



Committee and Date  
South West Shropshire Local  
Joint Committee Meeting

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

SpArC Centre, Bishop's  
Castle, 7pm

Item

**2**

Public

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

**Responsible Officer** Mathew Mead

e-mail: mathew.mead@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: (01743)  
252534

Fax

### **1. Summary**

This report summaries the applications received by the South West Shropshire Community Grant scheme, between April 2016 and October 2016 for assessment at the October 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 £869.92 leaving a balance of £730.08
- B. The LJC approve a grant of £150 to South Shropshire Engineering Ambassadors Goblin Car project (Grant Number 6)
- C. That the LJC approve a grant of £150 for Brockton and Worthen Defibrillator Scheme
- D. The Committee discuss the future of the grant scheme and suggest a contribution for Town and Parish Councils in the 2017/18 financial year

### **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

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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.

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 each round of funding, and decisions made on application at the public LJC 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**

Six 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**

Grant Five – Bentlawnt War memorial £150

Grant Six – Haselhurst Lunch Club Clun £150

**This leaves a balance of £730.08 in the grant scheme to be allocated.**

## 6. New applications received to the fund

### **Grant Seven – South Shropshire Engineering Ambassadors (SSEA)**

#### **Project details**

SSEA are a group of retired professional engineers who have supported engineering clubs in local primary and secondary schools over the past 15 years. In the current school year September 2016 to July 2017 we will be supporting the annual Primary Engineering Challenge organised by the Community College Bishop's Castle (CCBC) which involves their feeder primary schools.

We are also entering three cars in the Goblin Car Challenge which involves constructing drivable electric cars and racing then against other schools at a meeting organised by STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Ambassadors) in Stafford in 2017.

[www.staffsstem.co.uk/goblin-cars.htm](http://www.staffsstem.co.uk/goblin-cars.htm)

Our experience in running clubs in primary schools in this LJC area over the past 15 years shows that there is an enthusiasm for engineering which SSEA wish to sustain and continue through to secondary level and beyond.

We believe we are succeeding in the helping to achieve the aspiration of increasing the understanding of engineering as recognised by the Government in setting up STEMNET with the co-operation of the engineering professions.

The work of STEMNET depends on the goodwill of professional engineers, known as Science and Engineering Ambassadors, giving their time and expertise without payment.

Many schools recognise the need to bring in such expertise to supplement the work of teachers, both at primary and secondary levels, in after-school clubs. The teachers benefit from the knowledge gained and the children's horizons are expanded. Many boys and girls have been prompted to go into engineering careers as a result of their membership of a Young Engineers Club.

*This application is made to help support the costs of the purchasing, developing and entering the Goblin cars in the annual competition in Stafford in 2017, and transporting the vehicles and children to the event.*

Matched funding of £150 (SSEA Funds); £200 (Aston on Clun Community Shop); £250 (Mouchel Highways Alliance) have been applied for and provisionally approved and parental contributions, school funds and volunteer time will also be used to support the project

**Total Project costs: £1450**

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

**Recommended Grant Award: £150**

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## **Grant Eight – Brockton & Worthen Defibrillator Group 2 Public Access Defibrillators**

### **Project Details**

Brockton and Worthen Defibrillator Group have been established to raise funds to purchase, install and operate two Public Access Defibrillators in the villages of Brockton and Worthen.

The units will be installed in heated secure external cabinets so they are available 24 hours a day, should they be required to assist in resuscitating patients who have suffered a cardiac arrest. Evidence has shown the need to provide fast, effective care for patients who have experienced a cardiac arrest, and due to our rural location and ambulance response times the availability of defibrillators in communities is vital to providing a fast response.

In addition to the purchase of the units, local volunteers will be trained to use the defibrillators and be able to respond in an emergency. The scheme is also supported by the West Midlands Ambulance Service who will also hold details of the units and be able to direct people to them should they be required.

We are aiming to raise £4,000 to set up 2 Public Access Defibrillators, one each for the villages of Brockton & Worthen. A total of £1,600 has been pledged to the scheme so far by local businesses and residents.

**Total project costs:** £4,000

**Grant requested:** £150

**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 will shortly be deciding on their 2017/18 precept levels so the Committee need to decide if they wish to continue the scheme, and if so what contributions the Town and Parish Councils will be asked to make.

Further development of the grant scheme through business contributions also needs to be discussed by the Committee

## **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**

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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

**4. Financial Implications**

There is sufficient funding in the South West Shropshire Grants scheme to pay Grant 7 and Grant 8. These payments, if approved, would leave a balance of £430.08

**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>
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<b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</b>
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Cecelia Motely
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<b>Local Members</b>
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Nigel Hartin, Heather Kidd, Jonny Keeley
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<b>Appendices</b>
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