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| <b>REPORT TO:</b>              | <b>Housing and Community Services</b>          | <b>AGENDA ITEM: 7</b>             |
| <b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>        | <b>14 March 2013</b>                           | <b>CATEGORY:</b>                  |
| <b>REPORT FROM:</b>            | <b>Director of Operations</b>                  | <b>DELEGATED OPEN</b>             |
| <b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b> | <b>M Roseburgh ext 5774<br/>I Hey ext 8741</b> | <b>DOC:</b>                       |
| <b>SUBJECT:</b>                | <b>Community Partnerships Scheme</b>           | <b>REF:</b>                       |
| <b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>       | <b>All</b>                                     | <b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: HCS 07</b> |

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## **1.0 Recommendations**

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

### **1.11 Capital Grants**

- £4,000 to The South Derbyshire Forum (also known as the 50+ Forum) – Grant towards the capital costs of setting up a meals project supporting older people leaving hospital. This grant would be conditional upon the organisation securing matched capital and revenue funding to enable the project.
- £5,313 to SD Mental Health Association – Grant towards the costs associated with fitting out a new premises. The groups are moving from Bank house to a unit that has been developed specifically for them at the Sharpe's complex.
- £2,330 to SD CAB. – Grant to enable the organisation to develop a garage into additional office space which in turn will allow the organisation to develop additional services for South Derbyshire.
- £11,000 to Etwall Scouts. – Grant to complete a funding package that will allow the organisation to fully refit their building bringing it up to modern standards. As well as making the building more sustainable it will enable its use by several new groups to address issues highlighted in the Etwall Parish Plan.
- £1,278 to Melbourne Community Centre – grant to contribute to the installation of acoustic panels in the main hall to improve acoustics generally, but especially for the spoken word.
- £10,000 to Recreation in Aston. – RIA are leading a partnership of organisations in Aston that are improving play and recreation facilities in the village. The grant is recommended specifically to act as matched funding to support funding bids for Landfill Community monies. If successful this will help them to secure a further £90,000 towards the completion of the project.

- £4,000 to Swadlincote Boxing Academy – Grant to support a new club move a building that has been donated by Derbyshire County Council to land in Swadlincote to establish a training premises.
- £4,250 to Sharpes Pottery Museum – Grant to support the installation of an electric Kiln to allow the development of additional services within the museum site.

#### 1.12 Revenue Grants

- £20,000 to Next Step – Grant towards core costs to allow the organisation time to restructure reduce running costs as well as securing additional funds to develop sustainability.
- £10,000 to Shout – Grant to support the development of activities for families with disabled children. Looking to develop activities for the whole family, especially siblings, who often become isolated.
- £10,000 to Shout Out – Grant to provide 2 years funding to develop this self-help group for young adults with learning / physical disabilities
- £20,000 to SD Mental Health Association – The organisation has identified that the physical health of those suffering with mental ill-health is often overlooked. This funding will support the development of a range of physical activities for all that will develop new services and help service users to integrate and make use of main stream provision.
- £18,347 to SD CVS – Grant to develop an accreditation centre in South Derbyshire that will support the development of an increased training programme of training within the voluntary sector.
- £5,053 to Melbourne Arts – Grant to provide seed funding to set up a package of events that can be delivered across a range of alternative venues across South Derbyshire.
- £8,300 to Old Post Regeneration Centre – Grant towards core costs to allow the organisation time to restructure reduce running costs as well as securing additional funds to develop sustainability.
- £8,300 to SD CAB – Grant to set-up a Gateway Assessment Centre. The grant will support the management and training of volunteers to run the ongoing project.

1.2 That members note the progress of the Community Partnership Scheme to date.

## 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 10 applications were received asking for £54,566 against a budget of £42,300.
- 3.3 Revenue Grants - In total 13 applications were received asking for £195,527 against a budget of £100,000

#### **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. The scheme has previously had an annual budget of between £50,000 and £150,000 since its reintroduction in 2002/3. However there is currently no annual budget and the scheme is operating this year through scheme or project underspend and from situations where grants have been allocated but projects have not managed to progress and awards have been taken back into the scheme. The remaining total budget currently stands at £42,300.
- 4.2 The Community Partnership Scheme was identified as the mechanism to distribute £100,000 of revenue funding that was identified through the Scrutiny review of voluntary sector spending
- 4.3 A panel comprising five Councillors, with advice from the Community Partnerships Officer, assess projects against set criteria and then make recommendations about grant distribution to the Committee.
- 4.4 The following applications were received and considered for capital funding:

##### **The South Derbyshire Forum**

Application for £4,000.

