

Subject: Community Grants
Lead Officer: Contact Chris Wood on 01789 260640
Portfolio Holder: Councillor Chris Williams

Summary

To provide updated information on the budget available for Community Grants and details of applications received

Recommendation

That the Committee considers and awards rejects or defers grants as appropriate for the applications presented.

1 Background/Information

- 1.1 The new criteria for a joint district and county council community grants scheme will be in place for the September round of Joint Area Committee meetings.
- 1.2 The following grant application(s) have been previously received under the SDC grants scheme and deferred from the June East Area Committee Meeting.
- 1.3 Details of the current SDC Grants Conditions and the approved scoring system that has been used to assess this application are contained within Appendix I. The resultant scores indicate to the Committee the level of grant aid that may be considered.

2 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Please note that the budget show is split between revenue and capital and includes the District Council funds only for this financial year. Budget figures incorporating County Council funds will be shown from the next round of Grant funding.

The total budgets available are detailed below. Committee is asked to consider the following grant requests:

2.1 Revenue

	Balance	Grant Request
Initial allocation	£13,200	
Previously awarded or allocated	£ 1,600	
Agreed Summer 08 Playscheme Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lias Summer Playscheme, Long Itchington (£400) • Summer Arts at the Cutting Gallery, Stockton (£400) • St Mary's Children's Club, Southam (£400) • Wellesbourne Summer Playscheme (£400) 		
Agreed at June East Area Joint Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Activity Voucher Scheme • Stockton News • St James Church, Southam • ILEAP • Orchestra of the Swan 	£1,500 £500 £1,000 £750 £1,650	
Total Amount Available for Allocation	£6,200	
Application No 784 Young Enterprise South Warwickshire Please note this is a district wide project. The figures shown represent 30% of the total requested		£1,200
Total amount of new requests		£1,200
Balance to carry forward if all applications are awarded the requested amount.	£5,000	

Applicant	Young Enterprise South Warwickshire -782 - Revenue
Project	Provide educational programmes in primary and secondary schools to help young people understand and give them personal experience of how business works
Corporate Aims Met	Two points Aim 1 A district where everyone shares in an improved quality of life Aim 3 A district where business and enterprise can flourish
Deprivation Mapping	
Value	One Point

to Community	This project benefits a significant number of users.
Equality Impact Assessment	There will be no negative impact on any sector of the community
Risk Assessment	The majority of the funding is already in place and the project is therefore assessed as low risk.
Outcomes To be achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1300 pupils to attend the programme • 10 companies to be registered and participating in the National Trade fair in Stratford Upon Avon • A target of 14 schools to participate in programme
Total Project Cost	£21,250
Grant Request	£1,200 (30% of total £4000 requested)
Financial Appraisal	Contained within blue confidential papers
Project Rating	<p>Three points High priority – may be considered for 30% - 35% of total project cost i.e. £6,375 - £7,437.</p> <p>Award should be within the range of £1,912 – £2,231 representing the 30% allocation to East Committee.</p>
Notes	<p>As this project is district wide the application has been divided between the 3 area committees. Grant applications will be considered by the 2 other Area Committees on 17th and 26th July.</p> <p>This organisation received a grant of £2,250 from SDC in 2005.</p> <p>This application was submitted in November 2007 but was deferred due to lack of funds.</p>
Further Information requested at last meeting	<p>There is no link with Young Enterprise South Warwickshire and the County Council's Education Business Partnership within Stratford District. The WEBP mainly work in secondary schools and provide activity sessions, which are paid for by the school.</p> <p>Y.E. provide an alternative set of programs targeting primary, secondary & special needs groups within schools. They have a company program that is not available any where else where a school group set up a company, taking up individual positions and produce a product to sell at Stratford Trade Fair. Any profit made by that company is given to charity before the company is wound up.</p> <p>Y.E. always undertake to match 50% of the costs on behalf of the school. Local grants are used directly to further reduce costs and if funding is secured they run the courses free of charge.</p>

