

**REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR**  
**TO THE ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE**  
**25 July 2007**

**Community Grants**

**1.0 Introduction and Report Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the budget position at the beginning of 2007/08 for this Committee in respect of Community Grants and to invite Members to consider and determine the grant applications received.
- 1.2 The contact officer for this report is Lorna Edwards, Community Strategy Officer (Tel: 01235 547626), **e-mail address lorna.edwards@whitehorsedc.co.uk.**

**2.0 Recommendations**

- (a) *that Members note the budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee at the beginning of the financial year;*
- (b) *that Members agree in principle to the payment of the SLA grant to Abingdon Town Council and the Drayton Twinning Society subject to the required monitoring information having been received;*
- (c) *that Members consider and determine the grant applications, the agenda and the Council priority in respect of the following:*
- (i) ***Abingdon Area Archaeological and Historical Society, £500, towards an exhibition about the history of Ock Street, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority***
- (ii) ***Appleford Parish Council & Village Hall Committee, £6,000, towards the refurbishment and extension of the village hall, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority***
- (iii) ***The Farmoor Reservoir Pontoon Project, £7,000, towards the construction of a pontoon for sailors with disabilities, Social Agenda, Access priority***

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

This report supports the Council's Vision and Priorities and the Vale Community Strategy. It does not conflict with any Council Strategies.

**4.0 Community Grants**

**4.1 Budget**

- 4.2 The budget position at the beginning of 2007/08 for the Abingdon Area Committee is as follows:

Budget b/f 2006 /07	Budget 2007/08	Total budget 2007/8	Environmental Agenda Proportion	Social Agenda Proportion	Economic Agenda Proportion	Discretionary Proportion
£11,398.63	£28,388.00	£39,786.63	£9,935.80	£9,935.80	£2,838.80	£5,677.60 + £11,398.63 = £17,076.23
	Allocated	£3,665.00	£665.00	£3,000.00	£0	£0
	Remaining	£36,121.63	£9,270.80	£6,935.80	£2,838.80	£17,076.23

4.3 The table shows that £3,665.00 has already been allocated. Of this a total of £665 was awarded towards additional parish cleansing at the meeting of the Committee in March. The remaining £3,000 is allocated to twinning partnership grants.

#### 4.4 Twinning partnership grants (Service Level Agreements)

In accordance with the decision of the Executive at its meeting on 6 August 2004 (Minute Ex.83) twinning associations are partners in service provision and have signed a Service Level Agreement (SLA) to this effect. The funding for the SLA is allocated from Area Committee budgets. In the Abingdon Area the allocation is:

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

4.5 The original SLAs ran from 2004-2007 and came to an end on 31 March 2007. The Executive has agreed that all SLAs should be extended for a further year. The twinning associations, in common with all SLA partners, are asked to provide specified information to enable officers to monitor that the partnership is meeting its commitments under the SLA. This information will be requested from the twinning associations in due course.

4.6 Members are asked to agree to the payment of the SLA grant to Abingdon Town Council and the Drayton Twinning Society in due course, subject to the required monitoring information having been received.

4.7 Members are asked to note that, after this allocation and the parish cleansing awards, the budget for 2007/08 will stand at £36,121.63.

#### 5.0 New grant applications

5.1 Applications totalling £13,500 have been received from the organisations listed below. Amongst these is an application for £500, which would normally have been considered under officer delegation. However, since the Abingdon Area Committee had not yet had the opportunity to elect a Chair and the meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee was scheduled for less than two weeks hence, the Head of Community Strategy has decided to bring this application to the Committee for determination.

- (i) **Abingdon Area Archaeological and Historical Society, £500**, towards an exhibition about the history of Ock Street, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (ii) **Appleford Parish Council & Village Hall Committee, £6,000**, towards

the refurbishment and extension of the village hall, Social Agenda,  
Town & Village Vitality priority

- (iii) **The Farmoor Reservoir Pontoon Project, £7,000**, towards the construction of a pontoon for sailors with disabilities, Social Agenda, Access priority

5.2 Grant narratives for these applications are set out in Appendix A to this report.

TOBY WARREN  
HEAD OF COMMUNITY STRATEGY

TIM SADLER  
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

Background Papers: Grant applications