
REPORT TO: Finance and Management

AGENDA ITEM: 12

DATE OF MEETING: 7th September 2006

CATEGORY:
DELEGATED

REPORT FROM: J Jones

**OPEN/
PARAGRAPH NO:** N/A

MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT: M Roseburgh

DOC:

SUBJECT: Partnership Funding Working Panel **REF:**

WARD(S) AFFECTED: Gresley and Linton

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That committee approve subject to standard terms and conditions grants of £32,000 to Castle Gresley Parish Council and £11,612 to Christ Church Linton with Castle Gresley and subject to three additional conditions outlined in the main body of the report £75,000 to Gresley Rovers Football Club

The panel also recommended that should the grant to Gresley Rovers become repayable then the monies repaid should be redirected to the Council's Community Partnership Scheme.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To report back on the work of the Partnership Funding Working Panel.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The Partnership Funding Working Panel met on August 4th to consider applications for grant funding from monies held for community based projects following the sale of land at Castle Gresley.
- 3.2 To date the panel had approved funding of £381,388 towards sixteen projects from a budget of £500,000 leaving £118,612 to allocate.

The panel considered the following applications:

South Derbyshire Organ Trust - Organ renovation and re-siting.

Request of £10,000 towards project cost of £30,000 to combine and renovate organs from Ebenezer Church and Hill St Church and relocate at Hill Street to both preserve for and facilitate use by the local community.

Castle Gresley Parish Council - Mount Pleasant pitch improvements

Request of grant of £30-32,000 to cover full cost of project to properly level and drain football pitches at Castle Gresley

Christ Church Linton with Castle Gresley – Open Doors project

Request of grant of £10,000 towards total project cost of £32,284 for third and final phase of project to make the church into a fully accessible community resource.

Gresley Rovers Football Club – Purchase of title to the Moat ground & subsequent sale to facilitate relocation

Request of grant of £75,000 to cover full cost of project involving purchase of title to the Moat Ground and associated taxes, legal and professional fees. The purchase of title to the present ground is a necessary prerequisite in the club's plan to eventually sell the ground and relocate to a new site offering a variety of enhanced community benefits.

- 3.3 In the context of remaining funds, updates on outstanding potential projects and prior panel discussions and after due consideration of project information supplied the panel decided on the following recommendations:

That although acknowledged as worthy due to indirect links with the Gresley community the South Derbyshire Organ Trust should receive no grant.

That subject to standard terms and conditions a grant of £32,000 is made to Castle Gresley Parish Council.

That subject to standard terms and conditions a grant of £11,612 be made to Christ Church Linton with Castle Gresley.

That subject to three additional conditions a grant of £75,000 should be made to Gresley rovers. The three additional conditions were as follows:

1. That the grant monies awarded will be paid to the club's solicitors as stakeholders on behalf of the Council and the Club to be released only for the purposes granted, (that is purchase of title to the Moat Ground and associated taxes, legal and professional fees) and it will be held by the stakeholders to the order of the Council pending exchange of contracts and completion of the sale. In the event of the sale not proceeding for any reason the grant monies will be returned to the Council less any reasonable cost incurred by the stakeholder.
2. That the Club agree each year to allow representatives of the Council to attend a board meeting of the club for the purposes of satisfying itself as to the continuing community benefit as may be evidenced through it's financial accounts and it's community engagement.
3. That (subject to confirmation from the Chief Executive as to the preferred option and proper legal wording) the grant is covenanted to the Club so that in the event of future sale either of the Moat Ground or a future ground then there will be an obligation to repay the grant.

Further to discussions after the meeting with the Chief Executive the preferred option in relation to a condition for possible repayment of grant is as follows:

That the grant is covenanted to Gresley Rovers so that in the case they sell the Moat Ground it becomes repayable but only in the event of failure to relocate to other land in the area for the purposes of a new stadium in which case the obligation to repay will pass to that land in the event of a future sale.

The panel also recommended that should the grant to Gresley Rovers become repayable then the monies should be redirected to the Council's Community Partnership Scheme.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 Recommended expenditure is within Partnership Funding budget and allocates the outstanding sum available.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 None

6.0 Community Implications

6.1 Recommended projects have direct benefit for the local community

7.0 Background Papers

7.1 Partnership Funding Working Panel File in Community and Leisure Development section.