2.2 Capital

	Balance	Grant request
Initial allocation	£60,000	
Previously awarded or allocated <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ratley Village Hall• Stockton Community Church• Wellesbourne Parish Council	£15,000 £10,000 £8,042	
New requests No new Applications		£0
Balance to carry forward.	£26,958	

Main Conditions Relating to the Community Grants Scheme

Eligibility

1. Town and Parish Councils are not eligible to apply for grants from Stratford-on-Avon District Council, except for play area, formally approved Village/Parish/Town Plan, Appraisal, Market Town Healthcheck or Vision related grants, identified within approved action plans.
2. Expenditure by a religious organisation will only be considered for grant aid where it specifically relates to the adaptation or improvement of facilities for non-religious, community leisure and recreational purposes.
3. Applications for grant aid for expenditure on projects outside the Stratford on Avon District Council's area will only be considered where it can be clearly demonstrated that such expenditure will be of benefit to residents of the District.
4. Applications by an Educational Authority, or establishment, will only be considered for grant aid where the project would directly benefit the leisure and recreational needs of the general community.

Frequency and Amount

5. A group will only be awarded one grant within any 24-month period, except for where a Partnership Agreement is in place, or where the applicant is applying for an annual event or festival, or where an Area Community Committee for specific reasons deems a project high priority. Where further funding will be sought within the 24-month period, a group should present details of its estimated income and expenditure for the period.
6. Stratford-on-Avon District Council will only normally make grants of up to 25% of total project costs. This sum can be increased at an Area Community Committee's discretion if the project is identified as high priority.
7. Stratford-on-Avon District Council will only award grants (up to a maximum of 50% of total project costs) for play area projects which meet the standards adopted in the Minimum Requirements for Play Areas. No grants will be given to those play area projects that do not meet the standards.

Supporting Evidence

8. In support of the application, the Council will require up-to-date accounts from the organisation together with three quotations for undertaking the necessary work. (If obtaining three quotations for the project is not possible/appropriate, an application may still go forward subject to consultation with a Grants Officer). Any grant offered would be based on the lowest quotation received. However, if the work is proposed to be undertaken on a self-help basis, details should be submitted of the actual cost of the materials to be used in order that an appropriate level of grant aid can be made.
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9. Notification should be received from the local Parish or Town Council that they are prepared to give support, preferably in financial terms, to the scheme concerned. Account will be taken of efforts made by the applicant organisation to raise funds for the project themselves.

If An Application is Successful...

10. A substantial amount of the work included within the project should be completed by the end of the financial year in which the grant award is made.
 11. A Post-Implementation Safety Check, for which the applicant group is responsible, will be required for capital projects. The purpose of this is to verify full compliance with any legal requirements. The cost of a Safety Check may be included within the grant application. *(Please note, for play area projects, a post installation inspection must be carried out by a RoSPA or RPII inspector – details can be found at www.playinspectors.com).*
 12. Appropriate steps should be taken for on-going maintenance (Please note that Stratford on Avon District Council cannot support on-going running costs associated with an organisation, eg maintenance and future replacement equipment costs).
 13. The District Council's contribution should be recognised in any promotional material or events relating to the project. Grant-aided organisations will be expected to co-operate with the District Council in any promotional activity arising from grant awards.
 14. Feedback will be required following the completion of the project, to establish whether the original stated objectives are achieved. The format the feedback takes will depend on the size of the grant award.
 1. If the cost or scope of the scheme or project varies significantly from the original application, the Council must be informed as soon as possible.
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Scoring System

Each application will be scored against the following criteria:

Corporate Strategy Aims (1 point for 1 Aim met or 2 points for 2 or more Aims met):

Aim 1: A District where everyone shares in an improved quality of life

Objectives:

