

Community Partnerships Scheme

Ten projects have returned applications to the Community Partnership Scheme. They are summarised below:

West Street Methodist Church – Feasibility Study

The West Street Methodist Church in Swadlincote are seeking £4,500 towards a feasibility Study in relation to a project seeking to transform a variety of church owned premises in West Street into a multi faceted community led facility. The Church is supplying the balance of funding required for the study. The feasibility study will include an architects sketch scheme and model, the work of a quantity surveyor, structural engineer and a mechanical and electrical survey. It is essential as a preliminary to the full scheme.

To date the Church has engaged with a number of interested parties to form a “West Street Partnership” which will steer the project. This partnership is active but currently finalising a legal framework for it’s existence which is why the application has been made in the name of the Church. The Partnership has a number of ideas for use of the available space. These include a dual use worship and performance/rehearsal space, a multi-purpose community hall, a new entrance area, office space for community based organisations, a fair trade outlet, a refreshment area and improved access (including a lift). In order to check out these ideas the partnership are undertaking a consultation exercise with both existing user groups and members of the public.

The premises owned by the church in West Street are quite extensive and if the project comes to fruition it should complement the Sharpes Pottery site in renovating that end of the town centre.

Linton Sports Activity Centre

Linton Sports Activity Centre committee are seeking £25,000 towards a project to replace a dilapidated wooden pavilion and replace it with a new sports activity centre at “Rickmans Corner” to support Linton, Coton Park and Castle Gresley. The anticipated total cost of the project is £225,000. The group has so far raised £122,000 from the National Lottery and £10,000 from the County Council and has approximately £2,000 of it’s own money. They have an application to the Garfield Weston Foundation outstanding and are consulting with Entrust and the Coalfield Regeneration Trust about whether they can reapply following initial unsuccessful applications.

The proposed new facility would include a main hall, toilets, storage, self-contained sports changing facilities, shaded area and car park. These facilities would complement and add value to the adjacent playing fields.

The committee have prepared a business plan and projected future use and users includes local football clubs, after school clubs, martial arts, parent and toddler, keep fit, lunch clubs, arts and crfts groups, educational classes, private hire etc.

Friends of Newhall Churches – car park

Friends of Newhall Churches on behalf of St Johns Church Newhall are requesting up to £13,630 to purchase and use land adjacent to the church and turn it into a car park and footpath. The total cost of purchase and redevelopment is up to £54,522 depending on whether tarmac or roadstone is used. At present the church council has funds of £5,200 towards the project and is looking to the Heritage

Lottery fund and WREN and Entrust to make up the shortfall. There is also some help in kind promised from Bridges Development.

The aim of the project is to open up the use of the Church premises by enhancing the car parking facilities. At the moment space is extremely limited which is putting off both existing and potential users and capacity for community development. The Church have undertaken extensive local consultation to ascertain support for the project.

Dalbury Lees Millennium Hall Trust – Feasibility Study

Dalbury Lees Millennium Hall Trust are looking for a contribution towards the cost of a feasibility study for a new Village Hall that will serve the surrounding area. The study would include research about the level of demand and activities needed, determining the size and features of a suitable facility, design, estimate of costs, preparing a business plan, identifying funding etc.

The Trust has recently gained Charitable Status but operated previously as a social committee and has been active since the late 90s in a two stage approach to the project of acquiring land and then fundraising for a new village hall. The Villages current community facility is now in private ownership and will not be available much longer.

The Trust have undertaken local consultation and demonstrated an ability to raise substantial funds locally as evidenced by their purchase of the land.

Hilton Scouts and Guide Association – Feasibility Study

Hilton Scouts and Guide Association are asking for a contribution towards the cost of a feasibility study for a new scout hut. The overall project aims to provide new accommodation for the seven groups comprising of 180 young people currently using an ageing terrapin building. It is also to open up the building for general use by the rapidly expanding local community.

The current building cannot cater for existing and future users and is unsuitable for the disabled and elderly. The Association have £12,000 of their own funds available for the project.

Etwall and District Age Concern Committee – Bus Shelter

Etwall and District Age Concern Committee are seeking £1,150 to erect a bus shelter outside Welbrook Medical centre in Hilton. The bus shelter will provide protection to local people accessing the new Medical centre and other local amenities by public transport. The need for the bus shelter was highlighted by a survey undertaken by the Medical Centre which showed that in a two week period in December 16 people on average per week accessed the surgery by public transport.

The total cost of the projects is £4,300. To date £2,150 has been raised from the County Council, £250 each from Etwall and Hilton Parish Councils and £500 from Councillor Littlejohn's Community Fund. An application to the Primary Care Trust was unsuccessful. Age Concern is requesting the shortfall, which is £1,150. If all funding was secured the District Council has given a commitment to maintain the shelter.

Linton “Brick Room”

The Brick Room Management Committee supported by the Parochial Church Council of Christ Church Linton and Castle Gresley are requesting £25,000 towards the refurbishment of the “Brick

Room” which is a church owned community facility. The refurbishment includes renewing the roof and floor, rewiring, upgrading security, refitting the kitchen and improving access.

The church has raised £10,275 of its own funds plus £20,046 from WREN and has access to a £10,000 loan from the Church CAF Fund. They have made unsuccessful applications to the National Lottery Community Fund and Coalfield Regeneration Trust but have no other outstanding or pending applications.

The overall aim of the project is to provide the residents of Linton with an improved, modernised, accessible community facility and increase community activity particularly for the young, the elderly and those with disabilities.

Linton Parish council – Play Equipment

Linton Parish Council are seeking to replace the existing play equipment on the local village playground with new EU compliant equipment. The playground is part of the recreation ground, which is the only such facility in the village. The new equipment is aimed at children of 4 to 13 years.