The organisation run a number of services for residents in South Derbyshire that are aged 50+.

They are now looking to develop a service that will support elderly people as they are discharged from hospital. Specifically the service will provide transitional support and fresh meals for 100 users annually.

The application identified that additional funding would come from “Future potential income” that had not as yet been identified.

##### **SD Mental Health Association**

Application for £5,313. This organisation has been supporting people with a range of mental health issues, housed at Bank House, Swadlincote for a number of years. The building is no longer fit for purpose and they have secured newly developed premises on the Sharpes Pottery sit.

The application for funding is to help fit out the new space to ensure that it is suitable to provide a range of services for users.

Service users have raised £1,000 through local fundraising. £700 has been secured from the EM Airport Community Fund and applications have been made to secure the balance from Awards for All (£8,523) and the Peoples Lottery (£7,741).

### **SD CAB**

Application for £2,330. SD CAB have seen an increase in the numbers that are using their services and are anticipating this to increase further as a result of the changes that are being made to various benefits. The organisation have been increasing the number of volunteers that they are using in delivering their services. To enable this to continue they are looking to develop the garage at their premises into office space.

The balance of funding has already been secured with £2,420 from Grant Thornton and £4,600 from the Mortgage Rescue Scheme. Securing this grant will enable the project to commence almost immediately.

### **Etwall Scouts**

Application for £11,000. The Scout building at Etwall requires investing in to redevelop the premises from where modern day services can be delivered. In. As well as providing a base for the Scouts at Etwall the building will become home to several other groups that are looking for a base. The need for additional community space has been identified within the Parish Plan for Etwall.

This is a fairly large community project with a total value of £46,546. Successful applications to provide the balance have already been made to EM Airport Community Fund (£458), Awards for All (10,000), Etwall Well-dressing fund (£737) and Derbyshire CC Community Building Grant (£18,940). Additional applications are also being made to the Scout Association and BIFFA.

### **Melbourne Community Centre**

Application for £1,278. The group have taken on the running of the Bill Shone Centre, a building whose freehold is held by the District Council. Over the last year they have increased the usage of the premises both in terms of numbers and types of services offered.

The application is to support the installation of acoustic panelling. The building itself is an old building and does not lend itself well to events / groups where the spoken word is important. In order to facilitate as wide a usage as possible it is hoped to have a professional installation of acoustic panelling that will reduce echo, reflected noise etc.

Local fundraising towards this has raised £1,200 and an application has been made to Awards for All for the balance.

### **Pipeworks Arts Centre**

Application for £2,425. The long term aim of the organisation is to provide a centre for performing and visual arts within Swadlincote. The application was to secure funds to enable a feasibility study to underpin the overall project.

The group have not applied for funding in support of this project from other sources.

### **Recreation in Aston**

Application for £10,000. Recreation in Aston are acting as the lead body for a partnership project to provide outdoor recreational facilities in Aston. They are looking at redeveloping the pavilion, installing a play area and then operating the same for the benefit of the local community. This project was outlined in the Parish Plan that was completed a number of years ago and more recent consultation work has identified specifics for all elements of the proposal.

The application was specifically for funds to act as a third party contribution to support applications to Landfill operators for Community Landfill Tax monies. The target is 2 applications with different operators that will secure an additional £90,000. In addition to this the partners have raised £38,000 through local fundraising.

### **South Derbyshire Boxing Academy**

Application for £4,000. This is a new boxing club in Swadlincote. They already have more members than the current facilities can cope with. Derbyshire CC have offered a portable building to the project at no charge other than the relocation and development costs.

