
REPORT TO:	HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	AGENDA ITEM: 9
DATE OF MEETING:	16 APRIL 2015	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND PLANNING SERVICES	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	IAN HEY ext 8741	DOC:
SUBJECT:	COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS SCHEME	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: HCS07

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That Members consider the recommendation of the Community Partnerships Scheme Assessment Panel and award grants of:

- £15,600 to 107th Aston Scouts – Grant to contribute to a replacement mini-bus that is used by 5 sections of this organisation. Improved economy from the new vehicle will enable the group to maintain levels of activity as the numbers of members increase.
- £19,890 to South Derbyshire Citizens Advice Bureau – Grant towards the costs associated with extending the building to house additional volunteer advice workers. This will have a direct impact on the availability of advice for residents in South Derbyshire
- £12,500 to Egginton Parish Council – Grant towards a project that will engage the community in providing improvements to community spaces within the village.
- £7,279 to Etwall George V Playing Field Charity – Grant towards the installation of play equipment for teenagers from within the community.
- £11,550 to Friends of Newhall Park – Grant towards a community based project that will improve the area around the War Memorial gates, improving both the appearance and usability of the area.

- £4,834 to Gresley PCC (Gresley Church Hall) – Grant towards the reconfiguration of the storage area of the hall to provide office and meeting area to act as a base to support voluntary activity in the parish.
- £25,000 to Overseal Parish Council – Grant to contribute to major improvement works of the village recreation ground. This phase of the project will see improvements to grass pitches on the site that will include re-grading, drainage, cultivation, embankment and marking pitches to be suitable for both adult and junior football. It will also include improvements to other grass areas on the site which can be used for training, multi sports and junior cricket, with a long term aspiration for an artificial cricket wicket on site.
- £4,200 to Rosliston Village Hall – Grant to support the investment in energy efficiency technologies that will reduce costs to the hall leading to increased sustainability.
- £8,000 to Ticknall Church – Grant to support the cost of installing toilet facilities within the building. This in turn will enable increased use of the church facilities by the community for a range of community based activities.
- £7,000 to Ticknall Cricket Club – Grant to support the improvement and extension of practice facilities that will improve safety and increase usage.
- £15,000 to Willington Church - Grant to support the cost of installing toilet facilities and improving kitchen facilities to increase the capacity of the building to be used by the local community for a range of activities.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To update members on applications for funding received by the Community Partnerships Scheme and seek approval for recommendations from the assessment panel in relation to the scheme.

3.0 Executive Summary

- 3.1 The Community Partnerships Scheme is continuing to operate according to processes and procedures as previously agreed and reported to Committee.
- 3.2 Capital Grants – In total 13 applications were received asking for £148,975 against a budget of £300,000.
- 3.3 11 applications have been recommended for grant support. Two applications have been deferred to enable additional information to be obtained.

4.0 Detail

- 4.1 The Community Partnership Scheme offers capital grants of up to £25,000 to projects brought forward from the voluntary and community sector. £300,000 has been allocated to the scheme to enable grants to be made in support of applications received during 2014/15 and 2015/16.

4.2 A panel comprising five Councillors, with advice from the Community Partnership Officer, assess projects against set criteria and then make recommendations about grant distribution to the Committee.

4.3 The following applications were received and considered for capital funding:

107th Aston Scouts

Application for £15,600. The organisation supports 5 different groups drawing membership from Aston on Trent and the surrounding communities. As well as activities based in Aston the group aims to deliver a wide range of activities at differing locations to support the physical and mental development of young people. Ownership of their own mini-bus has been central to minimising costs to the young people. The current mini-bus is aging and requires increasing spend to retain it on the road. The application is to support the purchase of a new vehicle that will be reliable and reduce ongoing costs helping to maintain the sustainability of the group activity.

The group has raised half of the cost through their own fundraising activities.

SD Citizens Advice Bureau

Application for £19,890. SD CAB have seen an increase in the numbers that are using their services. The organisation is currently working at capacity in the premises that they occupy. In order to increase the services that they offer for residents of South Derbyshire they intend to extend the building to enable them to house additional volunteer advisors. This will also enable them to increase the range of services offered to include IT literacy and money management skills as well as increasing the capacity of current services.

The organisation has been working with the Community Partnership Officer and has submitted applications for funds to match the capital costs and to cover revenue costs of setting up the new services.

