

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 9</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2015</b>	<b>CATEGORY: DELEGATED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND PLANNING</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>IAN HEY (ext 8741)</b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS SCHEME</b>	<b>REF:</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL WARDS</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: HCS07</b>

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## **1.0 Recommendations**

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

- £8,319.50 to Swadlincote 50+ forum – Grant to contribute towards the refurbishment of the building to establish a secure and safe environment by re modelling the internal space in order to extend the kitchen and improve laundry facilities and extending the kitchen to increase the meals on wheels service.
- £11,000 to Etwall Cricket Club – Grant towards the costs of a new sit-on roller to help volunteers to prepare the ground.
- £24,968.50 to Hatton Parish Council – Grant towards play equipment targeted at 7-12 year olds
- £24,968.50 to Hatton Salt Brook Heritage Trail – Grant to support the development of an art based heritage trail. This will reflect the heritage of the village that has all but disappeared.
- £9,085 to Hilton Village Hall – Grant to contribute towards a major refurbishment of the main hall at the village hall.
- £24,968.50 to Melbourne Assembly Rooms – Grant towards the renovation of the kitchen to provide a kitchen/bar/reception area, as well as renovation of the entrance areas and library frontage.
- £24,968.50 to Melbourne Sporting Partnership – Grant to enable the development of the Melbourne Sporting Partnership club house/pavilion by fitting out the kitchen and club room areas.

- £24,968.50 to recreation in Aston – Grant to support the next phase of the pavilion development by increasing the number of changing rooms available, including referee facilities, to support an increase in formal sports opportunities in the area.
- £10,000 to Rosliston Astronomy Group – Grant to contribute towards the construction of an Observatory, with a domed area and an adjacent ‘room’ specifically to provide in part a storage facility, and in part a preparation and reference area.
- £5,840 to Smisby Village Hall – Grant towards the costs of the provision of suitable audio visual facilities, additional sound and heating insulation (noise reduction and reduction of heating bills) and re-sanding and sealing the floor in the Main Hall
- £5,560 to Weston on Trent Parish Council - Grant to contribute towards play equipment targeted at young people over the age of 8.

## **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 is continuing to operate according to processes and procedures as previously agreed and reported to Committee.

3.2 Capital Grants – In total 10 new applications and 2 applications held over of additional information from the previous grant round were reviewed asking for £179,106 against a remaining budget of budget of £169,147.

3.3 11 applications have been recommended for grant support. One application has not been recommended for a grant.

## **4.0 Detail**

4.1 The Community Partnership Scheme offers capital grants of up to £25,000 to projects brought forward from the voluntary and community sector. £300,000 has been allocated to the scheme to enable grants to be made in support of applications received during 2014/15 and 2015/16. The first grant round in March allocated £130,853 towards projects leaving an available balance of £169,147 that can be allocated in this or future rounds.

4.2 A panel comprising four Councillors, with advice from the Community Partnership Officer, assessed projects against set criteria and have made recommendations about grant distribution to the Committee.

4.3 The following applications were received and considered for capital funding:

**Swadlincote 50+ forum –**

The 50+ Forum currently offer a “meals on wheels” service. This is currently working at capacity and this project would enable additional kitchen capacity to allow them to increase the offered service. In addition to this they are also looking at extending a laundry service for those that are housebound or have additional health requirements. Specifically the project will provide for refurbishing the building to establish a secure and safe environment by re modelling the internal space in order to extend the kitchen and improve laundry facilities

The balance of funds required has already been secured.

**Etwall Cricket Club –**

Application for a grant towards the costs of a new sit-on roller to help volunteers to prepare the ground. This is part of a larger project to improve the offer of the club. Improvements to the pitch and facilities will enable them to increase the number of adults and children that play, including the development of girls cricket.

The balance of funds required has already been secured.

**Hatton Parish Council –**

Following a review of the current offer for young people in the village as well as consultation locally the Parish Council have identified a gap in provision for 7-12 year old. This is part of a wider project to improve the provision of leisure facilities within the ward.

The Parish Council are in the process of applying to Biffaward for a grant of £33,189 and £18,000 has been allocated from parish funds towards this project.

**Hatton Salt Brook Heritage Trail –**

The main aim of the project is to fulfil the community’s aspiration to celebrate and raise awareness of the history and achievements of the people and main industries in Hatton, to record the history of the four main industries within the ward. A key part of this is to interpret the heritage material from the research into designs for local landmarks and sculptures, using the current transformation of the landscape through the re-routing of the bridle-path around the expanded Nestle factory to create a two-mile heritage trail.

In addition to the grant applied for this project has already secured an agreement with Nestlé for £30,000 towards capital costs and is in the process of applying to the Heritage Lottery for £30,000 revenue costs and £35,000 capital costs.

**Hilton Village Hall –**

This project is to refurbish the main hall and older parts of the village hall. The hall has secured the support of Don Amott Leisure World, a local business who will be funding the major element of the refurbishment. This application is to secure an additional amount of funding to ensure the project completion.

This project has already secured sponsorship from Don Amott Leisure World to cover all cost apart from new doors and signage.

### **Melbourne Assembly Rooms –**

This project will dramatically improve the ‘look and feel’ of the centre away from ‘the old school’ to a welcoming community centre. It will create a reception space where all visitors can sit and get a drink or snack whilst waiting for an event or delivering children; renovate the east foyer by the Library entrance to create a well-lit, welcoming area for local information and small exhibitions; renovate the kitchen to provide a kitchen/bar/reception area and install new fit-for-purpose moveable kitchen equipment to dramatically improve the catering capability of the centre.

The Assembly Rooms have already secured £34,500 towards this project and will be making further funding applications to secure an additional £20,000.