### **Sharpes Pottery Museum**

Application £4,250. Sharpes are looking to augment their current offer by offering pottery workshops. This will enable a wide range of community members to develop pottery skills and to have their products fired at the museum. The aim is to set up a small studio of 2 potters wheels, kiln and storage space. The grant will be a contribution towards this project.

Applications in support of this project are being made to Derbyshire Community Foundation and Biffaward.

Ongoing costs should be covered by making a small charge for participation.

## 4.5 The following applications were received and considered for capital funding:

### **The South Derbyshire Forum**

Application £20,000. Application to contribute towards a new project supporting older people on discharge from hospital, including staff and other running costs. Revenue support requested to pay for salary costs of a cook and a project coordinator.

Referral agents have been identified to refer service users in to the project. The £20,000 application would not fully fund the project if successful. Insufficient additional funding identified.

### **SD CAB**

Application £20,000. This application was to develop a new gateway service in response to additional calls to the CAB. The funding would support a post to manage trained volunteers. Volunteers to be trained to develop both assessment and advisor teams to improve access for service users.

Some additional funding identified, although not all secured. Contingencies identified ensured that at least part of the project would be developed if not all of funding secured.

### **SD CVS**

Application £18,347. The amount applied for is the balance of funding required to ensure that the project is delivered, additional funds already secured.

Project aims to establish a South Derbyshire accreditation Centre that can support local delivery of learning and development to approved quality levels. This would be

a new service in South Derbyshire and would actively support and develop the quality of services offered throughout the Voluntary Sector.

### **SD Mental Health Association**

Application £20,000. The aim of the project is to improve the physical health and wellbeing of adults with mental health issues. An important element of this is working to empower the individual to make their own healthy choices, improving the quality of life. As well as providing direct services a key element is to support service users to engage with mainstream services that are offered within the District, intern supporting integration for those taking advantage of the service.

Management costs are to be met from funding secured from Derbyshire CC. The project will employ a support worker for 20 hours/week and allow an activity leader to be brought into the project for 2 sessions per week.

### **Melbourne Arts**

Application £12,400. The aim of the project is to allow the organisation to develop it offer to become sustainable through selling services to a wider audience. The target is to increase revenue income in a sustainable manner by 25%. The aim is to achieve this by packaging equal-access visual and performing arts activities that can be implemented by the team on behalf of communities initially, across South Derbyshire spreading to neighbouring areas as the programme develops.

£2,600 of matched funding has already been raised locally to support the development of this project.

### **Next Step**

Application £20,000. The application is for core funding to allow the organisation time to restructure, reduce costs and identify additional funders. The organisation provides an important service supporting victims of domestic abuse. It has already identified a number of actions to reduce its cost while maintaining it services and this funding would enable this process to be continued.

### **Old Post Regeneration Association**

Application £20,000. The organisation provides a wide range of services focussed upon Newhall and the surrounding areas. The nature of services has changed dramatically over recent years as both the County and District Councils have changed how local services are delivered. This has lead to a reduction in rental income.

The aim is to secure funding to allow the organisation time to reorganise services and cut cost, ultimately the target is to develop the sustainability of the organisation.

### **Shout**

Application £10,000. This project will support the development of social, sporting and craft activities for families within the District that have at least one disable child. The aim is to reduce isolation not only of the disabled child, but also to work with the wider family who often find it difficult to access mainstream services.

Specifically the funding will provide subsidised access to artists, activity sessions and support volunteer expences.

### **Shout Out**

Application £10,000 (£5,000 2013/14; £5,000 2014/15)

Funding is requested to support the development of this group that aims to give a voice to young adults with a range of learning and physical disabilities in South Derbyshire. Funding will allow the group to increase the frequency of meetings and events thereby providing opportunities to increase the number of users that access the organisation.

Funding will be used to pay for room hire, publicity and marketing as well as volunteer expenses. Initially it will also contribute to activity costs until user numbers have increased allowing them to become sustainable.

#### **Trident Reach the People**

Application £9,800. The aim of the project is to develop a food bank / food kitchen for residents in South Derbyshire that are experiencing financial difficulties. Funding is being requested to pay for a part-time co-ordinator post, advertising and volunteer expenses.

