



Committee and Date
StrettonDale Local Joint
Committee

29 September 2009

7.00pm

Item/Paper

8

Public

DECISION REPORT FOR STRETTONDALE LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY CHEST

Responsible Officer Liz Nicholson – Director of Children’s and Young People’s
Services

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Summary

At a meeting of the Local Joint Committee on 9 July 2009, £5,000 of the Committee’s devolved budget of £22,000 was allocated to establish a Community Chest. Applications were invited for funding for projects up to a maximum of £500 with all eligible bids being considered by the Committee.

This report considers a set of guidelines for the Committee concerning applications to the Community Chest, the applications received by 1 September 2009 and whether the Community Chest should be ‘topped up’ back to £5000 from the remaining devolved budget.

Recommendations

- A It is recommended that the StrettonDale Local Joint Committee adopt the guidelines as set out in Appendix A to this report.
- B It is recommended that the StrettonDale Local Joint Committee allocate funding to those organisations and their projects as set out in Appendix B to this report.
- C It is recommended that the StrettonDale Local Joint Committee agree to top up the Community Chest back to £5000 following the making of the grants at this Local Joint Committee meeting.

Background

1. At the Implementation Executive on 19 March 2009 it was determined that there will be 28 Local Joint Committees for Shropshire Council. A devolved budget of £22,000 has been allocated to the StrettonDale Local Joint Committee based on its electorate (4679).
2. The Constitution governing Local Joint Committees states :
 - a. Each Local Joint Committee (LJC) has a delegated budget which will be confirmed on annual basis.
 - b. The LJC must use standard guidelines and application forms when granting funding to third parties
 - c. The LJC budgets will be subject to Shropshire Council's audit procedures.

Report

3. The guidelines set out on Appendix A take into account the criteria set out on the LJC's Constitution and Financial Procedure Notes and provide guidance to applicants as to what sort of applications can receive funding. It is recommended that the LJC adopts the guidelines as set out.
4. The closing date for applications to be considered at the September LJC meeting was 1 September 2009. By that date a total of 8 applications had been received totalling £3,560.
5. All of the projects have been assessed against the criteria in the LJC Financial Procedure Notes. On that basis 7 of the 8 applications are recommended for approval and 1 is recommended for refusal as set out in Appendix B.
6. The total amount of the Community Chest allocated to the grants recommended for approval is £3,080 leaving £1,920 in the Community Chest and £17,000 in the remaining devolved budget. It is accordingly recommended that the LJC allocates an additional £3,080 from the remaining devolved budget to top up the Community Chest back to £5,000 prior to the next meeting of the LJC 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 – New ways of Working – Implementation Executive 19 march 2009
2. StrettonDale Local Joint Committee – Devolved Budget report 9 July 2009

Human Rights Act Appraisal

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights act 1998.

Environmental Appraisal

Not applicable

Risk Management Appraisal

All funding applications are assessed against agreed criteria which will minimise any risks associated with these projects

Community / Consultations Appraisal

None

Cabinet Member:

Councillor Gwilym Butler – Portfolio Holder for Community Working and Customer Services

Local Shropshire Council Members

Councillor James Gibson
Councillor Cecilia Motley
Councillor David Evans

LJC Parish and Town Councillors

Councillor Peter Relph
Councillor Lynne Gray
Councillor Mel McFarland

Appendices

- A- StrettonDale Local Joint Committee Community Chest Guidelines
- B- Applications to StrettonDale Community Chest Fund

APPENDIX A

StrettonDale Local Joint Committee (LJC20) COMMUNITY CHEST

The StrettonDale LJC Community Chest

The Community Chest is a grant fund for voluntary and community groups and not for profit organisations working in the areas covered by Church Stretton Town Council, Rushbury Parish Council, Eaton under Heywood & Hope Bowdler Parish Council and Acton Scott Parish Meeting.

In the first instance the Community Chest will hold £5000. This may be added to from the LJC's overall budget allocation for 2009/10 of £22,000 depending on demand.

