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| REPORT TO: | Housing and Community Services | AGENDA ITEM: 7 |
| DATE OF MEETING: | 13 March 2008 | CATEGORY: |
| REPORT FROM: | Director of Community Services | DELEGATED OPEN |
| MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT: | M Roseburgh ext 5774 I Hey ext 8741 | DOC: |
| SUBJECT: | Community Partnerships Scheme | REF: |
| WARD(S) AFFECTED: | All | TERMS OF REFERENCE: HCS 07 |

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That Members consider the recommendation of the Community Partnerships Scheme Assessment Panel and award grants of:

- £25,000 to Aston on Trent PCC - development of meeting rooms and heritage centre.
- £2,263 to Burnaston PC - refurbishment of village hall and installation of disability access.
- £1,050 to The Old Post Regeneration Association - Structural alteration to the building to improve flexibility and usage.
- £13,500 to St John's PCC - Alterations to the church building to enable additional and alternative community use.
- £6,182 to Overseal Bowls Club - Providing disability access to the green as well as new toilet and changing facilities.
- £15,800 to Woodville PC to enable the development of a Multi-use games area (MUGA).

1.2 That members note the progress of the Community Partnership Scheme to date.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To update members on applications for funding received by the Community Partnerships Scheme and seek approval for recommendations from the assessment panel in relation to the scheme.

3.0 Executive Summary

3.1 The Community Partnerships Scheme for 2007/08 is continuing according to the same processes and procedures as previously agreed and reported to Committee.

3.2 In total 7 applications were received for the fourth bidding round of 2007/08 asking for £67,215 against a remaining lifetime budget of £97,884.

4.0 Detail

4.1 The Community Partnership Scheme offers capital grants of up to £25,000 from an annual budget of £100,000 to projects brought forward from the voluntary and community sector. A panel comprising five Councillors, with advice from the

Partnership and Development Manager and the Community Partnerships Officer, assess projects against set criteria and then make recommendations about grant distribution to the Committee.

4.2 The following applications were received and considered for the fourth round of the scheme in 2007/08:

Aston on Trent Parochial Church Council

The PCC are raising capital to redevelop the Parish Church meeting room. The redevelopment will extend the building, provide disability access, and replace a flat roof with a pitched roof as well as generally developing the facility.

This will provide a high quality meeting space for small organisations in the village as well a permanent site for the local history group to house heritage information for public access.

This is a large community project targeting capital expenditure of £153,879. The PCC have submitted funding applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund (£35,000), Landfill Tax - BIFFA (£45,000), Aggregate Levy (£45,000) and WREN (£50,000) and have already had visits from funders with indications of positive outcome.

Burnaston Village Hall (Burnaston PC)

The village hall in Burnaston is the only community facility in the village. A range of non-profit groups throughout the year use it. The hall also acts as an electoral polling station and is used for community consultations by both SDDC and other service providers.

The Parish Council has commissioned a structural inspection report for the village hall that has highlighted the need for repairs to the roof and insertion of a damp proof course. In addition it has highlighted the requirement for disability access. This bid is to enable this work to proceed to secure the building for future use by the community and to increase use through the installation of disability access.

The total cost of the project is £9050. Additional funding for the project has been applied for from Awards for All and Toyota. The PC is also contributing £2,000 to this work from the precept.

Melbourne Cricket Club

Melbourne Cricket Club is a small club with no junior section. The application was to secure funding to provide facilities to enable the development of the junior section. Specifically they are looking to install an all weather wicket and training nets.

The Old Post, Newhall

The application is to enable The Old Post to undertake internal alterations to the structure of the building in order to make the space more flexible for groups that use the premises. It is expected that this work will attract additional / new groups to use the facilities that The Old Post offer.

The Old Post is seeking a grant of £1,050 against an overall cost of £4,200 for the project. All additional funding has been secured and the project can proceed as soon as the award is granted.

St John's Parochial Church Council, Newhall

St John's PCC are seeking a grant to support the development of a multi-functional area within the church building of St John's. This will involve removing the pews from the church, providing removable staging and installing disability access. The space that will be created is seen as a community asset that can be used for a wide range of community based activities whilst continuing to provide faith-based activities at a weekend. The project is well supported by community groups from within Newhall and will be self-sustaining once the capital element is completed.

The PCC have already secured more than £44,000 of funding towards this project and have submitted funding applications for the balance.

