

South Derbyshire Partnership

Report to the Board

Date of meeting: 28 January 2010

Agenda Item: 13

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

FUNDING BIDS 2009/10

Issue

The Strategic Co-ordinating Group has approved the following report.

The Vibrant Communities Theme Group has requested support for three projects which will be added to the 2009/10 Action Plan.

Details

There is currently a projected budget of £22,800 in the LSP's Reserve which was carried over from previous years. The three funding bids are as follows,

Rural Sports Project

An opportunity has arisen for the District to be part of a county bid to the Sport England Rural Communities Fund which will provide sports opportunities in rural locations. Derbyshire Sport has been successful in a Stage One bid to run the project across rural Derbyshire with South Derbyshire getting a full time Officer for three years to work in 15 villages developing sport. The approach would be similar to the highly successful 'Youth of Hatton' project or 'Jog Derbyshire' scheme where local volunteers are supported to run activities in their communities. The project would utilise local facilities such as sports clubs, recreation grounds, school halls, community centres and develop a range of activities. The officer would be employed by Derbyshire Sport but based in the district.

The villages to be worked will be: Etwall, Repton, Melbourne, Linton, Gresley, Hilton, Netherseal, Hartshorne, Weston, Findern, Hatton, Woodville, Overseal, Aston, Willington.

In terms of outputs the target will be per village: 5 new opportunities(activity programmes) with 15 people attending for 20 visits in a year (these don't have to be the same 15 people). 3 new volunteers per village and 3 new coaches per village.

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The external funding would cover the cost of the post (approx. £30,000) with the District/local partners providing £5,000 p.a. and office accommodation. It is proposed to share this £5,000 cost through £2,000 contribution from the Safer South Derbyshire Partnerships youth engagement budget and £1,500 each from the LSP and Healthier Communities Group (subject to successful applications). The request is for an allocation of £1,500 p.a.

This project would provide an ideal opportunity to bring external funding into the villages of South Derbyshire to support local volunteers and Parish Councils.

Cleaner South Derbyshire Campaign

The Cleaner South Derbyshire campaign has been running since April 2009. The campaign aims to:

- Increase public awareness of the work the Council does already with regard to litter
- Promote the opportunities for communities to work with the council and other partners to reduce litter in their areas
- Highlight the negative impact of litter on the District

The Campaign was initiated and is being run SDDC with other partners across including Safer South Derbyshire Partnership, schools, community groups and the Community Payback team.

The focus of the Campaign is now moving into work with secondary schools. After some research and consultation it was decided to invest in a social responsibility programme with the secondary schools in Swadlincote.

Specialist company 'Indigo Brave' has been commissioned to develop a programme for Year 8 pupils. The programme will involve workshops with small groups of c.15 pupils over 1 or 2 hrs and will also include teacher training. It will aim to influence attitudes to litter, making litter dropping and associated behaviour seem 'un cool', and unacceptable within peer groups. It will also help schools progress their own educational targets in relation to social development and emotional intelligence

The project will run into 2010-11 working with pupils from 2 of the Swadlincote secondary schools this financial year, and 1 in 2010-11.

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Pingle School –targeting approx 245 year 8 pupils. Granville – targeting approx 137 pupils, William Allitt –targeting approx 196 pupils

Total project costs are £12,550 towards which a one off contribution of £1,000 is requested from the Partnership.

There are also opportunities for other organisations within the Partnership to develop projects in tandem with this one, eg Eco-Schools (DCC), health, and arts/youth related project work

Swadlincote Woodlands Community Action

The Vibrant Communities Theme Group are seeking to better engage the community in the long-term management and development of Swadlincote Woodlands, giving local people the chance to become involved in how the site is run, managed and developed.

Swadlincote Woodlands has a large neighbouring population and plenty of potential for a variety of events/activities etc to get involved in. The presence of \grounds staff on site will help to assist with programme delivery and be a first point of contact for the community.

Previous attempts at gathering community support and interest in the site have not been sustained and there is currently no group associated with the site. The intention would be to encourage long-term community interest in the site through:

- The delivery of a series of programmed outreach events/activities
- Flexibility to include additional events, or to utilise skills and interests from local people for eg web pages, guided walks, interpretation etc.

Outcomes would be:

- Run 5 x BTCV Conservation Days between October-March for Tuesday mid-week volunteers. Review the success of this and seek to secure additional funding for future years if required.
- Increased local involvement through better promotion of activities to local people using local media, Forest Scene etc
- Encourage Community involvement in the site management – long term seek to develop a Constituted Community Group
- Delivery of Management plan, site improvements and associated works, e.g. interpretation, signage, leaflets, wildlife info, heritage/history etc with local input
- Develop school links with e.g. Environmental Education Project

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- Set up wider partnership working for future years – Groundwork, Wildlife Trust etc

Ideas for outreach:

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| • Tree Week Event | Woodland Craft Day |
| Get Active Winter Health Walk | Stroll in the Park Walk |
| Summer Wildlife Walk | Bat Walk – early autumn |
| Woodland Survival/Shelter Building | Willow Weaving |

The total project cost is £1,800 for which the request to the Partnership is for £900. The District Council is providing £650 and the National Forest Company £250. Plus contributions in kind from volunteer walk leaders.

Financial Implications

The total of the requests is £6,400 which would leave a balance of £16,400 to be carried forward to 2010/11.

Recommendations

To note the decision of the Strategic Coordinating Group to allocate funds to the Rural Sports Project and Swadlincote Woodlands Community Action and defer the decision on the Cleaner South Derbyshire project to the Vibrant Communities Group for further discussion and final decision.

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