

**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

**Name of Committee** Warwick Area Committee

**Date of Committee** 22nd November 2005

**Report Title** Wellbeing Fund / Social Inclusion Fund  
2004/5 – Monitoring Report

**Summary** The report informs committee of the use made of the Wellbeing Fund and Social Inclusion Fund allocations made in 2004/5

**For further information please contact:**

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**Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?** No.

**Background papers** None

**CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-**

Details to be specified

- Other Committees  .....
- Local Member(s)  Applies to all members of the Area Committee
- Other Elected Members  .....
- Cabinet Member  .....
- Chief Executive  David Carter.....
- Legal  .....
- Finance  Dave Preece – Finance Officer.
- Other Chief Officers  .....
- District Councils  .....
- Health Authority  .....
- Police  .....

Other Bodies/Individuals  .....

**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  .....

## Agenda No

### Warwick Area Committee - 22nd November 2005.

#### Wellbeing Fund / Social Inclusion Fund 2004/5

#### Report of the County Solicitor and Assistant Chief Executive

##### **Recommendation**

That Warwick Area Committee note the use made of 2004/5 Wellbeing Fund and Social Inclusion fund allocations.

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Warwick Area Committee made Wellbeing Fund and Social Inclusion Fund allocations of some £118,000 in 2004/5. This report provides details of the allocations made and the use made of those funds by recipient organisations.
- 1.2 The report is set out in chronological order, outlining all of the grants made at Warwick Area Committee meetings during 2004/5 and the use to which those grants have been put.

#### **2. Meeting of 25 May 2004**

##### **2.1 Wellbeing Fund**

##### **a) Warwick Folk Festival**

- i) At its meeting on 25 May 2004 the Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £5,000 towards an education project associated with the Warwick Folk Festival. The event was held over 3 day period between July 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> and was an integral part of the 25<sup>th</sup> Warwick Folk Festival. The event was focused on St Mary Immaculate Catholic Primary School in Warwick and involved musicians, dancers and a storyteller.
- ii) The project was a great success, which really captivated the imagination of the children and staff from St Mary's school and the surrounding community.

##### **b) Sydni Centre – Business Consultancy Support**

- i) The Committee approved a grant of up to £2,000 to enable the Sydni Centre to use the County Council's Business consultancy Unit to develop a job description for a full time centre administrator and assist with the preparation of funding applications for such a post.

- ii) The work was successfully undertaken and funding for the Centre Manager post was found from a variety of sources. £811.90 of the allocated funds were used to accomplish this.
- c) R R Playscheme – Summer Programme and Business Consultancy Support**
  - i) RR Playscheme provides summer and Easter play opportunities for disabled children in Warwick District. Warwick Area Committee approved a grant of £5,000 to enable the summer programme to continue as planned after they group had run into funding problems. The grant was used to successfully fund the summer 2004 programme.
  - ii) Up to £2,000 of County Council Business Consultancy time was allocated to the project to assist with the development of a long term funding strategy. This money and a subsequent grant in March 2005 have been used to develop a funding strategy for the group and to work on financial management issues. The group has established a strong working relationship with the Business Consultancy Unit

## **2.2 Social Inclusion Fund**

### **a) Hybrid Arts**

- i) Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £2,500 towards a Portuguese Community Transnational Arts Project. The project, 'We Are Here', was produced in collaboration with Warwick District Council as part of an on-going project with the Portuguese community in Leamington Spa. A series of personal images taken by members of the local community were projected onto an outdoor screen on the exterior of Nisa supermarket from 11<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> November 2004. Details of the full project were also presented in the Royal Pump Rooms Museum and Art Gallery.
- ii) The 11<sup>th</sup> November is St Martinho day in Portugal, when families and friends celebrate the summer of St Martinho. Hybrid Arts, partner organisations and members of the Portuguese Community locally celebrated this day with the opening of a special digital artwork dedicated to the Portuguese community.

### **b) Warwick District Shopmobility**

Two grants were made to Warwick District Shopmobility. Firstly, an allocation of up to £2,000 of County Council Business Consultancy time was allocated to the organisation to help with business planning and the development of a funding strategy beyond the immediate grants that the group had obtained. This money has not been used.

