

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Warwick Area Committee

Date of Committee 23 January 2007

Report Title Well Being Fund / Social Inclusion Fund 2006/7 - funding proposals

Summary This report outlines proposals for projects to be funded through the committee's Well Being and Social Inclusion Funds for 2006/7.

For further information please contact:

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

Background papers

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s) Cllrs. Boad, Haywood and Randev as Area Committee funding sub group.
Cllr. Caborn re para. 2.3
- Other Elected Members
- Cabinet Member
- Chief Executive
- Legal David Carter, Tony Maione
- Finance Nicola Cumberledge – Finance Officer
- Other Chief Officers Martin Stott for Environment and Economy Directorate re paras. 2.2 and 2.3
- District Councils Warwick District Council re para 2.6
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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

Warwick Area Committee – 23 January 2007.

Well Being Fund / Social Inclusion Fund 2006/7 – Funding Proposals

Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development

Recommendation

That Members approve the funding proposals set out in section 2 below.

1. Introduction

1.1 At it's meeting of May 16th 2006 this committee approved priorities for allocating Well-being and Social Inclusion Funds for 2006/7 and for bringing proposals to committee.

1.2 The Wellbeing Fund for 2006/7 is £66,940 and the Social Inclusion Fund, £50,475.

1.3 Wellbeing Fund

In addition to the £66,940 available in the Well Being Fund, £11.50 underspend was carried forward from 2005/6 giving an available total of £66,951.50. Some £38,350 has been committed at previous meetings of this committee, leaving a balance of £28,601.50. £15,000 of this total had been held against two projects from 2005/6, Culture in a Suitcase and a project involving community safety initiatives in the Packmores/The Cape area of Warwick, neither of which will now proceed as originally planned, consequently those funds can be released for other initiatives.

1.4 Social Inclusion Fund

Three projects approved last year carry over into 2006/7 and commit almost all of the £50,475 available in the Social Inclusion Fund. Those projects are:

Portuguese Community Support Worker	£22,000
Warwick District Welfare Rights Group	£20,000
Policy for Older People Support Worker	£ 8,000

However, there was a carry forward of underspend from 2005/6 of £17,388.50, which is available for projects this year. £12,000 was allocated from this budget at the May meeting of this committee, leaving a balance of £5,863.50.

2. Funding Proposals

- 2.1 This report contains funding proposals from the Warwick Area Team that have been considered by members of the Area Committee's funding sub group. Further details of any of these proposals can be obtained from the County Council's Warwick Area Office.

Wellbeing Fund Proposals

2.2 Championing Sustainability at the Recycle Warehouse

a) Description of the Project

In 2005 / 06 Action 21 received funding from WCC's Warwick Area Committee towards the post of volunteer development worker. The aim of the role was to promote and support volunteer activity, firstly linked to the operation of the Recycle Warehouse at Princes Drive in Leamington and the Action 21 Recycling Group and secondly linked to Action 21's walking for health scheme. The project has been highly successful this year and the Recycle Warehouse has thrived with the help of over 40 volunteers from the local community and the walking for health programme has also proved successful.

Action 21 are now seeking funding to build on this work over the coming year, particularly in relation to the Recycle Warehouse, by developing a multi dimensional public awareness programme. This will be centered at the Recycle Warehouse which is currently visited by 600 – 850 people per week. The project will provide in-depth training to volunteers around the issues of waste and environmental sustainability so that they can talk to the public on this subject with confidence. They will develop a range of visual display materials and increase the range and presentation of printed information available to the public.

To achieve this Action 21 will:

- **Provide sustainability training sessions** aimed at increasing volunteer's understanding about environmental issues, increasing their knowledge about the local contacts and agencies which are available to help, and increasing their ability to communicate this effectively to visitors to the Recycle Warehouse and elsewhere.
- **Create giant colourful poster display boards** for the walls of the Recycle Warehouse. These will transform the look of the Recycle Warehouse, illustrating a range of environmental issues using imagery and surprising facts to make an impact.
- **Increase the range of printed information** available at the Recycle Warehouse to give out to customers with enquiries.
- **Continue to recruit, support, and train and develop** our bank of volunteers according to their individual needs and our scope.

Targets:

- **Between 12 – 25 volunteers** undertaking training programme.
- **Over 800 customers per week** will have access to quality environmental information through displays at the shop and information from staff and volunteers.
- **3 training events will be provided**

- **15 new volunteers will be recruited**

b) Applicant

Action 21

c) Amount of Funding sought

£7,000

d) Total Cost of the Project

Budget Breakdown April 2007 – March 2008

Expenses

Staff Salaries	12,000 (3 days per week)
NI	1200
3 Training Events	1300
Displays for shop	3000
Recruitment Leaflet	450
Volunteers travel / expenses	250
Postage	200
Stationary	230
Telephone	150
Total	18,780

Income and Grants

WCC Warwick Area Committee	7000
Action 21 (Recycle Warehouse proceeds)	7780
Warwick District Council	4000
Total	18,780

e) Appraisal

The proposal supports the sustainable community objectives of the Warwick 2020 Community Plan.

f) Recommendation

Approve a grant of £7,000

2.3 Barford Village Shop

a) Description of the Project

Members will recall from your last meeting that your funding sub-group were unable to make an award to Barford Shop under the 2006/7 Community Development Fund. The sub-group did request however that specific reference be made to the Barford Village Shop project which they felt was an important initiative that the Area Committee may wish to support financially, despite not having received sufficient points to warrant a CDF award - largely due to its geographical location.

