
REPORT TO:	Housing and Community Services	AGENDA ITEM:	9.
DATE OF MEETING:	31 August 2006	CATEGORY:	
REPORT FROM:	Director of Community Services	DELEGATED OPEN	
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	M Roseburgh/D Fletcher	DOC:	
SUBJECT:	Community Partnership Scheme	REF: HCS 07	
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All		

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That members consider the recommendations of the Community Partnerships Scheme Assessment Panel and award two grants to

Melbourne Scouts and Guides - £4,000 towards an equipment store;
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust - £7,562 towards the purchase of a vehicle and Bird Hides

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To update members on applications for funding received by the Community Partnership Scheme and seek approval for recommendations from the assessment panel for awards from the scheme.

3.0 Executive Summary

- 3.1 The Community Partnership Scheme for 2006/07 is continuing according to the same processes and procedures as previously agreed and reported to Committee.
- 3.2 In total two applications were received for the first bidding round of 2006/07 asking for £11,562 against a remaining budget of £159,214.

4.0 Detail

- 4.1 The Community Partnership Scheme offers capital grants of up to £25,000 from an annual budget of £100,000 to projects brought forward from the voluntary and community sector. A panel comprising five Councillors, with advice from the Partnership Development Officer and the Community Partnership Officer, assess projects against set criteria and then make recommendations about grant distribution to the Committee.
- 4.2 The following applications were received and considered for the first round of the scheme in 2006/07:

Melbourne Scout & Guides

This project is requesting funding to purchase an equipment store, which will hold various camping equipment and also act as a climbing wall for the group to utilise. The group have between 400 – 500 children and young people and are looking to purchase more equipment but due to their present storage restrictions, this has been put on hold.

The total cost of the project is £16,000, which includes constructing the store, electrics, planning and design costs and the adaptation of turning it into a climbing wall. They are prepared to put £3,400 into this project from their own funds and have submitted an application to the Awards for all programme.

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust is developing two new wetland nature reserves at Drakelow and Willington/Repton Gravel Pits. As part of an ongoing project, they are looking to purchase a terrain vehicle to transport the officer, volunteers stock and equipment to the wetland sites and also to purchase erect bird hides at the site at Drakelow.

The total cost of the project is £235,335, which includes the cost of salaried project officer and associated on costs for three years, the purchase of a terrain vehicle, other habitat and restoration work and the purchase of bird hides. They have been offered £135,000 grants from SITA, £17,000 from the Environmental Agency.

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust did receive a grant during 2005-2006 for the acquisition of the land at Willington/Repton from the Community Partnership Scheme but have clearly identified that this project is a different phase.

- 4.3 The Community Partnership Scheme Assessment Panel met on 17 July 2006 to score the application against the questions and weightings previously agreed during the relaunch of the scheme. 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 project was as follows:

Melbourne Scouts and Guides	4.67
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	6.67

- 4.4 The point previously used, as a cut off in terms of making positive recommendations to committee was 4.67. The panel's recommendation for distribution of grant was therefore as follows:

Melbourne Scouts and Guides	£4,000
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	£7,562

- 4.5 When committee has agreed the allocation of resources the project will be contacted and informed of the decision. A successful project will then have 12 months in which to spend their award. If the grant is not spent within this time period then applicants will need to reapply unless otherwise agreed. Grant payments will be released upon

receipt of invoices or independently certified completion reports. The projects will also be monitored to ensure that the aims and objectives of the project have been met.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 The award of grants falls within the Community Partnerships budget allocation.

6.0 Corporate Implications

6.1 The scheme contributes to a number of the Council's key aims including safeguarding and enhancing a sustainable environment, reducing crime and disorder, developing a vibrant economy and improving access to leisure and cultural activities. In addition each individual project's impact on corporate priorities has been 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: CPS – Returned applications and assessments Round 1 2006-07