Egginton Parish Council

Application for £12,500. Egginton Parish Council is working with a number of community groups within the village to develop the Egginton Gateway Community Project. This will deliver a number of community based projects that will improve the appearances of the entrances to the village following extensive flood alleviation works including landscaping, new village signs and improvements to the appearance of the Egginton Brook Bridge.

Additional funds for the project have already been secured towards the project from the Environment Agency / Toyota (£5,000), Seven Trent Water (£3,000), Safer Partnership Fund (£750), Rolls Royce (£200), Diamond Jubilee Committee (£1,000) and the Parish Council (£2,550)

Etwall George V Playing Field

Application for £7,279. The Etwall George V Playing Field Charity has consulted local children and plan to install play equipment for older children. There is no provision currently within the village for this age group.

Etwell Parish Council has agreed to match this grant with a grant of their own for £7,279. An additional application is being submitted to Biffaward to extend the project

Friends of Newhall Park

Application for £11,550 The Friends of Newhall Park aim to undertake a project that will improve the appearance and infrastructure at a main entrance and in a very visible location adjacent to Main Street, Newhall. The proposals are also designed to make provision for the War Memorial Gate to be used for an Act of Remembrance on Remembrance Sunday, with the area in front of the gates becoming a stage and the semi-circle and adjacent path becoming an area for organisations (Rainbows, Badgers, Brownies, Cubs, Guides, Scouts and British Legion etc.) to parade and stand. These will also create a pleasant and active location for people to sit, overlooking the bowling green and other activities.

A wide range of local organisations and businesses have committed funds and time to this project. To date £7,550 has been secured and an additional £4,000 has been identified and is awaiting confirmation.

Gresley PCC (Gresley Church Hall)

Application for £4,834. Gresley PCC (Gresley Church Hall) intends to redevelop internal space that is currently not used to its full potential to create office space and rearranged storage space. This will enable them to develop a capacity building service working with a number of voluntary groups in Church Gresley to help them to establish and grow.

Matched funds (capital £4,834 and revenue £5,000) have already been identified from their own funds.

Overseal Parish Council

Application for £25,000. Overseal Parish Council has developed a project that aims to improve facilities on the village Recreation Ground. The work will improve drainage and level grass pitches, improve disability access to facilities, storage, enlargement of the existing MUGA, the provision of fitness equipment and the relocation of a teen shelter. This project is part of a larger master-plan for the site which will be completed over a number of years due to the cost involved.

Specifically this phase of the project will see improvements to grass pitches on the site that will include re-grading, drainage, cultivation, embankment and marking pitches to be suitable for both adult and junior football. It will also include improvements to other grass areas on the site which can be used for training, multi sports and junior cricket, with a long term aspiration for an artificial cricket wicket on site.

The site plan also includes the development of teen fitness equipment to increase informal fitness provision and also the ability to link to South Derbyshire District Council bootcamp activities.

An application has been submitted to Sport England – Protecting Playing Fields Grants for £65,000 towards this project.

Rosliston Village Hall

Application for £4,200. Rosliston Village Hall aim to reduce ongoing running costs through the installation of solar panels and replacing all internal lights with LED lighting. This in turn will contribute towards the overall sustainability of the hall.

The South Derbyshire Forum (Swadlincote 50+ Forum)

Application £8,319. The forum submitted an application towards the cost of refurbishing/repairing the kitchen facilities of “The Bus Park Café”. The facilities are central to the development of the meals on wheels service that they operate.

Ticknall Church

Application for £8,000. Ticknall Church does not currently have any internal toilet facilities. The proposed project is to install a toilet with full disabled access inside the building. A new meeting space has already been developed and the installation of a toilet will make the facility more attractive as a venue for local community groups to use.

£5,000 has been secured from the Garfield Weston Foundation and £1,000 from the Allchurches Trust towards this project. £2,000 has also been secured from their building reserve fund.

Ticknall Cricket Club

Application for £7,000. Ticknall Cricket Club are seeking a grant to support the improvement and extension of practice facilities that will improve safety and increase usage. The existing facilities are inadequate to increase the level of use that they have. The site has been identified by Derbyshire County Cricket as a development site for young players and this project will help maintain this development.

The club has already secured £7,000 through its fundraising activities.

