

LJC Applications forms for projects listed

Report on the delegation of funding to Oswestry & District Sports Association 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011

Report on the delegation of funding to Oswestry Arts Association 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011

**Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)**

Councillor Gwilym Butler

**Local Member**

Councillors Arthur Walpole, Joyce Barrow, David G Lloyd and Robert Macey

**Appendices**

None