

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF INNOVATION & ENTERPRISE
TO THE ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE
13 JULY 2005

Community Grants

1.0 Introduction and Report Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the budget position for this Committee in respect of Community Grants for 2005/06 and to invite Members to consider and determine the grant applications received since the last meeting.
- 1.2 The contact officer for this report is Lorna Edwards, Community Strategy Officer (Tel: 01235 547626).

2.0 Recommendations

- (a) *Members are asked to note that the Committee's approved budget total for 2005/06 is £38,849.12 (including £8,231.12 carried forward from 2004/05), which is apportioned as follows: -*

<i>Environmental Agenda (35%)</i>	<i>£10,716.30</i>
<i>Social Agenda (35%)</i>	<i>£10,716.30</i>
<i>Economic Agenda (10%)</i>	<i>£3,061.80</i>
<i>Discretionary (20%)</i>	<i>£6,123.60</i>
	<i>plus</i>
	<i>£8,231.12</i>

- (b) *Members are asked to note that grants totalling £3,000 are to be awarded to the following two twinning organisations in the Abingdon Area, as directed by the Executive on 6 August 2004, subject to the completion of a service level agreement: -*

<i>Abingdon Town Council</i>	<i>£2,500</i>
<i>Drayton Twinning Society</i>	<i>£500</i>

- (c) *Members are asked to: -*
- (i) *note the recommendations made by the Executive and the subsequent decision taken by the Council in respect of funding towards the cost of extending the Peachcroft Christian Centre, Abingdon; and*
 - (ii) *to consider the application again in the light of this and determine the grant award, Council agenda and priority.*
- (d) *Members are asked to determine the grant award, the agenda and the Council priority in respect of the following: -f*
- (i) *Abingdon Child Contact Centre - £1,500, towards running costs for the next five years, Social Agenda, Access priority;*
 - (ii) *Mr Kirby, Sympson Close, Abingdon - £641.60, towards the cost of crown reduction and deadwooding of a large chestnut tree and installation of a cable brace plus routine maintenance to a yew, Environmental Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority;*
 - (iii) *Abingdon Marathon - £750, towards the cost of organising a marathon, £750, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority;*
 - (iv) *Abbey Sailing Club - £2,000, towards the cost of purchasing two boats to be available to beginners, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority*

- (v) *Historic Building Grant Scheme: Mr Bax, Pusey Cottage, Drayton - £1,250, towards the cost of re-thatching and restoration of a local historic feature, Environmental Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority;*
- (vi) *The NET Management Committee - £4,563, towards the cost of increasing holiday activities, Social Agenda, Access priority;*
- (vii) *The Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre (Oxford) - £750, towards the cost of installing an electrically operated automatic door for wheelchair users and people with limited mobility, Social Agenda, Access priority.*

(e) *Members are asked to determine the following parish cleansing grant bids for 2005/06: -*

<i>Appleford-on-Thames</i>	<i>£250</i>
<i>Drayton</i>	<i>£402</i>

3.0 Relationship with the Council's Vision, Strategies and Policies

3.1 This report supports the Council's Vision and Priorities. It also supports the Vale Community Strategy. It does not conflict with any Council strategy or any Council policy.

4.0 Budget

4.1 The budget position for this Committee at the beginning of the year 2005/06 is as follows:

Budget b/f 2004/05	Budget 2005/06	Total budget 2005/06	Environmental Agenda Proportion	Social Agenda Proportion	Economic Agenda Proportion	Discretionary Proportion
£8,231.12	£ 30,618	£38,849.12	£10,716.30	£10,716.30	£3,061.80	£6,123.60 + £8,231.12
	Allocated	£3,000	£0	£3,000	£0	£0
	Remaining	£35,849.12	£10,716.30	£7,716.30	£3,061.80	£14,354.72

5.0 Community Grants

5.1 Twinning Grants

The Executive decided at its meeting on 6 August 2004 (Minute Ex 83) that twinning associations should be partners in service provision and be subject to service level agreements. It was resolved that funding, at the same level as in previous years, would come from Area Committee budgets. Last year the twinning associations confirmed that they would enter into a service level agreement with the Council.

5.2 The Committee is asked to note the grants to be awarded in the current financial year to the following two twinning organisations located in the Abingdon Area, subject to them signing a service level agreement with the Council:

Abingdon Town Council	£2,500
Drayton Twinning Society	£500

5.3 Grant application from the Peachcroft Christian Centre

At its meeting on 15 April, the Executive considered an application from the Peachcroft Christian Centre which had been referred from the Abingdon Area Committee. The application was for a grant of £50,000 towards the cost of extending the building. The Executive resolved that the Abingdon Area Committee be encouraged to provide financial support, such award to at least match the grant to be recommended to the Council, and to recommend to the Council the creation of a new capital scheme to award £10,000 to the Peachcroft Christian Centre subject to the Abingdon Area Committee providing equivalent revenue funding. The recommendation was adopted by the Council at its meeting on 18 May.

- 5.4 Further details are to be found at Appendix A.
- 5.5 Members are asked to consider the application in the light of the recommendations made by the Executive and the subsequent decision taken by the Council and to determine the award, Council agenda and priority.
- 5.6 Applications have been received in respect of the following organisations and there are narratives providing additional details at Appendix B to the report. Members are invited to consider and determine the grant awards, the Council agenda and priority for the applications received.
- (i) Abingdon Child Contact Centre, £1,500, towards running costs for the next five years, Social Agenda, Access priority
 - (ii) Mr Kirby, Sympson Close, Abingdon, £641.60, towards the cost of crown reduction and deadwooding of a large chestnut tree and installation of a cable brace plus routine maintenance to a yew, Environmental Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
 - (iii) Abingdon Marathon, £750, towards the cost of organising a marathon, £750, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
 - (iv) Abbey Sailing Club, £2,000, towards the cost of purchasing two boats to be available to beginners, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
 - (v) Historic Building Grant Scheme: Mr Bax, Pusey Cottage, Drayton, £1,250, towards the cost of re-thatching and restoration of a local historic feature, Environmental Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
 - (vi) The NET Management Committee, £4,563, towards the cost of increasing holiday activities, Social Agenda, Access priority
 - (vii) The Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre (Oxford), £750, towards the cost of installing an electrically operated automatic door for wheelchair users and people with limited mobility, Social Agenda, Access priority

5.7 Parish Cleansing Grants

The following parish councils have submitted applications for grant aid towards supplementary parish cleansing in 2005/06. The grant applications represent 50% of the cost of the additional litter picking on relevant land not in the parish council's ownership. Members are invited to consider and determine the applications received.

Appleford-on-Thames	£250
Drayton	£402

TOBY WARREN
HEAD OF INNOVATION & ENTERPRISE

TIM SADLER
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

Background Papers: Applications