



Committee and Date  
South West Shropshire Local  
Joint Committee Meeting

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

SpArC Centre, Bishop's  
Castle, 7pm

Item

**3**

Public

## **SOUTH WEST SHROPSHIRE LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE – LOCAL GRANTS SCHEME UPDATE REPORT**

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### **1. Summary**

This report summaries the applications received by the South West Shropshire Community Grant scheme, between November 2015 and February 2016 for assessment at the March 2016 South West Shropshire Local Joint Committee. It also provides an update on the amount of funding held in the grant pot.

### **Recommendations**

- A. That the LJC note the existing levels of funding committed to the grant scheme as being £1,600; and that the total grants awarded total £569.92 leaving a balance of £1030
- B. The LJC approve a grant of £150 to The Bent Lawnt War memorial project (Grant Number 5)
- C. That the LJC Committee approve a grant of £150 for Haselhurst Close Tenants Association for the establishment of a lunch club.

### **2. Background**

Between April 2009 and March 2014 the Local Joint Committee operated a grant scheme, funded by Shropshire Council. Grants were assessed by the Committee on a quarterly basis and awarded to local community groups and organisations.

Shropshire Council took the decision to withdraw this grant funding from April 2014. However Committee members felt that a small grants scheme was still important to the area as it helps support local organisations; provides the Committee with the ability to support identified areas of work and can also be helpful in helping bring in further external funding to the area such as lottery grants.

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Work was undertaken to look at developing a grants scheme that could be operated through the LJC and Town and Parish Councils in the LJC were approached to support the grant scheme.

### **3. Grant development**

Letters requesting support for the grant scheme were sent to all Town and Parish Councils in the autumn of 2014, and as of 20/11/2015 **£1,600** had been paid into the grants scheme.

This funding is being administered by Shropshire Council, through the Community Enablement Team, at no additional cost to the Committee.

Parish Councils are seen as being a key element of the process as the Committee feels that can act as local advocates of the grant scheme and promote the scheme to their communities.

### **4. Grant criteria**

The South West Shropshire LJC has set the grants scheme criteria as being:

- A total of £500 will be allocated to community projects in the first round of funding, and decisions made on application at the July 2015 LJC meeting and all meetings
- The maximum grant available will be £150 and should be matched funded by at least 50% of cash from the applicant
- Projects must be based in, and support residents in, the Local Joint Committee area
- Applications are only open to charities, volunteer led organisations or social enterprises

### **5. Funds remaining in the South West Shropshire Grant Scheme**

Four applications have been approved by the scheme so far which are:

Grant one – Everest Village Hall, Llanfair Waterdine: Roof Insulation Project **£119.92**

Grant Two – Rectory Gardens Lunch Club: Connecting Communities IT project **£150**

Grant Three – The Honest Truth Partnership: Safer Driving Scheme **£150**

Grant Four – Bucknell Pre-School: Outside Play Area **£150**

**This leaves a balance of £1030.08 in the grant scheme to be allocated.**

### **6. New applications received to the fund**

**Grant Five – Bent Lawnt War Memorial**

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Every year at 11 o'clock on 11<sup>th</sup> November villagers from Bent Lawnt, Hope and Hemford gather together with the primary school children from Hope School to remember the local people who gave their lives in both World Wars.

Four children from the Primary School are chosen to read out the 36 names of the fallen. The British Legion have placed a memorial seat at the top of the hill in Bent Lawnt and poppies and crosses are placed on the bench as part of the ceremony.

However the only place where the names of the war dead are displayed is Hope Church which is not normally open on 11<sup>th</sup> November. Bent Lawnt community would like to purchase a small memorial stone to place alongside the bench, to give a focus to our village Remembrance and also to act as a permanent memorial to the fallen which is on public view.

The names of the fallen are only viewable inside Hope Church, which is not normally open during the day. The memorial bench in Bent Lawnt has become the focus for our annual Remembrance events, and so having the names on public view will give the site more relevance on 11<sup>th</sup> November, and also encourage the community to care for and maintain the area around the bench.

We feel that now is a good time to install this memorial as we mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World War One.

**Total Project costs: £300**

**Grant Request from SWS Grant Scheme: £150**

**Recommended Grant Award: £150**

#### **Grant 6 – Haselhurst Close Tenants Association, Clun. New kitchen equipment**

##### **Project Details**

We are starting a monthly lunch club at the community centre in Haselhurst Close, where we will provide a two course hot meal that is both nutritious and affordable for the people of the Clun valley. We will be able to cater for up to 26 people per sitting and will involve people from the 16 properties on Haselhurst Close and surrounding communities.

The lunch will hopefully draw people into the Independent living scheme in Haselhurst to reduce social isolation and increase social contact for all. Through this project we will be providing a hot meal for those unable to cater for themselves and also looking to see what other activities are available through the scheme which they can attend.

The project is based on the model of the very successful Grange Road Lunch Club in Bishop's Castle, which our residents have visited on several occasions. A group of our tenants have got together to establish the lunch club and with little advertising have had 16 covers at the first meal, and expect numbers to increase each month. The Lunch Committee and scheme manager are now going to promote the scheme to the wider community.

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The funding would allow us to install a separate wash basin in the kitchen to meet food hygiene standards and enable the volunteers to get a Food Hygiene Rating and make preparation of the meals easier by having an additional sink space.

All lunches are made from scratch by the volunteers on the premises and use fresh ingredients and aim to give a wholesome and nutritious meal to those attending. We have a group of volunteers who are planning the meals, and training more volunteers so that a regular service can be delivered to the community. The scheme has been established with support and finances from the Shropshire Housing Group and volunteers have also raised £500 to purchase equipment for the scheme. In the long term a small surplus will be generated by each meal which will be used to sustain the scheme and to replace equipment when necessary.

### **Project Costs:**

Sink and tap, fittings and installation - £174.63

Grant Request: £150

Matched funding of £24.63 will come from the groups own funds

**Recommended Grant Award: £150**

## **7. Future Development of Grant Scheme**

The South West Shropshire Grant scheme is supported by contributions from Town and Parish Councils and Businesses.

Town and Parish Councils have been contacted and asked to contribute to the scheme in 2016/17 and a number of Councils have indicated they will once again support the scheme and payments will be made following the payment of the annual precept.

An update on the balance of the fund will be made to the Committee at the end of April.

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

### **Risk Management Appraisal**

In determining these recommendations, Shropshire Council has considered reputational risk and the course of action minimises this risk.

### **Human Rights**

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998

### **Community and other Consultation**

Consideration has been given to the public opinion expressed at the previous Local meetings

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#### 4. Financial Implications

There is sufficient funding in the South West Shropshire Grants scheme to pay Grant 5 and Grant 6. These payments, if approved, would leave a balance of £730.08

#### 5. Background

NA

#### 6. Additional Information

NA

<b>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</b>
<b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</b> Cecelia Motely
<b>Local Members</b> Nigel Hartin, Heather Kidd, Charlotte Barnes
<b>Appendices</b>