- 'Residents feel able to influence Council decisions'*
- 'Residents have easier access to local public services '*
- 'More housing is available at a price local people can afford'*
- 'More people enjoy a healthier lifestyle'*
- 'Fear of crime and anti-social behaviour is reduced'*

Aim 2: A Clean & Green District

Objectives:

- 'Reduce the risk of Flooding'*
- 'A high quality environment'*
- 'Increased recycling and less waste sent to landfill'*
- 'Reduction in the Councils carbon footprint'*

Aim 3: A District where business and enterprise can flourish

Objectives:

- 'Increased economic vitality of the four main market towns'*
- 'Expanding local businesses are able to remain in the district'*
- 'Increased value of the visitor economy across the whole district'*
- 'Improve the skills of the working population'*

Deprivation Mapping (One point):

This refers to the Parish in which a project is situated. A point can be scored if the number of households, within the Parish, and in receipt of means-tested benefits exceeds the District average, ie 13.5%. (NB: figures used are 2006 Parish Deprivation Figures).

Value to Community (One point):

To recognise issues such as significant numbers of users, rural isolation, accessibility, schemes arising from Parish Appraisals, etc.

Percentage Grant Award:

Low Priority: 10 – 15% (0 or 1 point)

Medium Priority: 20 – 25% (2 points)

High Priority: 30 – 35% (3 points)

ACCs must award grants within the respective bands unless they give clear reasons why they wish to give a different percentage grant. These reasons must be stated in the Committee's Notice of Decision.

2.3 The grant requests are listed above. Recommended levels of grant award are shown with each individual application; however these sums may be increased or decreased at the discretion of the Committee.

3 Options available to the Committee

The Committee has the option in each case of awarding, rejecting or deferring grant requests.

4 Members' Comments

4.1 Any comments received will be listed under the individual grant application.

5 Implications of the proposal

5.1 *Legal/Human Rights Implications*

5.1.1 There are no legal/human rights implications to this report

5.2 *Financial*

5.2.1 See 2.1 and 2.2 above

5.2.1 The grant requests are listed above. Recommended levels of grant award are shown with each individual application; however these sums may be increased or decreased at the discretion of the Committee.

5.3 *Environmental*

5.3.1 Successful applicants will be encouraged where appropriate to adopt sound environmental principles when delivering their project

5.4 *Corporate Strategy*

5.4.1 The extent to which each applications supports delivery of the Council's Corporate Strategy is identified within the details provided

5.5 *Equality Impact Assessment*

5.5.1 An equality impact assessment is included with each proposal

6 Risk Assessment

6.1 A risk assessment is included with each proposal

7 CONCLUSION

7.1 That the Committee considers and awards, rejects or defers grants as appropriate for the applications presented.

Robert Walsh

HEAD OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Appendix I

Grants Conditions and Approved Scoring System

Background papers:

None

REPORT INFORMATION SHEET

Please complete and submit to Committee Services with draft report

Committee/Date	East Area Joint Committee 17 th June 2008	
Item No/Title of report	Community Grants	
Consultations undertaken		
Consultee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Details / Date of consultation / comments received
Ward Members	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Committee Chairman/ Portfolioholder * <i>*Cllr Chris Williams</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Draft Report / 22.5.08 / No comments received
FINANCIAL SERVICES * <i>Richard Burrell</i> <i>Sarah Pittaway</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Draft Report / 22.5.08 / No comments received
Legal Services * <i>*Richard Hood</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Draft Report / 22.5.08 / No comments received
Other Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other organisations Martin Gibbins , Amanda Wilson-Patterson – WCC CVS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Draft Report / 22.5.08 / WCC would prefer that all grants not "time critical" are deferred.
Final decision by this Committee or recommendation to another committee/Council ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Final decision
Does this report contain exempt information? If so, under which paragraph(s) ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of schedule 12A to the Local Government Act of 1972
Does this report relate to a key decision (referred to in the Executive Forward Plan)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No