What we can we fund:

- Projects must take place within the defined area (see above).
- Projects that are of potential benefit to a wide range of people in the area. IE the benefit is not limited to a specific membership, but is available to a significant part of the community.
- Projects that add value to community activity already taking place in the area.
- Capital projects to purchase specific items or for building/refurbishment work
- Revenue projects that are clearly sustainable

What we cannot fund:

- Projects that should normally be funded as a statutory requirement
- Political, or religious activities
- Commercial activities
- Work that has already been paid for
- Paid staff costs

Priority will be given to small groups where the funding will make a significant difference

Grants:

Grants are available up to a maximum of £500. There will normally be a requirement for the applicant to contribute approximately 25% of the total cost of a project as 'matched' funding. This can include 'in kind' contribution ie volunteer time or donated items. Matched funding can also come from other grant givers.

Administration:

Shropshire Council Officers attached to the LJC will administer the fund. Having appraised the applications at an LJC Planning Meeting, Members of the LJC (Shropshire Councillors and Town/Parish Council representatives) will award grants in open session at LJC meetings.

Application process

Application forms and detailed procedural notes are available from Peter Dunhill, the Community Regeneration Officer attached to StrettonDale LJC, who is also available to offer advice. See contact details below.

Terms and Conditions

Payment will be made directly into the organisations bank account following approval of any grant. The applicant will be required to provide proof of expenditure upon request and may be subject to audit by the Council.

For more information or help please contact:

Peter Dunhill
Community Regeneration Officer
(South)
Shropshire Council, Westgate,
Bridgnorth, WV16 5AA
01746 713230 07837 718556
peter.dunhill@shropshire.gov.uk

Anticipated deadlines:

23rd October 2009, 5th February 2010

Appendix A

StrettonDale LJC Grant Appraisal Form

This form is designed to help make an objective appraisal of the application and to inform discussions about the application

1. LJC member

Name	
Representing	

2. Project Details

Project Name	
Reference	
Applicant	
Summary	

3. Eligibility.

	Yes	No
Is the project in the LJC Area		
Is the group/organisation eligible to apply		
Is the activity appropriate for LJC funding		
Adequate and realistic matched funding is available		

If there are any 'No' boxes ticked do not go on

4. Project assessment.

Fully meets criteria – high score; Does not meet criteria – low score

Criteria	Score range	Score
A. There is a need for the project	0 - 5	
B. Delivers local community benefits	0 - 5	
C. Demonstrates decent value for money	0 - 5	
D. Applicant able to deliver project	0 - 5	
E. Activity/benefits can be sustained	0 - 3	
F. Low environmental impact	0 - 3	
G. Provides community benefit across the whole LJC area	0 - 2	
Total score	(max 28)	

5. Weighting – to be used in association with the draft StrettonDale LJC priorities list

	Multiplier
A. Does not address identified priorities	X 1
B. Addresses one priority	X 1.5
C. Addresses more than one priority	X 2
Total weighted score	

Applications to StrettonDale LJC (20) Community Chest Fund

APPENDIX B

REF	PROJECT TITLE	CONTACT	SUMMARY	AMOUNT REQUESTED £	AMOUNT Recommended £	PROGRESS REPORT TO COMMITTEE
SD1	Rushbury VH Planning for the Future	Mrs Merle Lippitt	Professional review of refurbishment/extension/alteration options + QS and Costings	500	500	
SD2	Developing the sustainability of Church Stretton Sunday Football Club	Alan Spandrzyk	Contribution to registration, insurance, changing facilities while committee develop a funding strategy in lieu of current sponsorship deficit	480	480	
SD3	Renovation of Outdoor Play. Little Acorns of Rushbury	Camille Riley	New equipment for outdoor/indoor play cookery equipment	500	500	
SD4	Mayfair Youth Club	Ella Charles	Training sessions for youth worker for Friday evenings + room hire	500	500	
SD5	Church Stretton Area Partnership	Sue Mabbutt	Room hire and administrative costs to enable participation of a wide range of partnership members	400	400	
SD6	Church Stretton Carers Support Group	Karen Kennedy	Provision of respite for carers to allow time for themselves and mutual support while the person they care for is looked after. Costs of day care and a meeting room	500	500	

SD7	Emergency planning. Church Stretton Health and Social Care Partnership	Sue Mabbutt	Preparation and coordination of local resources + appropriate training (eg groups, volunteers, paid staff and facilities) in the event of an emergency, disaster or pandemic	200	200	
SD8	Drawing and Cartoon time out. South Shropshire Women's Refuge (South Shropshire Housing Association)	Mo Williams	Creative art and craft sessions at the South Shropshire Women's Refuge	480	0	Referred to South Shropshire Partnership