### **Melbourne Sporting Partnership –**

Grant to enable the development of the Melbourne Sporting Partnership club house/pavilion by fitting out the kitchen and club room areas. The fitting out stage is crucial to the overall success of the MSP. It will allow club members be able to base their activity on the site, using the changing rooms, catering and bar facilities and ensuring an income stream which will allow for running costs to be covered. In addition to this it will further enable the facility to invest in increasing participation, particularly with young people, women and disabled people.

The sporting partnership has already secured funding of £25,000 towards this element of the development and will be making additional applications to the RFU and Landfill Communities Grants to secure the balance.

### **Recreation in Aston –**

Grant to support the next phase of the pavilion development by increasing the number of changing rooms available, including referee facilities, to support an increase in formal sports opportunities in the area. This project will offer healthy play, sport and recreational activities in a safe environment, providing much needed facilities for activities which have been highlighted in both the Village Plan and through recent consultation.

Recreation in Aston has already submitted applications totalling £65,792 to Sport England, Awards for All and the University of Derby Community Fund in support of this project.

### **Rosliston Astronomy Group –**

The Project is to construct an Observatory, with a domed area and an adjacent ‘room’ specifically to provide in part a storage facility, and in part a preparation and reference area. The latter will allow members to reference the night sky from inside during viewing evenings, but also will be a valued addition to the experience they can offer members of the public in general.

People with disabilities, elderly and / or those who are infirm, and young children often find it difficult to focus on an eyepiece outside where the uneven ground, and the weather pose problems in their balance and feelings of wellbeing. An inside facility, and one with equipment to allow remote viewing via a monitor rather than having to focus through an eyepiece will open up opportunities for many who currently are unable to access such experiences.

The Group have already identified £2,500 from local fundraising towards this project and will be submitting applications to the Science & Technology Funding Council, Toyota and Veolia Environmental Trust to secure the balance of the £26,200 needed for the project.

#### **Smisby Village Hall –**

The aim of the project is to increase the attractiveness of Smisby Hall as a community facility to become a leading village organisation in South Derbyshire. This project will create an atmosphere suitable for all types of learning and community entertainment in affordable facilities in a local environment. To support this the project will provide audio visual facilities, additional sound and heating insulation (noise reduction and reduction of heating bills) and re-sanding and sealing the floor in the Main Hall.

The Hall has already secured £5,800 towards the project and will be applying to the East Midlands Airport Community Fund for the balance needed.

#### **Weston on Trent PC -**

The Parish has a small play area within the village. The PC have identified that here is no provision for children / young people over 8 years and are looking to address the gap. This project will provide several pieces of equipment that are more appropriate for older children.

The Parish Council has identified £6,500 from a legacy fund that will be used to secure the balance of the project.

#### **Trident Reach Charity –**

This project aims to convert a room in the Oakland Village into a gym area, tailored for those with physical impairment and disability. The gym will be profiled within the portfolio of health and wellbeing activities at Oakland Village to facilitate maximum access and use.

£9,800 has already been secured from Sport England which will allow half of the project to go forward.

- 4.4 The Community Partnership Scheme Assessment Panel met on 16<sup>th</sup> July to review the applications against the questions and criteria previously agreed. The 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.

Once the applications had been reviewed the following projects were recommended to receive a grant:

**Swadlincote 50+ forum**  
**Etwall Cricket Club**  
**Hatton Parish Council**  
**Hatton Salt Brook Heritage**  
**Hilton Village Hall**

**Melbourne Assembly Rooms**  
**Melbourne Sporting**  
**Recreation in Aston**  
**Rosliston Astronomy Group**  
**Smisby Village Hall**  
**Willington Church**

Following the review by panel members it was decided that the application from Trident Reach Charity would not be recommended for a grant. The panel members identified that Trident Reach had already been promoting the service that they had requested support for and had in fact used this as part of their promotions for the sale of housing units at the complex. The Community Partnership Scheme is not able to fund projects retrospectively and in the spirit of this did not feel able to support something that had already been promoted as an integral part of an ongoing project.

- 4.5 Prior to making a recommendation the panel considered the scheme's current budget position re capital monies. The scheme has £169,147 budgeted prior to the allocation of any grants.
- 4.6 In light of the above information it was identified that there was insufficient funding to recommend full grants to those applicants that were being recommended to receive support. The shortfall amounted to £158 and the panel members agreed that they would recommend that offers to those that were seeking a maximum contribution of £25,000 would be reduced to a level where recommended grants would equal the remaining budgeted amount.

The panel's recommendation for distribution of grant was therefore as follows:

- £8,319.50 to Swadlincote 50+ forum – Grant to contribute towards the refurbishment of the building to establish a secure and safe environment by re modelling the internal space in order to extend the kitchen and improve laundry facilities and extending the kitchen to increase the meals on wheels service.

This grant to be conditional on the organisation securing Building Regulations approval

- £11,000 to Etwall Cricket Club – Grant towards the costs of a new sit-on roller to help volunteers to prepare the ground.
- £24,968.50 to Hatton Parish Council – Grant towards play equipment targeted at 7-12 year olds
- £24,968.50 to Hatton Salt Brook Heritage Trail – Grant to support the development of an art based heritage trail.
- £9,085 to Hilton Village Hall – Grant to contribute towards a major refurbishment of the main hall at the village hall.

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- £5,560 to Weston on Trent PC - Grant to contribute towards the cost of play equipment for young people over the age of 8..

All grant offers for building based projects are required to evidence appropriate planning / building control permissions

#### 4.0 **Financial Implications**

5.1 The award of grants falls within the Community Partnerships remaining budget allocation of £169,147. The total of the grants recommended for award is £169,147 finalising the allocation of grants within the current 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 and 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: [Community Partnership Grant Panel meeting 16/07/2015](#)