The second grant involved the allocation of £500 per annum to help the organisation provide up to date information material for disabled people locally. This money has not been used.

### **c) Community Education – Engaging Young People in the Development of the Community Plan for Warwick District**

- i) A sum of £2,500 was made available for Community Education to commission Community Arts Workshop to produce a video aiming to give local young people the opportunity to identify key issues affecting their lives, and for the

material produced and the issues raised to be fed into the process of producing the Community Plan for Warwick District. The money was spent as planned and a video was produced and presented to the Warwick Partnership Board.

### **3. Meeting of 27 July 2004**

#### **3.1 Wellbeing Fund**

##### **a) The GAP Summer Youth Programme**

- i) Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £1,203.36 towards a summer Youth Programme for the Gap Community Centre in Warwick
- ii) 2004 saw the most successful summer youth scheme in the Gap's history with over 50 members from across Warwick district accessing some or all of the 100 hours face to face sessional time offered during the holidays.
- iii) The Gap worked in partnership with Warwickshire County Council, Warwick District Council, Positive About Young People, Connexions, Regenis and Community Education to provide activities such as Outdoor Education visits to the Forest of Dean. There, young people aged between 10 and 19 years took part in Caving and Mountain Biking as well as centre based activities such as art, multi sports and drama.
- iv) Young people had the opportunity to escape from the urban confines and develop the confidence to try new activities, which aimed to build team spirit and raise the confidence and self esteem of the young people involved. Overall the project played a major part in offering a full youth provision which helped to reduce youth nuisance in Warwick North Ward at a time which historically sees a rise in young people engaging in risky behaviour.
- v) Without the funding the project would have to of been scaled down and been offered to young people at a higher financial charge. Many of the participants were from families with a low income, so the grant enabled these young people access to positive intervention.

##### **b) Bath Place – Business Consultancy £1219.13**

- i) A grant of up to £2,000 was made to enable WCC Business Consultancy support to be provided to Bath Place to help to enable the venture to be placed on a more sound financial and business footing. £1219.13 of this sum was used in funding Business Consultancy business planning support.

##### **c) Bath Place – Community Café**

- i) At its meeting on 27 July 2004 the Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £10,000 towards the operating costs of the Community Café at Bath Place Community Venture. The funds helped to keep the café operating for several months longer than would have otherwise been the case. The café eventually closed, but has subsequently reopened with fewer staff, opening for shorter hours, but on a more sound financial footing

##### **d) Warwick Live**

- i) Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £400 towards Warwick Words Festival of Literature and Spoken Word 2004.

- ii) Three Poetry and Pints events took place in October as part of the Warwick Words Festival of Literature and Spoken Word. The Festival consisted of 25 events in 14 venues in the town of Warwick. This was the first time in the Festival's history that 3 consecutive evenings of live poetry performance were scheduled in three different public houses.
- iii) Poetry and Pints was a huge success and attracted well over 250 local people, attracted new poets who had never read their work to a live audience and provided the opportunity for local people to 'get up and have a go'.

### **3.2 Social Inclusion Fund**

#### **a) Portuguese Community Support Worker**

- i) Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £20,000 towards a Portuguese Community Worker. The worker subsequently started work in April 2005. The project has been very successful to date and the project worker has established good working relationships with the Portuguese community locally and with service providers. A report of the progress of the project was provided to this committee in September 2005, at which time a further grant was made to continue the funding of the post through 2006/7.

#### **b) British Asian Business and Professional Association**

- i) Warwick Area Committee agreed a grant of £1,400 to the British Asian Business and Professional Association to meet the cost of hiring premises for the duration of the Association's 2004 Summer School. The project aimed to bring together young people from ethnic minorities, children with disabilities and children whose families were on means tested benefits.
- ii) The funding was spent as intended on the 2004 summer school programme.

