

FUNDING REQUESTS TO THE SEVERN LOOP LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

Responsible Officer Gwyn Bevan
e-mail: Gwyn.Bevan@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 252482 Fax

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report considers the devolved funding allocated to the Severn Loop Local Joint Committee (LJC) for the period 1st April 2012 up until 31st March 2013.
- 1.2 A total of £14,562 has been devolved to the Committee to fund projects in the local community served by the LJC for the 2012/13 year. In addition, there is a carry forward of £8,104 unspent funding from 2011/12. The total budget available to the LJC is therefore £22,666. Six applications for funding have been received for consideration by the May meeting of the LJC. The total value of these applications is £11,344
- 1.3 In February 2012 the Committee utilised its delegated funding authority to approve an application from Beacon Cricket Club to support the development of the Frankwell Cricket Ground with a new scoreboard. The cost of the project was £5854 which was shared with the Bowbrook, Copthorne and Radbrook LJC. Cost to the Severn Loop LJC of £2927.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To consider the funding applications received and agree levels of support or otherwise possible, in accordance with the funding guidelines previously agreed, and the delegated powers approved by Council on 23rd June 2011.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 In determining these recommendations the LJC has considered reputational risk and the course of action proposed 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. Comments made in this report include those received as a result of consulting with stakeholders including Shrewsbury Town Council, Destination Shrewsbury, and Shropshire Council Arts Officers.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The funding devolved to the LJC can be used for a number of different purposes over the year to address local priorities. Funding by the LJC must comply with the general Financial Rules for LJC.

5. Additional Information

- 5.1 To date six applications for funding have been received for 2012/13.
- 5.2 A summary of applications received is provided below. Further details are contained at Appendix A to this report.

	Project	Total project cost £	Amount requested £
A.	Coton Hill Youth Club	1770	870
B.	Belle Vue Community Arts Festival	4425	1500
C.	United Reform Church	29,900	1500
D.	St Michaels Gate Old Canal path	2040	2040
E.	Shrewsbury Film Festival	6234	3434
F.	Bandstand Music in The Quarry	2000	2000
TOTAL		46,369	11,344

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

6 x LJC applications as detailed in Appendix A of this report

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Gwilym Butler

Local Members. Shropshire Council; Anne Chebsey, Andrew Bannerman, Mansel Williams. Shrewsbury Town Council; Andrew Wagner, Alan Townsend.

Appendices

Appendix A – Project application details

APPENDIX A

A. Coton Hill Youth Club

Project Detail

This youth club is in the process of forming to support young people between 10-15 years from the Coton Hill, Greenfields and Herongate areas and will be based at the Greenfields Bowling Club. They have a committee, pool of volunteers and work in conjunction with a youth worker from Shropshire Youth Association. They have split their application between the Harelescott and Bagley LJC and the Severn Loop LJC. The Harelescott and Bagley LJC have already agreed £900 of funding. The funding is to purchase equipment to develop activities at the youth club.

TOTAL PROJECT COST	£1770
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AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM LJC	£870
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Officer comments

All supporting documents have been received. This request is for the one-off cost of purchase of equipment which will help the youth club in its setting up. This area of the Town would benefit from additional youth provision and this is a worthwhile application.

B. Belle Vue Community Arts Festival

Project detail

This is a long established Arts Festival well supported by the local community which runs for over a week in June. Many local people are involved with the majority of the funding being raised from the area.

TOTAL PROJECT COST	£4425
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AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM THE LJC	£1500
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Officer comments

The local area benefits from the festival and this is a worthwhile application.

C. United Reform Church refurbishment

Project detail

The United Reform Church is a well-established local religious and community venue. There are 26 local groups currently using the venue. The purpose of the project is to make the venue more accessible for disabled users particularly the toilets and to join two rooms together to give greater flexibility. The majority of the funding has been raised by the applicant.

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	£29,900
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AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM THE LJC	£1500
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Officer comments

All supporting documents have been received. The building is widely used by a range of local voluntary groups. It will improve the quality of facilities for all those groups. This is a worthwhile application which will enable that work to continue and be expanded in the future.

D. St Michaels Gate Old Canal Path

Project detail

The path is owned and maintained by the St Michaels Gate Management Company as a public footpath and cycleway. The aim of the project is to enhance the walkway further with screening, planting of shrubs, wildflowers and bulbs and the provision of dog foul and litter bins.

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	£2040
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AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM LJC	£2040
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Officer comments

The applicant has already put in significant time and effort to improve the area and this funding will further improve the area and encourage greater local use. This is a worthwhile application.

E. Shrewsbury Film Society

Project detail

The Shrewsbury Film Society offers a diverse range of films, both international and national with classic films and documentaries as part of the cultural mix. They have an inclusive approach to their programming, ensuring that their audience play an active part through their feedback and through social media and e mail. No other organisation offers this participatory approach to cinema or such a wide and diverse range of films. The Society is based at the Hive and last year had an average of thirty local people attending. The funding applied for is to replace old audio visual equipment based at the Hive which will benefit both the Film Society and other local users in particular the young.

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	£6234
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AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM LJC	£3434
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Officer comments

This is a well-established group that provides a different perspective to viewing and discussing films. They are seeking to grow and the equipment would be used by others who access the facilities of the Hive. This is a worthwhile application however Members may wish to reflect on the numbers of local persons benefitting from the amount of funding requested and the funding that the Hive has previously received from the LJC.

F. Additional music events in the Quarry Bandstand.

Project detail

The application is from the Shrewsbury Town Centre Residents Association who is seeking to expand the availability of live music performed in the Quarry Bandstand primarily on a Sunday evening. They are proposing a variety of music types and will complement the music with a variety of themed refreshments such as “strawberry and cream” evenings. They are seeking funding for 14 weekends of activity depending on the availability of the Bandstand. They have not yet finalised dates or the programme of performers but have estimated that each performance will cost £143 giving a total for the 14 weeks of £2000.

TOTAL PROJECT COST	£2000
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AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM LJC	£2000
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Officer comments

Regular live music played throughout the summer months in the Quarry will have a beneficial impact on those living in and visiting the area and will encourage more local people into the area. The diverse range of music proposed should attract all age groups. This is a worthwhile application however Members may wish to have greater details of the programme before deciding on the extent of their support.