

Community were taken into account

District Councils

North Warwickshire Borough Council – comments taken into account

Health Authority

Police

Other Bodies/Individuals

Heart of England, NWCVS

FINAL DECISION YES

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee

To Council

To Cabinet

To an O & S Committee

To an Area Committee

Further Consultation

North Warwickshire Area Committee – 16 November 2005

Community Development Fund 2005/06

Report of the County Solicitor and Assistant Chief Executive

Recommendations

1. Area Committee comments on last year's successful applications
2. Committee members confirm eligibility of this year's applications.
3. Members decide which applications should receive a grant.
4. Members agree on the level of funding to be received by each application.

1. Introduction

1.1 This is the sixth year that applications to the Community Development Fund (CDF) have been decided by Area Committee.

1.2 The total County fund for this year stands at £167,310. This is divided between the five district and borough areas using a formula based on the Index of Multiple Deprivation (the level of deprivation, the size of the population and access to services within an area). The allocations are as follows:

North Warwickshire	£22,280
Nuneaton and Bedworth	£53,910
Rugby	£26,460
Stratford	£32,680
Warwick	£31,980

1.3 The aim of the Fund is 'to provide new opportunities for local people, particularly those who experience disadvantage or exclusion from mainstream activities'.

2. A Review of Last Year's funded projects

2.1 Last round, nine projects were funded to a value of £22,200. Six of the grants helped to start up new groups and services, all of which have had a productive year and are still on going. A further two grants helped to improve community buildings. While the recipients of the final award of £201 are looking to start their project this month. See **Appendix A** for further details.

2.2 Members might like to comment on the outcomes of the projects.

3. This Year's application process

3.1 This year, applications were invited from 1st June with a closing date of 22nd August. The application period was chosen to avoid the local and general elections in early May.

Publicity

3.2 The fund was well publicised locally. Articles were placed in local newspapers and magazines (The Record, The Gazette). All Parish Councils were notified directly. Announcements were made at all four local Area Forums and application forms were available from all seven local libraries and the mobile library. Countywide 120 applications were received of which 23 applications were received for the North Warwickshire area compared with 29 last year. Overall there was a slight drop in the number of applications made across the county this year.

3.3 Locally, officers from North Warwickshire Borough Council and those representing the Community & Voluntary sector infrastructure organisations (including CVS, WRCC, The Volunteer Centre), were also supplied with application forms to hand out to appropriate groups and organisations.

3.4 County Councillors were also given five application forms each to hand out at their discretion.

Consultation

3.5 Consultation was undertaken with officers from across County Council departments and with external partners. This was to clarify the relationship of applications to mainstream funding and to minimise the risk of inappropriate funding and duplication of support.

3.6 Officers were given a summary of all 23 applications received. They were asked to pass comment and invited to attend a review meeting on 7th October to look at all applications in greater detail. The meeting proved very useful and helped in particular to identify other sources of funding available for certain projects. The meeting was attended by four officers.

3.7 Members were also sent the same summary sheet and invited to a Funding sub-group meeting on 12th October to go through this year's applications and pass comment. The meeting was attended by two Members.

Site Visits

3.8 Two officers from the Area Team visited the majority of the projects. They met with applicants to assess the need for the project and to find out more information about a proposal. These visits proved very useful in helping to gain additional information to score each application appropriately. The visits were conducted over a four day period at the end of September.

4. This year's evaluation process

4.1 Each application was evaluated against the eligibility and scoring criteria set out in the application guidance. Our recommendations on eligibility and the amounts that applications should receive are as set out in **Appendix B** and summarised in paragraph 5.4 below. The process that was followed is summarised below.

4.2 Eligibility and Scoring of Bids

The application arrangements require that in order to qualify for a grant an application must satisfy the following entry criteria.

The Community Development Fund will give preference to:

- The establishment/start up cost for a new group
- Projects which expand and extend a community group i.e. training for their members or the creation of a business plan
- Locally based organisations, serving local people
- Projects which benefit people living in the most deprived areas
- Projects which tackle more than one issue (see the scoring points criteria Appendix A)
- Projects that demonstrate a lasting benefit to the community
- Projects that are not eligible for other sources of funding
- Organisations that agree to comply with the principles and legal requirements applied by the County Council

Consideration will also be given to

- Any application received for a project covering more than one district/borough area. Projects would be treated on individual merit with appropriate liaison between Chairs of other Area Committees where necessary.