#### **Weston U 5's**

Application £19,980. The organisation are looking to secure funding to develop summer activities for local children. It is also want funding to provide start-up costs allow it to offer services to a wider age range.

Specifically funding is being requested to pay for rental of space at the village hall, staff costs and equipment.

#### **Youth of Hatton**

Application £2,500. The group are looking to fund an arts based project. The group have been successful in engaging young people through sport and health based activity over the last few years and is looking to extend its offer. As well as engaging young people the aim is to produce a local piece of public art for display within the community. Funds would pay for artists time and materials.

#### **Overseal PC**

Application £12,500. The Parish Council are seeking funding to pay for repairs to a changing pavilion that has been the subject of subsidence. This a two team changing room, one of which is not useable at present. The funding requested would allow for one of the changing rooms to be fully repaired.

- 4.6 The Community Partnership Scheme Assessment Panel met on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013 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:

#### **Capital Applications**

|                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>SD Mental Health Association</b>   | <b>8.17</b> |
| <b>SD CAB</b>                         | <b>8.17</b> |
| <b>Etwall Scouts</b>                  | <b>7.33</b> |
| <b>Recreation in Aston</b>            | <b>7.17</b> |
| <b>SD Boxing Academy</b>              | <b>6.83</b> |
| <b>Melbourne Community Centre Ltd</b> | <b>6.67</b> |

|                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Sharpes Pottery Museum</b>     | <b>6.17</b> |
| <b>The South Derbyshire Forum</b> | <b>4.83</b> |
| <b>Pipeworks Arts Centre</b>      | <b>3.33</b> |

### **Revenue Applications**

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| <b>Next Step</b>                         | <b>9.17</b> |
| <b>Shout</b>                             | <b>8.50</b> |
| <b>Shout Out</b>                         | <b>8.50</b> |
| <b>SD Mental Health Association</b>      | <b>8.50</b> |
| <b>SD CVS</b>                            | <b>8.33</b> |
| <b>Melbourne Arts</b>                    | <b>7.83</b> |
| <b>Old Post Regeneration Association</b> | <b>7.83</b> |
| <b>SD CAB</b>                            | <b>7.50</b> |
| <b>Youth of Hatton</b>                   | <b>6.67</b> |
| <b>Trident – Reach the People</b>        | <b>6.33</b> |
| <b>Weston U 5's</b>                      | <b>5.50</b> |
| <b>The South Derbyshire Forum</b>        | <b>5.00</b> |
| <b>Overseal PC</b>                       | <b>3.83</b> |

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 are covered by the monies remaining within the scheme.

There has not been a revenue fund previously. The scheme was oversubscribed by almost £65,000. This being so the panel recommended that applications scoring over 8.0 be funded in full, with those scoring over 7.0 to be funded in part. All those scoring below 7.0 to be unsuccessful.

- 4.7 Prior to making a recommendation the panel considered the scheme's past performance, current budget position re capital monies of £42,300 and revenue monies of £100,000.
- 4.8 In light of the above information it was clear that re capital funding there was sufficient funding to recommend grants to all eligible applicants that scored sufficiently highly. With regard to revenue grants there was insufficient funding to support all of the lodged applications in full. Weighting was given to the fit of the projects with the Council's aims and objectives and the necessity of Council support to attract additional funding into the District. The panel's recommendation for distribution of grant was therefore as follows:

#### **Capital Grants**

- £4,000 to The South Derbyshire Forum (also known as the 50+ Forum) – Grant towards the capital costs of setting up a meals project supporting older people leaving hospital. This grant would be conditional upon the organisation securing matched capital and revenue funding to enable the project.
- £5,313 to SD Mental Health Association – Grant towards the costs associated with fitting out a new premises.
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- £5,053 to Melbourne Arts – Grant to provide seed funding to set up a package of events that can be delivered across a range of alternative venues across South Derbyshire.
- £8,300 to Old Post Regeneration Centre – Grant towards core costs.
- £8,300 to SD CAB – Grant to set-up a Gateway Assessment Centre.

## **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 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: CPS – Returned applications and assessments 2012/13