## **4. Meeting of 14 September 2004**

### **4.1 Wellbeing Fund**

#### **a) Young Carers Transport Group**

- i) Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £1,283 towards the Young Carers Transport Group. The project aimed to provide transport to social activities and contacts for young carers
- ii) The ability to hire a minibus has considerably increased flexibility and the overall numbers of young carers able to use the service. 188 have now benefited from the project. The most recent report shows £712.65 having been spent on minibus hire. If we had not had this grant we would have only been able to transport 140 young carers to groups during the same period. This would have been in a variety of staff and volunteer cars and the expense to the project would have been far greater than using the minibus because staff starting points also have to be added into the mileage costs.
- iii) An additional members of staff has now passed the D1 driving test. This will enable the project to use the minibus more regularly and provide a safer environment.

- b) The GAP – Counselling for Older People**
- i) Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £4,914 towards a Counselling Service for Older People.
  - ii) The project start date was postponed until March 2005 due to the practitioner suffering an illness. Free advertising for the campaign was given by Stagecoach on the no.66 bus route which runs between Leamington Spa and Warwick and stops close to The GAP.
  - iii) So far, 5 clients have received 6 weeks of intensive support. A new promotional campaign is underway with signposting and advertising in the local press. It is anticipated the project will continue into next year.
- c) Ocean Drop In Centre**
- i) £1,500 was provided to the Ocean drop in Centre to help with personal safety training and security for staff working at the centre. The money was spent as intended on training in self defence and conflict resolution, on physical changes to the building and on personal alarms.
  - ii) Unfortunately, Ocean drop in Centre closed earlier this year when main sources of funding ceased.
- d) Radford Semele Community Hall**
- i) Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £1,000 towards a Public Address System.
  - ii) Fundraising for the project is still ongoing. The total amount needed is £87,000 and just over £60,000 has so far been secured. It is hoped to secure all necessary funds during 2005 so that work can commence on the project.
- e) Baddesley Clinton Parish Council**
- i) At its meeting on 14 September 2004 the Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £1,300 towards a village notice board.
  - ii) The notice board was ordered from Harry Stebbings Workshop in Hookham, Norfolk. The notice board was delivered on 28 May 2005 and installed the following week. Manufacturer and delivery of the board totalled £1,104.86 and installation £130.00. Further costs will be entailed in adjustment to the notice board hinges.
- f) Sydni Centre – Festival of Light**
- i) Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £2,240 towards the Sydni Centre's Festival of Light event. The Festival of Light took place on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2004 and was attended by over 1,000 local people. It was a fantastic success and enabled local people to work together in the run up to the day.
  - ii) The cost of the event was £1,480, this figure does not include admin costs. The remainder of the funds provided have been used towards the admin and print costs of the quarterly newsletter. The newsletter costs approximately

£250 per issue to produce and the funds provided have allowed production of one year full print run over 4 editions. The newsletter is an integral part of life at Sydni as it enables them to keep the local community informed of what is happening at the Sydni Centre and in Sydenham itself.

**g) Sydni Centre – CCTV**

- i) At its meeting on 14 September 2004 the Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £1,000 towards a CCTV system at the Centre.
- ii) The funding assisted in securing a further £6,500 funding from the Building Safer Communities fund. However, the success of this bid was not notified until May 2005 due to the General Election.
- iii) The new CCTV system has now been installed.

**h) Community Arts Workshop**

- i) At its meeting on 14 September 2004 the Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £10,000 towards the core costs of the organisation, who were faced with the prospect of closure if additional 2004/5 funding were not forthcoming. The funds have been used for the intended purpose.

**i) St Mary's Church**

- i) At its meeting on 14 September 2004 the Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £1,419 towards exercise and gym equipment at the Pathway Drug Recovery Project based at St. Mary's Church, Leamington.
- ii) A hut has been refurbished to provide a meeting place/exercise area/gym. Over 30 members of St Mary's Church and Pathway Centre underwent training in the use of the equipment between November 2004 and January 2005.
- iii) The Pathway Drug Recovery Project continues to be instrumental in seeing people make significant progress in being free from drugs and offending behaviour. The Project is having good success and has developed more links with Social services and Probation. The Project is in the process of negotiating with Blakenhurst Prison to help recovering offenders.