The Community Development Fund will not fund:

- One off celebratory events e.g. daytrips
- Large scale continued refurbishment schemes
- Retrospectively – i.e. Projects which start and or finish before the funding decision is made
- The running costs of a group, activities which are deemed to be that groups main service
- Projects which are the statutory responsibility of that or another group
- Organisations which are already core funded by Warwickshire County Council
- The religious practises of an organisation, although religious organisations can apply for a project, which is community based
- Early years projects managed by a school. The project must be separately run although can be based on the school site
- Projects that were funded in previous years (although groups which have previously been granted Community Development Funds may apply for a new project)

4.3 We have indicated those bids that we feel are outside the scope of this year's CDF and also where applicants may be able to source alternative funding. We suggest that the Area Committee confirms whether they support our views in each case. We have scored each of these applications should members wish to regard any of them as qualifying for a grant.

Applications have been scored against a number of factors relating to:

1. location (deprivation) - up to four points
2. community involvement and partnership working – up to four points
3. the priorities set out in the Strategic Plan for Warwickshire and the local Community Plan - up to ten points.

5 Allocation of Grants

5.1 The amount available for North Warwickshire this year is £22,280.

5.2 The total amount requested by the 23 applicants is over £75,000 of which the “eligible” bids total over £58,000.

Clearly it is not possible to fund all of these applications. In previous years the general practice has been to award grants to the highest scoring “eligible” applications. This usually involves a process of choosing between applications with the same number of points or reducing the grants to a particular points threshold in order to fit with the money available. Our suggestion as to how the fund could be spent for 2005/06 is as follows.

5.3 We recommend that eleven projects are funded. They are a good mix of groups benefiting a diverse group of users.

5.4 Three of the projects support Pre-schools to provide a better learning environment for their young pupils. Two more are supporting groups to update their IT equipment. Both these projects are directed towards the Schools Technical Service refurbished IT scheme. A further three projects are promoting sport and leisure activities for both younger and older generations. Two schools projects are promoting music and financial skills. The final project is part of a larger initiative to improve the grounds of Polesworth Abbey.

5.5 All eleven projects scored either 9 points or above.

5.6 To enable eleven projects to be supported, four are recommended to be fully funded whilst the remainder are recommended to be part funded from their original requests. The funding of all 11 projects should allow each to accomplish the core business of their project and give due consideration to further sources of funding.

See summary table below.

Proposed –
Successful applicants of Community Development Fund 2005/06

Ref No	Name of group	Division(s)	Councillor	Score	Request £	Recommend £
NW 05/02	Warks Independent Advocacy Alliance	All Areas	Forwood	9	1,200	300
NW 05/05	Ansley Sports Cricket Club	Arley	Hayfield	9	4,164	3,500
NW 05/08	Baddesley & Grendon Pre-school	Baddesley	Sweet	9	2,600	2,600
NW 05/10	Hazel Helping Hands (Polesworth Abbey)	Polesworth	Stanley	9	5,000	3,500
NW 05/12	Ansley Parochial Church Council	Arley	Hayfield	10	3,478	300
NW05 /15	Ansley Parish Council	Arley	Hayfield	11	5,000	2,950
NW05 /16	Atherstone Youth Marching Band	Atherstone	Forwood	10	2,969	2,000
NW05 /17	New Way Credit Union	All Areas	Sweet	10	4,525	3,000
NW05 /19	Water Orton Bowling Club	Water Orton	Lea	9	1,130	1,130
NW05 /20	Fillongley Pre-school	Arley	Hayfield	10	1,410	1,410
NW05 /22	Jack & Jill Pre-school	Baddesley	Sweet	9	1,590	1,590
						£22,280

DAVID CARTER
 County Solicitor and Assistant
 Chief Executive

Shire Hall
 Warwick

24 October 2005

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND 2004/2005

Appendix A to Agenda No.