Trident Reach – Oaklands Village

Application for £9,802. Trident Reach are developing a “Step Up Gym” that will enable residents of Oaklands and members of the local elderly community to access health equipment and services which improve balance, strengthen the musculoskeletal system reducing the need to rely on health services. They will install disability-friendly gym equipment in an under-used room at Oaklands Village, allowing open access and specialist training from physiotherapy trainers in the local area.

Applications have already been made to the Helen Cope Charitable Trust (£8,150) and Sport England small grants (£9,802).

Willington Church

Application for £15,000. Willington Church does not currently have internal toilet or adequate kitchen facilities. This project will lead to the installation toilet facilities and improving kitchen facilities to increase the capacity of the building to be used by the

local community for a range of activities. There will also be an area where the pews are removed to make a more flexible area for the same activities.

The church has already secured £10,041 towards this project and this is held in their building funds. Applications for additional funding have been submitted to CEMEX, Willington Parish Council and the Central England Co-operative Community Dividend Fund.

- 4.4 The Community Partnership Scheme Assessment Panel met on 11th March 2015 to score the applications against the questions and weightings previously agreed. The weighted criteria include links with corporate priorities, security of external funding, sustainability, value of other contributions, value for money, community involvement, risk and commitment to equal opportunities.

Once the weightings had been applied the final score of the projects was as follows:

107th Aston Scouts	7.1
South Derbyshire Citizens Advice Bureau	10
Egginton Parish Council	7.67
Etwell George V Playing Field	7.0
Friends of Newhall Park	5.67
Gresley PCC (Gresley Church Hall)	9.0
Overseal Parish	8.0
Rosliston Village Hall	6.67
The South Derbyshire Forum (Swadlincote 50+ Forum)	Deferred
Ticknall Church	6.17
Ticknall Cricket Club	7.5
Trident Reach – Oaklands Village	Deferred
Willington Church	6.17

For capital grants the point previously used, as a cut off in terms of making positive recommendations to committee was 4.67. The value of applications falling above this point is covered by the monies remaining within the scheme.

Two applications, South Derbyshire Forum and Trident Reach were deferred by the panel so that additional information could be secured to enable the applications to be considered at a later panel.

- 4.5 Prior to making a recommendation the panel considered the scheme's current budget position re capital monies. The scheme has £300,000 budgeted prior to the allocation of any grants.
- 4.6 In light of the above information it was clear that there was sufficient funding to recommend grants to all eligible applicants that scored sufficiently highly. The panel's recommendation for distribution of grant was therefore as follows:
- £15,600 to 107th Aston Scouts.
 - £19,890 to South Derbyshire Citizens Advice Bureau.

- £12,500 to Egginton Parish Council.
- £7,279 to Etwall George V Playing Field Charity. - Grant offer is to be made on the condition that it is a match for the Parish Council contribution, any success with an application for Biffaward funding to increase the provision on the site.
- £11,550 to Friends of Newhall Park.
- £4,834 to Gresley PCC (Gresley Church Hall).
- £25,000 to Overseal Parish Council.
- £4,200 to Rosliston Village Hall.
- £8,000 to Ticknall Church.
- £7,000 to Ticknall Cricket Club.
- £15,000 to Willington Church.

All grant offers for building based projects are required to evidence appropriate planning / building control permissions

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1.1 The award of grants falls within the Community Partnerships budget allocation of £300,000. The total of the grants recommended for award is £130,853 leaving £169,147 to be carried forward to future grant panels.

6.0 Corporate Implications

6.1 The scheme contributes to a number of the Council's strategic objectives including enhancing the quality of life of all South Derbyshire Residents; safeguarding and enhancing a sustainable environment; putting residents at the centre of council decision making and creating a climate for good inward investment. In addition each individual project's impact on corporate priorities is assessed as part of the appraisal process.

7.0 Community Implications

7.1 The scheme maximises funding available for community investment by providing both direct funding and enabling leverage from other funding sources. It also continues to offer a direct line of communication with the voluntary and community sector.

7.2 The impact on the community and amount of community involvement in each individual project has been assessed as part of the appraisal process.

8.0 Conclusions

8.1 The Community Partnerships Scheme continues to provide the District Council with an excellent means to support a variety of community partners in improving the quality of life for local residents. It also enables the community partners to lever in additional external funding to the district.

9.0 Background Papers

9.1 File: [Community Partnership Grant Panel meeting 11/03/2015](#)