The Parish Council has a potential £10,000 of its own funds for the project whose total cost is £40,000. At this juncture they have not got any pending funding applications or identified any potential funders. They have not specified the amount of grant they are seeking within the application but would be eligible for a maximum of £10,000 (i.e. 25% of total project costs).

There has been some community consultation at various meetings but this has not been detailed or evidenced in the application.

Community Transport - Swadlincote

Community Transport - Swadlincote want to install a “through floor” lift to make their premises fully compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act. The lift will allow access to the second floor, which houses offices and a meeting room.

The anticipated cost of installing the lift is £15,000 and Community Transport has £5,000 towards this figure in a designated Accessible Building Fund. They have no funding applications pending and have not identified any other potential funders although they are continuing with their own internal fundraising activities.

There is no specific figure mentioned in the application but they would be eligible for a maximum of £3,750 (i.e. 25% of total project costs).

Practical Angling for the Disabled

Practical Angling for the Disabled is an angling club organised to promote fishing for people with all types of disabilities. Membership is limited to 25 people in total and is run and organised by a committee of five of the members.

The application is a request for the provision of light weight all weather protective clothing to enable members to enjoy the stimulation of fishing despite adverse weather conditions.

The cost of the clothing is £2,400 and so far the group has raised £500 each from Rolls Royce and the Duke of Devonshire Charity and £400 from it's own club funds. They are therefore requesting the balance, which is £1,000.

N.B. This last project was not scored as the panel felt that the clothing being requested did not constitute "major items of capital equipment" and that the application was therefore ineligible according to scheme guidance. In addition it was not clear from the application what proportion of the membership were residents of South Derbyshire.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHEME 2003/04

PRIORITISING PROJECTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHEME :
ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Project appraisals will be undertaken for all applications submitted. The assessment will be as follows: -

Step One The project must meet one or more of the Council's aims or objectives. Meeting this minimum threshold allows each project to progress to the full assessment and prioritisation stage.

COUNCIL AIMS & OBJECTIVES (Weighting 15%)

1 ***What are the main aims and objectives, which the project will contribute towards?***

3	Essential contribution to agreed Council aim/objective
2	Key contribution to agreed Council aim/objective or agreed strategy
1	Contribution to Council aim/objective or outline strategy
0	Minor or no contribution

Step Two Further assessments against the following questions will be made to score and prioritise each project

EXTERNAL FUNDING (20% Weighting)

2 ***Is the project likely to secure external funding?***
 > *What conditions apply to the external funding?*

3	All external funding secured or likely to be secured
2	Some funding secured, other bids submitted and likely to be successful
1	Bids submitted for funding, outcome unclear
0	No other bids made, other funding unlikely

SUSTAINABILITY (Weighting 25%)

3 ***How have the capital costs been assessed?***
 > *What action could be taken if the final capital costs exceeded the budget?*
 > *Would other partners increase their contributions if capital costs rose?*

3	Estimates over the last 12 months with professional input
2	Estimates produced over 12 months ago but uprated for inflation
1	Some attempt to estimate costs based on similar schemes
0	No detailed estimated

4 ***What assumptions have been made in assessing running costs?***

3	Detailed assessment based on experience of similar projects
2	Indication of costs of similar projects elsewhere
1	Some attempt to look at experience elsewhere
0	Lack of detail and little basis on previous projects

5 ***What evidence of need is there for the project?***

3	Extensive research and consultation
2	Some research and consultation
1	Little research and consultation
0	No research or consultation

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHEME 2003/04

6 **Is there a clear forward strategy in place?**

3	Forward strategy documented and in place
2	Some consideration given to a forward strategy
1	Little consideration given to a forward strategy
0	No forward strategy

7 **Is the organisation able to support running of the project?**

- > Are there appropriate structures and mechanisms for management and finance?
- > Are the management responsibilities clearly defined?
- > Are there any procedures in place for monitoring?

3	Organisation fully equipped to manage project
2	Organisation capable of managing project
1	Management capabilities of organisation weak
0	Organisation unable to manage project

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (Weighting 20%)

8 **Are volunteers and the community involved in the project?**

3	Large scale volunteer and community involvement in the project
2	Some volunteer and community involvement in the project
1	Little volunteer and community involvement in the project
0	No volunteer and community involvement in the project

9 **What impact will the project have on the community?**

3	Large scale impact on the local community
2	Significant impact on the local community
1	Limited impact on the local community
0	Minor impact on the local community

VALUE FOR MONEY (Weighting 10%)

10 **Does the project offer value for money?**

- > Does the project add value to any other Council activity, strategy, spending programme?
- > Would the project be able to go ahead without Council support?

3	Project offers excellent value for money
2	Project offers value for money
1	Project offers some value or money
0	Project offers little or no value for money

RISK (Weighting 5%)

11 **Are risks clearly identified?**

- > Are their contingency plans for dealing with them?
- > Is the project deliverable in the time scale envisaged?
- > How dependent is the project on factors outside the control of the lead partner?
- > Are substantial risks justified by potentially high outcomes?

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHEME 2003/04

3	Risks identified and contingency plans in place
2	Some risk analysis and management
1	Little risk analysis and management
0	No risk analysis

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES (*Weighting 5%*)

12 *Is there any evidence of commitment to equal opportunity principles?*

3	Project underpinned by equality of opportunity
2	Some reference to equality of opportunity
1	Little reference to equality of opportunity
0	No reference to equality of opportunity

The initial appraisal will be carried out by the Partnership Development Officer and a panel of three Councillors who will make recommendations to the Council's Housing and Community Services Committee. The Housing and Community Services Committee will then make the final decision on which projects to support.

