

REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR  
TO THE ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE  
6th JULY 2006

**Community Grants/ Budget Position**

**1.0 Introduction and Report Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee for Community Grants in 2006/07 and to invite Members to consider and determine the grant application received.
- 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 budget for 2006/07 is £35,975.48 (£28,220+ £7,755.48 carried forward from 2005/06), apportioned as follows:*

o Environmental Agenda (35%)	£9,877
o Social Agenda (35%)	£9,877
o Economic Agenda (10%)	£2,822
o Discretionary (20%)	£5,644 + £7,755.48

*but that grants totaling £915 have already been allocated and grants of £3,000 are earmarked for twinning, leaving a budget of £32,060.48 for the rest of 2006/07*

- (b) *Following the resolution by the Executive on 21 April, Members are asked to consider the following application and are encouraged to fund the amount requested:*
- (i) **Abingdon and District Citizens Advice Bureau, £2,565**, to cover the remainder of the shortfall in core funding, Social Agenda, Access priority
- (c) *Members are asked to determine the grant award, the agenda and the Council priority in respect of the following applications:-*
- (ii) **Preston Road Community Centre Association, £6,385**, to include £1,650 as third party funding for WREN application and the remainder to cover the shortfall in funding from other sources, Social Agenda, Access and Town & Village Vitality priorities
- (iii) **Abingdon Museum, £3,850**, towards a development plan for the museum, Social Agenda, Access and Town & Village Vitality priorities
- (iv) **Peachcroft Christian Centre, £25,000**, towards the shortfall in funding for the extension of the Centre, Social Agenda, Access and Town & Village Vitality priorities

**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 2006/07 is as follows:

<b>Budget b/f from 2005/06</b>	<b>Budget 2006/07</b>	<b>Total budget 2006/07</b>	<b>Environmental Agenda Proportion</b>	<b>Social Agenda Proportion</b>	<b>Economic Agenda Proportion</b>	<b>Discretionary Proportion</b>
£7,755.48	£28,220	£35,975.48	£9,877	£9,877	£2,822	£5,644 + £7,755.48
	Allocated	£3,915	£545	£3,370	£0	£0
	Remaining	£32,060.48	£9,332	£6,507	£2,822	£13,399.48

4.2 At the very end of March the Council was advised by the Abingdon Science Partnership that, due to other sponsorship and a reduction in the amount of teaching cover needed by some of the schools, the grant awarded by the Abingdon Area Committee on 1 February was no longer required. The £1,800 which had been allocated was therefore included in the total budget carried forward.

4.3 At the March meeting of the Committee grants totalling £545 were awarded from the 2006/07 budget for additional parish cleansing this year. A further £370 has been allocated, under officer delegation and in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, towards the cost of equipment for the fish tank in Abingdon Library since the beginning of the financial year.

4.4 The Committee is advised that the sum of £3,000 needs to be set aside for the two twinning Service Level Agreement grants for Abingdon Town Council (£2,500) and The Drayton Twinning Society (£500) for 2006/07. Both organisations will be submitting the required information to the Council before the next meeting of the Committee and Abingdon Town Clerk has advised that he will attend to present his report, as previously requested by the Committee.

#### 5.0 **Community Grants**

5.1 At the meeting of the Executive on 21 April 2006, a grant application was considered from the Abingdon and District Citizens Advice Bureau to cover the shortfall in core funding. A grant of £4,140 was awarded to cover the increase in rent for 2006/07. The Executive resolved to refer the application to the Abingdon Area Committee with the recommendation that the members of the Committee be encouraged to fund the remaining £2,565 shortfall. Further details of the application are provided under Appendix A. Members are invited to consider the application and determine the grant, Council agenda and priority.

(i) **Abingdon and District Citizens Advice Bureau, £2,565**, to cover the remainder of the shortfall in core funding, Social Agenda, Access priority

5.2 Applications have been received from the following organisations and there are narratives providing additional details in Appendix A.

(ii) **Preston Road Community Centre Association, up to £6,385**, to include £1,650 as third party funding for WREN application and the remainder to cover the shortfall in funding from other sources, Social Agenda, Access and Town & Village Vitality priorities

(iii) **Abingdon Museum, £3,850**, towards a development plan for the museum, Social Agenda, Access and Town & Village Vitality priorities

(iv) **Peachcroft Christian Centre, £25,000**, towards the shortfall in funding for the extension of the Centre, Social Agenda, Access and Town & Village Vitality priorities

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

TOBY WARREN  
HEAD OF INNOVATION & ENTERPRISE

TIM SADLER  
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

Background papers: grant applications