

South East Area Committee Report



Report of head of corporate strategy

Report No. 123/10

Author: Toby Warren

Telephone: 01235 547695

Textphone: 18001 01235 547695

E-mail: toby.warren@southandvale.gov.uk

Wards affected: wards covering Wantage, Grove, Childrey, the Challows, Letcombe Bassett & Letcombe Regis, Goosey, Denchworth, Charney Bassett, Lyford, the Hanneys, Ardington, Lockinge, the Hendreds, Steventon, Milton, Harwell, Chilton, Upton and Blewbury

To: South East Area Committee

DATE: 6 April 2011

Executive member responsible: Tony de Vere

Tel: 01235 540391

E-mail: tony.devere@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Community Grants

Recommendations

- (a) that the South East Area Committee notes the budget for community grants in 2011/12 for the South East area of the Vale*
- (b) that the committee considers and determines the new applications which have been received and appraised*

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to set out the budget position for the South East Area Committee in respect of community grants, to invite the committee to consider and determine grant applications.

Relationship with Corporate Plan

- The award of grants to community and voluntary sector groups helps to deliver actions set out in the Vale's Sustainable Community Strategy, which aims to improve the quality of life for everyone in the Vale.

The community grants budget

- The total budget for community grants for 2011/12 for the Vale is £103,400. This budget is apportioned between the Executive and four area committees. The Executive receives 20% of the budget and the remainder (£82,720) is apportioned according to the electorate in each area on 1 January 2011. The electorate in the South East area on 1 January was 25,964, 27.70% of the Vale's electorate. Therefore the budget position for community grants for 2011/12 for the South East area of the Vale is £22,917.
- At its meeting on 7 January 2011 the Executive invited the area committees to meet no more than twice a year, in early April and early October. Therefore, if sufficient budget remains unallocated at the end of this meeting, the area committee will meet again in early October.

New grant applications

- Applications totalling £34,173 have been received from the applicants listed below. Precises providing additional details are in the appendix to this report.
- Officers have used a scoring system to help in evaluating each application. The scoring system is a fair and transparent way of evaluating how closely a project supports corporate and community strategy priorities, the local need and the amount of funding requested as a percentage of project cost.
- In making the following recommendations officers have also taken into account the available budget. If the following officer recommendations are approved without amendment the total grant awarded will be £9,508.

Applicant	Wantage Betjeman Festival of Literature & Poetry
Project	Part funding of festival brochure
Project cost £	£3,937
Grant sought £	£1,969
Score	115
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£1,378
Reason/comments	The council's support should be acknowledged wherever possible, including using the council logo in a prominent position on the festival brochure.

Applicant	Court Hill Trust
Project	Refurbishment of centre
Project cost £	£4,200
Grant sought £	£4,000
Score	110
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£2,800
Reason/comments	Contribution to emergency repairs. Grant should be subject to confirmation of the Trust's financial situation, submission of most recent accounts and an additional quotation before works start.

Applicant	Wantage Summer Festival
Project	Summer festival
Project cost £	£2,640
Grant sought £	£1,400
Score	105
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£980
Reason/comments	Festival supports town centre vitality

Applicant	Film Oxford
Project	Film under the Stars – Summer screen
Project cost £	£4,025
Grant sought £	£3,425
Score	105
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£350
Reason/comments	Grant only towards costs of film hire rather than fixed costs. Also being considered by Abingdon Area Committee for grant for Abingdon performance

Applicant	Challow & Childrey Cricket Club
Project	Installation of new cricket practice nets
Project cost £	£30,097
Grant sought £	£5,000
Score	100
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£3,500
Reason/comments	Club has large and active senior and junior sections

Applicant	Wantage & Grove Street Pastors
Project	Extension of service
Project cost £	£14,919
Grant sought £	£1,050
Score	90
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£0
Reason/comments	The application does not appear to demonstrate how a grant will provide additional community benefit. Pastors receives a partnership grant of £1,500 a year

Applicant	East Hendred Community Centre
Project	Improvement of WC facilities
Project cost £	£21,000
Grant sought £	£5,000
Score	85
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£0
Reason/comments	Application is not fully developed, there appears to be a large gap in funding

Applicant	Oxford Wood Recycling Ltd
Project	Kindling production unit
Project cost £	£21,333
Grant sought £	£2,000
Score	75
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£0
Reason/comments	Application is not fully developed, there appears to be a large gap in funding.

Applicant	Blewbury Village Community Interest Company
Project	External furniture for new sports pavilion
Project cost £	£1,829
Grant sought £	£1,829
Score	75
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£0
Reason/comments	Application appears to be for domestic garden furniture rather than heavy duty furniture

Applicant	Wilts & Berks Canal Trust
Project	Grove enhancements to public footpaths
Project cost £	£2,500
Grant sought £	£2,500
Score	70
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£1,000
Reason/comments	Despite low score project should provide good community benefit; supports existing restoration work, new walks (and maps) being provided

Applicant	Wantage Choral Society
Project	Learn to sing sessions
Project cost £	£915
Grant sought £	£500
Score	55
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£0
Reason/comments	There appears to be limited community benefit

Applicant	Hendreds Twinning Group
Project	Support for twinning in 2011
Project cost £	£2,108
Grant sought £	£500
Score	55
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£0
Reason/comments	Application is for travel costs, rather than encouraging greater community involvement in twinning

Applicant	Grove Challengers FC
Project	New pitches and training ground

Project cost £	£500,000
Grant sought £	£5,000
Score	40
<i>Officer recommendation</i>	£0
Reason/comments	Limited information provided, no quotations, it appears that no other funding or planning permission has been secured. Early stages of project, large gap in funding

8. Members are requested to consider and determine the new grant applications received.

Options

9. There are no alternative options to the consideration and determination of the grant applications received.

Financial, legal and any other implications

10. Grant awards, if any, will be allocated from a South East Area community grants budget and prior to determination the committee will be advised of the amount available to allocate.

Conclusion

11. The South East Area Committee is requested to consider and determine the new grant applications received.

Background Papers

Community grant applications and supporting documents

Appendices

Precises summarising the applications received. Please note that precises are in alphabetical order.