Name of Organisation	Status of Project	Description of Project	Amount Granted	Project Value
Funky Friday Kids Klub	On-going, awaiting final report	<p align="center">Project started Oct 04 and on-going</p> Very successful project. Over 60 young people regularly attend weekly activity. Organisers jointly won 'North Warks Volunteers of the Year' awarded by Volunteer Centre. The group now meets in the Hill Top Centre, Polesworth	1,200	
Mind in the Media	On-going awaiting final report	<p align="center">Project started Nov 04 and on-going</p> To empower mental health service users to engage proactively with the media to encourage more positive reporting of news stories Purchased laptop computer. Training programme up and running. More information to follow	3,563	
Kaleidoscope Club	On-going, awaiting final report	<p align="center">Project started Nov 04 and on-going</p> Two age groups of children attend group: 5-8 yrs and 8-13yrs. Meet in Dordon Church Hall. Puppets and craft equipment purchased and used weekly. Adult volunteers trained. About 15 Yps attend regularly	£2145	
Nwarks CAB	Finished. Final Report received	<p align="center">Project started Nov 04. Completed Oct 05.</p> Successfully raised £17,000 in benefit claims Outreach work assisting clients with mental health issues. Fortnightly sessions at Resource Café, Atherstone & MIND grp in Baddesley Ensor. 31 clients used the service 124 times. 6 clients are receiving long term debt advice / assistance at NWCAB main office.	2,591	3,100
Mancetter Village Community Assoc	About to start	<p align="center">Project started Oct 05. Completion date Sept 04.</p> First edition of village newsletter to be produced in time for Christmas. At a cost of £25 per edition	201	
St John's Church Hall Committee	Finished, Awaiting final report	<p align="center">Project started Jan 05. Completed Feb05.</p> New storage facilities / cupboards fitted to enable more groups to use Hall. Held celebratory event in Feb 05. Successfully applied to Heart of England for £5000	2,600	£7,600

Links Day Care Centre	Finished. Received final report	Project started July 05. Completed Sept 05 Very successful project. Applied to ACEC, Early Years, A4A, NWBC for additional funding. Installed ramp, disabled toilet, wider access, to provide universal access for childcare provider on site of Nathaniel Newton Infant School	4,700	£17,200
Piccadilly Youth Proj Mmt Com	On-going. Awaiting final report	Project started Jan05 and on-going Number of youth and intergenerational projects organised over year. Regular meetings held. 3 day arts project organised Feb half-term – attended by 15 Yps. More information to follow	2,200	
Phoenix Group	On-going. Received final report and photos	Project started Jan 04 and on-going Very successful project giving support and social activity to clients suffering with dementia and their carers. 30 members meet weekly at Nether Whitacre attended by 2 nurses and 3 health care assistants. The group is supported by the local day hospital. The group have gone out on a number of trips locally.	3,000	3,000

North Warwickshire Community Development Fund Applications 2005/2006

Ref No	Project	Name of Association	Description	Ward(s)	Eligibility	Score	Request	Recommend
NW05/01	Household survey to evidence need for a New Community Building – New Arley	Arley Community Association (ACA)	ACA to design and distribute questionnaire to local residents in New Arley. WCC Research Unit to analyse data and write report.	Arley	Y	7	£1050	No. Parish Plan should identify need.
NW05/02	Purchase new computer & software for Atherstone Office	Warwickshire Independent Advocacy Alliance	To upgrade obsolete IT equipment to improve service to disadvantage members of the community	Atherstone	Y	9	£1200	Yes. Offer to purchase refurbished equipment throu' Schools Technical Service (STS)
NW05/03	Start up a Volunteer Singing Group	North Warwickshire Volunteer Bureau	Recruit volunteers to form a singing group visiting home/residential homes/hospitals/day centres – funding will be used to purchase equipment (keyboard) and manage project	Atherstone	Y	9	£3000	No. Offer to potentially fund 50% project rejected by organisation. Poss duplicate funding. Vol Co-ord role lottery funded
NW05/04	Improvements to Ansley Village Church Hall	Ansley PCC Church Hall Committee	Upgrade Central heating, storage and floor to improve venue for community use	Arley	Y	8	£4900	No. Should apply to Awards for All. Possible £10K shortfall in funding to release WREN grant
NW05/05	Equipment for coaching Junior cricketers	Ansley Sports Cricket Club	To provide a third all-weather coaching net for junior cricketers in response to increase in club membership	Arley	Y	10	£4164	Yes. Well organised grp – good results from previous funding
NW05/06	Dordon Toddler Group	Dordon Toddler Group	To purchase new toy equipment for group to improve quality of play sessions and child development	Baddesley Ensor	Y	8	£1716	No. Can apply to Local Network Fund throu H of Eng. Or Awards for All