**4.2 Social Inclusion Fund**

**a) Sydni Centre – Centre Manager**

- i) At its meeting on 14 September 2004 the Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £5,000 towards a Centre Manager post.
- ii) The post was advertised in February and an appointment made with a start date of 9 May 2005. The starting salary is £16,000 rising to £16,500 per annum after a successful probationary period which is still running.
- iii) The funding received is being used to pay for the employment of the post and will continue to do so over the forthcoming months.

**b) Council of Disabled People**

- i) At its meeting on 14 September 2004 the Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £5,000 to the Council of Disabled People for the establishment of a Warwick District Disability Forum.
- ii) The Group last met on 4<sup>th</sup> August at Sydni Centre. The meeting was attended by more than 30 local disabled people who have now formed a committee and set agenda items.
- iii) The Group hopes to hold a conference later in the year to tackle the issue of parking and the abuse of disabled people's parking bays.

**5. Meeting of 23 November 2004**

**5.1 Wellbeing Fund**

**a) Help a Mate**

- i) At its meeting on 23 November 2004 the Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £7,000 towards the 'Help a Mate' home based education and development project. The Help-a-Mate Community support programme was launched in the Cape Road and Packmores area of Warwick on March 21<sup>st</sup> 2005.
- ii) Help-a-Mate acknowledges that most people turn to someone they already know for help. If these people are able quickly to provide the right knowledge or advice this can make the difference between success or failure. People signing on to the programme will learn how to offer more effective assistance and be better able to support others who may normally be reluctant to ask for help. The programme is delivered by EduCare. WCC Adult and Community Learning have been closely involved in the delivery of the initiative.

There are currently 16 people at varying stages through the programme. Of the 16 people:

- 5 have completed all 4 modules of the 'Effective Helping' programme
- 5 are currently in progress having returned between 1 and 3 modules
- The remaining are yet to complete any modules.
- 8 have requested a further EduCare learning programme ranging from Child Protection Awareness, Safe Food Handling, Planning for Business and Stress Management.
- 3 have expressed an interest in other areas including counselling, working with deaf children, nail technician and basic food hygiene.

We are also currently in the process of introducing literacy and numeracy support for the Community in conjunction with WCC Adult and Community Learning.

**b) The Womens Forum**

- i) Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £1,500 towards a Domestic Violence Seminar. The event was held on 28 January 2005 and was attended by 30 women.

- ii) As a result of the event a support group now meets once a month and it is hoped to increase these to fortnightly meetings by September and weekly meetings by November.
- iii) The remaining funds of £750.20 are to be used for two, half-day, Personal Safety Courses to be run on 27 September and 24 October.

## **5.2 Social Inclusion Fund**

### **a) Warwickshire Association of Youth Clubs – Bishops Tachbrook**

- i) At its meeting on 23 November 2004 the Warwick Area Committee agreed an allocation of £3,300 towards the cost of employing a detached youth worker serving Bishops Tachbrook. The worker had been working in the local community, supported by Bishops Tachbrook Parish Council and Warwickshire Association of Youth Clubs. The funding was used as intended.

## **6. Meeting of 25 January 2005**

- 6.1 No allocations made

## **7. Meeting of 22 March 2005**

### **7.1 Wellbeing Fund**

No allocations made.

### **7.2 Social Inclusion Fund**

#### **a) Council for Voluntary Service**

A grant of £9,121.50 was made to the Warwick District Council for Voluntary Service to extend the funding of the post of Community Support Worker. The support worker has been in post since the award was made and the funding will last until the end of 2005/6. The support worker has supported the community and voluntary sector's input into the Community Plan for Warwick District, has supported the delivery of the local Community Action Forum and has supported a variety of other community based initiatives.

#### **b) R R Playscheme**

Additional grant of £2,000 to provide WCC Business Consultancy Support in business planning and financial management. See para. 2.1 c) above for further details. Money spent for the purpose intended.

DAVID CARTER

County Solicitor and Assistant  
Chief Executive

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24 October 2005