
REPORT TO:	Housing and Community Services Committee	AGENDA ITEM:	8
DATE OF MEETING:	21 November 2002	CATEGORY:	
REPORT FROM:	Head of Community services)	RECOMMENDED OPEN	
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	M Roseburgh	DOC:	
SUBJECT:	Community Partnerships Scheme	REF:	
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All	TERMS OF REFERENCE: CS07	

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That members consider the merits of the applications received by the Community Partnerships Scheme to date and award grants to Lullington Cricket Club, All Saints Parochial Church Council – Hatton and Linton Youth Facility Working Group and defer a decision on an award to Overseal Parish Council. until further applications have been received and assessed.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To update members on applications for funding received by the Community Partnerships Scheme and seek approval for awards from the scheme.

3.0 Executive Summary

3.1 The Community Partnerships Scheme has £50,000 to allocate this year. To date 4 applications have been received and processed. These were from All Saints Parochial Church Council – Hatton, Overseal Parish Council, Lullington Park Cricket Club and Linton Youth Facility working group. The scoring system used in the assessment process showed the priority order of the projects to be Lullington, Hatton, Linton and then Overseal.

3.2 The Scheme has the capacity to award full grants to all the applicants. However a decision on awards needs to be made that balances the need to allocate some of the scheme's budget, make use of the scoring system applied to the assessment process and allow for other projects to come forward and be assessed at a later stage. In order to accommodate these factors the recommendation is to award grants to the three highest scoring projects and defer a decision on the fourth project until more applications have been processed.

4.0 Detail

4.1 At its meeting on 29th August 2002 the Housing and Community Services Committee approved the format for allocation of funds within a revised Community Partnerships Scheme.

- 4.2 The new scheme approved as a result of a Service Development Proposal has £50,000 available which needs to be awarded before March 31st 2003 as approval has only currently been given for the financial year 20002/03.
- 4.3 The key principles of the scheme are that it should provide support for community groups in South Derbyshire, assist in attracting external funds to South Derbyshire and encourage self-help and joint working arrangements.
- 4.4 On a more practical level the grants are to support capital and not revenue costs, will normally be between 5% and 25% of total project cost and with a minimum award of £1,000 and a maximum of £25,000. Grants will also be available for professional fees such as feasibility studies.
- 4.5 Since approval for the scheme was granted it has been publicised to the community through various media outlets, through the CVS newsletter and the South Derbyshire Voluntary Sector Forum. It will also soon be publicised through the Council's web site.
- 4.6 To date 13 organisations have requested application forms and guidance notes. From these four completed applications have been received. These are from
- All Saints Parochial Church Council – Hatton for a replacement Community Hall
(Requesting £5,000)
Overseal Parish Council for a Community Resource Centre
(Requesting £25,000)
Lullington Park Cricket Club for an enlarged community based cricket pavilion
(Requesting £15,000)
Linton Youth Facility Working Group for new youth facilities.
(Requesting £4,620)
- 4.7 The applications are processed on a first come first served basis and have been judged on a number of criteria including links with corporate priorities, sustainability, value of other contributions, value for money, community involvement, risk and commitment to equal opportunities.
- 4.8 Details of the projects have been summarised in Appendix 1 alongside a table illustrating the scores from their appraisals. The table shows that out of a possible score of 100 Lullington scored 72, Hatton 68, Linton 65 and Overseal 57.
- 4.9 The scheme has the capacity to award a full grant to each of the applicants. However, bearing in mind that this would spend the entire year's allocation at the earliest opportunity and negate the chance for prioritisation offered by the scoring process it seems more prudent to award full grants to Lullington, Hatton and Linton and defer any award to Overseal until the next committee meeting. This would not jeopardise the Overseal project as it is not yet time dependant and is still trying to secure a complete funding package,
- 4.10 This recommendation attempts to balance the need to allocate some of the scheme's budget, make use of the scoring system applied to the assessment process and allow for other projects to come forward and be assessed at a later stage.
- 4.11 Further options could include deferring additional projects, discounting projects altogether or reducing the amount of award from that requested.

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 key aims including safeguarding and enhancing the natural and built environment, promoting the health and welfare of all sections of the community, managing resources efficiently and effectively and supporting the development of the National Forest. In addition each individual project's impact on corporate priorities has been 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 has also reopened direct lines of communication with the community sector that had been lost since the demise of the former Community Partnership Scheme.

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

8.0 Conclusions

8.1 The reintroduced Community Partnerships Scheme has provided an ideal opportunity for the District Council to support a variety of community partners in improving the quality of life for local residents. It has also enabled the community partners to lever in additional external funding to the district.

9.0 Background Papers

9.1 File: CPS – Returned applications and assessments 2002/03