In summary, a group of local people has joined together to develop a new shop in the village as an extension to the Memorial Hall to replace the village's only shop, which has now closed. The intention is to run the shop as a Community Shop with about 40 volunteer staff and a paid manager. To manage it, local people have set up the Barford Village Shop Community Interest Company. To build the shop, stock it and fit it out will cost around £120,000. The Post Office, which is currently operating out of the Community Hall, will move into the new shop building. The shop will open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays with shorter hours at weekends. The intention is for the shop to open in September 2007.

The Barford Village Shop Community Interest Company will run the shop. A Community Interest Company is set up like an ordinary company, with directors, proper financial records, professional auditing etc. The special feature is that profits have to be kept within the community. The Community Shop is an established business model with 170 in the UK and numbers are rising. The Company aims to break even in the first year and build profits so that they are able to contribute money to the community by Year 3.

This request is for a contribution to the essential up-front costs of driving the project forward. Specifically there is an urgent need to pay for fees for the architect (£1200) who has designed the building, for the site survey (£395) and for the production of 800 leaflets plus 1200 share application forms for the Community Interest Company (£190). Your committee is requested to contribute £1,785 for these purposes.

b) Applicant

The Barford Village Shop Community Interest Company

c) Amount of Funding sought

£1785

d) Total Cost of the Project

The total cost of the project is some £120,000. These initial costs for which grant is sought are detailed in the project description above.

e) Appraisal

The proposal supports the fair and cohesive community objectives of the Warwick 2020 Community Plan.

f) Recommendation

Approve a grant of £1,785

2.4 South Warwickshire Fundraisers Forum and Fundraising Surgeries

a) Description of the Project

South Warwickshire Fundraisers' Forum (SWFF) has been set up to support Voluntary and Community Sector fundraising activity in South Warwickshire.

Voluntary and Community organisations find it increasingly hard to raise funds to finance the services they offer. Over 50% of funding bids within the sector fail due to the inexperience and the lack of skills of the fundraisers, and limited knowledge of potential funders and understanding of their donation criteria.

Fundraisers Forum meetings in South Warwickshire are planned every two months throughout 2007/8 (subject to funding). Forum meetings involve inviting speakers from various funding bodies, both statutory and charitable, providing networking opportunities to encourage peer learning and partnership working, and short workshops on the various skills needed to raise funds successfully. The forum also provides regular e-mail funding and information bulletins. The choice of topics for the SWFF workshops is driven by the members. Membership is free of charge and is open to all voluntary and community sector organisations.

The Forum also hosts fundraising surgeries which provide fundraisers, particularly from small organisations, village halls and community buildings, the opportunity, on an individual basis, to raise their funding issues and

receive information advice and support from a team of “experts”. Two day-long surgeries are proposed in each of the South Warwickshire District areas in 2007/8.

- b) Applicant**
CVS Warwick District on behalf of South Warwickshire Fundraisers Forum
- c) Amount of Funding sought**
£1,680
- d) Total Cost of the Project**
£1680 will cover the cost of 3 half day Fundraisers Forum events in Warwick District during 2007/8 and 2, day-long Fundraisers Surgeries providing one to one advice to organisations locally. WCC Stratford Area Committee is being asked for similar amounts of funding for an identical programme of events in Stratford District. Both sets of events will be open to community and voluntary sector organisations across South Warwickshire.
- e) Appraisal**
The proposal supports the fair and cohesive community objectives of the Warwick 2020 Community Plan.
- f) Recommendation**
Approve a grant of £1,680

Social Inclusion Fund Proposal

2.5 Relate Counselling Service.

- a) Description of the Project**
Relate South Warwickshire has been successful in winning an award of £197,000 from The Big Lottery to extend its counselling services to provide more appropriate services for communities who have traditionally not used Relate's general counselling services - specifically carers, disabled people, older people and BME communities. A condition of the award is that the service, currently operating out of the 1st floor of Pageant House in Warwick, is fully accessible for disabled staff and users. This has two major implications for Relate - they need to take up a ground floor location within Pageant House and need to provide fully accessible disabled persons toilets. The total cost of these works is £24,126.03. Relate is contributing £6,000 from reserves to this and has been successful in securing £1,000 from the Bruce Wake Charitable Trust (applications to King Henry VIII and Henry Smith Charitable Foundation have been unsuccessful - several other applications totalling £8,000 are pending). Warwick District Council is the landlord of Pageant House and has made a good-will gesture of allowing a rent-free period to the value of £5,000. The District Council no longer operates services from Pageant House and so responsibility for any aids and adaptations in respect of disability discrimination legislation rests with the tenant.
- b) Applicant**
Relate – South Warwickshire
- c) Amount of Funding sought**
No specific amount requested
- d) Total Cost of the Project**
£24,000
- e) Appraisal**
The proposal supports the healthy and fair community objectives of the Warwick 2020 Community Plan.
- f) Recommendation**

That members consider whether they wish to provide a grant to South Warwickshire Relate for this project.

DAVID CARTER
Strategic Director of Performance and Development
Shire Hall
Warwick

2 January 2007