

REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR
TO THE ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE
28 MARCH 2006

Community Grants/ Budget Position/ Parish Cleansing Bids

1.0 Introduction and Report Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the current budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee for Community Grants and to invite Members to consider and determine the grant application received since the last meeting; and to consider and determine parish cleansing bids received for 2006/07.
- 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 remaining budget for 2005/06 is £12,755.48;*
- (b) *Members are asked to determine the grant award, the agenda and the Council priority in respect of the following application: -*
- The NET, Abingdon, £4,500, towards the cost of running a Saturday evening session for young people, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority***
- (c) *Members are asked to note that three applications have been received for a grant of £500 or less and, in accordance with the Council's policy, these are being considered under delegated authority by the Head of Innovation & Enterprise in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, and that information on any grant awarded will be provided verbally at the meeting;*
- (d) *Members are asked to note that the budget for the Abingdon Area Committee for the next financial year, 2006/07, is £28,220 as determined by the Executive at its meeting on 3 March 2006, based on the percentage of the electorate in Abingdon at 1 January 2006;*
- (e) *Members are asked to consider and determine the bids for parish cleansing in 2006/07 which comply with the criteria, noting that any grants awarded will be allocated from the 2006/07 budget.*

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 current budget position for this Committee for the year 2005/06 is as follows:

Budget b/f from 2004/05	Budget 2005/06	Total budget 2005/06	Environmenta l Agenda Proportion	Social Agenda Proportion	Economic Agenda Proportion	Discretionar y Proportion
£8,231.12	£ 30,618	£38,849.12	£10,716.30	£10,716.30	£3,061.80	£14,354.72
	Allocated	£26,093.64	£2,023.64	£10,716.30 (+ £3,532.58 from discretionary)	£1,000	£8,821.12 + £3,532.58 to Social
	Remaining	£12,755.48	£8,692.66	£0	£2,061.80	£2,001.02

5.0 Community Grants

- 5.1 An application has been received in respect of the following organisation and there is a narrative providing additional details in the **Appendix** to this report.

The NET, Abingdon, £4,500, towards the cost of running a Saturday evening session for young people, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

Members are invited to consider and determine the grant award, the Council agenda and priority for the application.

6.0 Parish cleansing bids for 2006/07

- 6.1 For some years, a number of parish councils have opted to carry out street cleansing activities in addition to the service provided by the district council's contractor. The District Council has, for some time, provided discretionary grants towards the cost of additional street cleansing carried out by parish councils on relevant land, that is, land for which the responsibility for cleansing rests with the District Council.
- 6.2 In past years some of the area committees have been concerned that the application process has obliged them to award cleansing grants of 50%.
- 6.3 This year parish councils have been requested to submit their applications before the beginning of the financial year and it has been made clear that the Council wishes to continue to support additional parish cleansing on relevant land but that determination of a grant will be at the discretion of the Area Committee concerned and will depend on the individual merits of the application and the budget available.
- 6.4 Two bids have been received for the Abingdon Area Committee and these are shown in the table below.

Parish	Areas	Frequ-ency	Hours	Rate	Total Amount	Amount Request- ed	Officer comment
Drayton	Village	Not stated	380	£7.50	£2,850	£500	Total is for all caretaking duties. PC requests contribution of £500 towards litter clearance element
Appleford	Pavement at the Knapp	Monthly (Nov, Dec, Jan)	6	£7.50	£45	£45	Seasonal leaf clearance from pavement

6.5 Members are asked to consider and determine the bids, both of which comply with the criteria, noting that any grants awarded will be allocated from the 2006/07 budget.

TOBY WARREN
HEAD OF INNOVATION & ENTERPRISE

TIM SADLER
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

Background papers: grant applications and grant update