Overseal Bowls Club

Overseal Bowls club are looking to develop the facilities that they have at the club. The aim is that this work will secure the future of the club and support a programme of membership development. Additionally the club are working with the local primary school to develop an intergenerational project. They are seeking funding to enable disability access to the bowling green as well as to install disability accessible toilets and changing rooms.

Additional funding applications have been submitted to Awards for All (£9,888) and Veolia Environmental Trust (£9,089) for the balance of the funding required.

Woodville PC

The Parish Council are developing a multi-use games area on the New Road Recreation Ground at Woodville. This facility will be open for community use and will support the development of youth recreational facilities that was identified as a need in the Youth Needs Survey undertaken by SDDC.

This will also provide a facility that will be usable by many external agencies, such as the Youth Service and the Community Sports Coach Programme, that provide positive activities for young people.

The total cost of this project is £63,200. All additional funding has been secured.

- 4.3 The Community Partnership Scheme Assessment Panel met on 13th February 2008 to score the applications against the questions and weightings previously agreed. The weighted criteria include links with corporate priorities, security of external funding, sustainability, value of other contributions, value for money, community involvement, risk and commitment to equal opportunities.

Cllr Harrison declared an interest in the applications submitted by Aston on Trent PCC and Melbourne Cricket Club. Cllr Taylor declared an interest in the application submitted by Woodville P.C. Both Councillors, having declared an interest, left the meeting whilst the respective applications were discussed.

Once the weightings had been applied the final score of the projects was as follows:

Aston on Trent PCC

6.67

**Burnaston PC
Melbourne CC**

5.17

The panel have asked that the club develop the project and resubmit the application to a future grant round. Additional assistance is to be provided to support the club from the Community Partnership Officer and the Community Sports Coach.

The Old Post, Newhall

6.17

St John's PCC, Newhall

6.17

Overseal Bowls Club

5.50

Woodville PC

7.00

The point previously used, as a cut off in terms of making positive recommendations to committee was 4.67. The panel's recommendation was therefore to distribute grants to Aston on Trent PCC, Burnaston PC, The Old Post, St. John's PCC and Woodville PC.

It should be noted that the application from Woodville PC is their second submission to the panel within the current financial year. The guidelines for the scheme indicate that organisations will *normally* only be allowed to receive one grant in any financial year. However, the application is a very strong application that directly contributes to several of the Districts plans and strategies and scored highest of all applications in the current round. The initial need for the facility was identified through the Youth Needs Survey undertaken by the District. Woodville has been highlighted in the Youth Facilities Plan as being one of the areas that have a lack of facilities. The project will also contribute directly to the Community Strategy and the Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity Strategy. All additional funding has been secured. The offer of funding from the Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF) is time sensitive. If this grant from the Community Partnership Scheme was not secured to provide matched funding within the current financial year it is likely that the YOF grant of £10,000 would have to be returned. This is the final round of YOF funding and no reapplication would be possible.

4.4 Prior to making a recommendation the panel considered the scheme's past performance, current budget position of £97,884 and projected receipt of applications.

4.5 In light of the above information and the fact that the point previously used as a cut off in terms of making positive recommendations to committee was 4.67 the panel's recommendation for distribution of grant was therefore as follows:

- £25,000 to Aston on Trent PCC
- £2,263 to Burnaston PC
- £1,050 to The Old Post
- £13,500 to St John's PCC
- £6,182 to Overseal Bowls Club and
- £15,800 to Woodville PC

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 The award of grants falls within the Community Partnerships budget allocation.

6.0 Corporate Implications

6.1 The scheme contributes to a number of the Council's strategic objectives including Enhancing the quality of life of all South Derbyshire Residents; safeguarding and enhancing a sustainable environment; putting residents at the centre of council decision making, creating a climate for good inward investment. In addition each individual project's impact on corporate priorities is assessed as part of the appraisal process.

7.0 Community Implications

7.1 The scheme maximises funding available for community investment by providing both direct funding and enabling leverage from other funding sources. It also continues to offer a direct line of communication with the voluntary and community sector.

7.2 The impact on the community and amount of community involvement in each individual project has been assessed as part of the appraisal process.

8.0 Conclusions

8.1 The Community Partnerships Scheme continues to provide the District Council with an excellent means to support a variety of community partners in improving the quality of life for local residents. It also enables the community partners to lever in additional external funding to the district.

9.0 Background Papers

9.1 File: CPS – Returned applications and assessments Round 4 2007-08