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATIONS 2005/2006

Ref No.	Project	Name of New Association	Description	Ward (s)	Eligibility	Score	Request	Recommend
NW05/07	Baddesley 'Drop in' Centre	Baddesley Drop in Centre	Purchase a POD (mobile youth facility) for meeting place for young people and storing equipment	Baddesley Ensor	N	7	£5000	No. Not constituted etc. Need to liaise with County Youth Service to co-ord youth provision in area
NW05/08	Improvements to Pre-School's outdoor Area	Baddesley & Grendon Pre-School	Provide Playground markings (eg snakes & ladders). Purchase wheelie toys, outdoor musical equipment .	Baddesley Ensor	Y	9	£2600	Yes. Well organised grp. Less likely to get Local Network Funding
NW05/09	NWCVS - Resource Loan Service	North Warwickshire CVS	To purchase laptop, multi-media projector and books for ref library to meet needs / support local vol & com grps	Atherstone	Y	6	£2075	No. No sink fund contribution from hire of equipment to contribute toward payment of new equip
NW05/10	Sensory Garden for visually impaired	Hazels Helping Hands / Polesworth Abbey PCC	Group to design, create and maintain a Sensory Garden in grounds of Polesworth Abbey	Polesworth	Y	10	£5000	Yes. Good p'ship proj. Succ applied to Awards for All. Strong bid to CRT Also eligible for Public Realm / Area Forum Fund
NW05/11	New Arley Youth Project	New Arley Youth Club	Newly formed youth club, wanting to provide a DJ project to youngsters 8-16, funds will help to purchase equipment (digi-cam) and DJ's fees	Arley	Y	8	£2820	No. Appropriate project for Local Network Fund throu H of Eng

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATIONS 2005/2006

Ref No.	Project	Name of Association	Description	Ward (s)	Eligibility	Score	Request	Recommend
NW05/12	LEY Group Young People's Project	Ansley Parochial Church Council	To convert the old vestry at St Michaels into an office for a proposed new youth leader	Arley	Y	9	£3478	Yes. Offer to purchase refurbished IT equipment through STS. Offers of donation of office equip from NWBC and WCC - Adult & Community Learning
NW05/13	Forward to the Future Together	Wesley Hall Community Centre	Increase floor area by removing internal divides and resurface with new flooring. To increase capacity of centre.	Arley	Y	7	£4709	No. Good project but not a priority need
NW05/14	Improvements to Scout Hall, Atherstone	Atherstone over 60's Club	Upgrading of building (disabled access / toilet, improve electrics) & new furniture to accommodate Over 60's club twice a week.	Atherstone	N	6	£5784	No. Applic should come from owners of building. Other venues in A'stone: Rowan, Ratcliffe, P'ship Hse
NW05/15	Bretts Hall Recreation Ground Improvement Plan	Mrs Jane Sands (Ansley Parish Council)	Improving recreation facilities for young people @ Ansley Common Recreation Ground – installation of youth centre	Arley	Y	11	£5000	Yes. Part of wider NWBC initiative to renew play sites
NW05/16	Procurement of Marching Instruments	Atherstone Youth Marching Band	Purchasing of instruments enabling the band to run workshops in local schools and youth groups	Atherstone	Y	10	£2969	Yes. Borough wide, well established grp.
NW05/17	Schools Project	New Way Credit Union	To increase the "school banking" network being established in N. Warks	Atherstone	Y	10	£4525	Yes. Build on CRT funded programme to encourage school children to think about saving. Also eligible to apply to Local Network Fund
NW05/18	Ridge Lane Methodist Church & Community	Ridge Lane Methodist Church	To extend front/side of existing community hall to incorporate storage areas for groups using the building	Hartshill	Y	6	£5000	No. Lack of use by community grps since first building phase completed

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATIONS 2005/2006

Ref No.	Project	Name of Association	Description	Ward (s)	Eligibility	Score	Request	Recommend
NW05/19	Water Orton Bowling Club	Water Orton Bowling Club (Mr Leslie Crump) Bowls Club Sec	To provide a projective fence for the green and provide seating for bowlers and visitors	Water Orton	Y	9	£1129	Yes. Good grass roots community project
NW05/20	Fillongley Pre-School Library Corner	Fillongley Pre-School	Create a library area enhancing the development and education of children	Arley	Y	10	£1410	Yes. In response to Ofsted inspection
NW05/21	Support The Phoenix Group	Phoenix Group	Maintain the group which provides opportunity for carers and dementia patients to meet and support each other and also cover volunteer expenses	Water Orton	N	7	£1500	No. Not eligible as applied for continuation funding. Can apply direct to H of Eng
NW05/22	Jack & Jill Pre-School	Sue Hill (Jack & Jill Pre-School)	Partition room into 2 enabling the separation of 2 yr & 3yr olds, purchase education toys and provide new carpet to cover existing concrete tiles	Baddesley Ensor	Y	9	£1590	Yes. Good all round project. Committed staff
NW05/23	Art Together	The Art Together Group	Encouraging local peoples interest in the Arts. Pay for professional tuition fees, IT equipment, display boards	Coleshill	N	7	£5000	No. Needs to be constituted. Can apply to Community Champions, Awards for All, Area Forum Fund