

POLICY AND RESOURCES

CABINET BOARD

18 APRIL 2013

FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES – H. J. JENKINS**

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1. MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS APPLICATIONS

Existing Policy Statement

- 1.1 a) Each application will be considered on its merits.
- b) The Committee will only approve applications for financial assistance from voluntary or charitable organisations which are manifestly committed to voluntary endeavours of a local nature. This will not preclude the consideration of applications where the disposal of funds is outside the area but still provides significant benefits for the people from the Neath Port Talbot area.
- c) No applications will be considered from religious bodies except relating to church halls and other premises where there is significant community use of the property for non-religious activities.
- d) No applications will be considered from other public funded bodies such as community councils, hospital trusts, etc. or where the benefit may be in lieu of their contributions such as appeals for hospital equipment.
- e) Applications from individuals may be considered where both the person and the community derive a benefit.
- f) No grants will be made to any individual or organisation whose prime purpose is to distribute their funds to other charitable bodies.

Budget for 2013/14

1.2 The following grants are included within this budget:-

	Budget 2012/13 £	Budget 2013/14 £
Citizen Advice Bureaux		
- Neath)))
- Port Talbot)	110,731)	114,000)
- Ammanford	118	115
- Ystradgynlais	839	835
Contribution to CAB Debt	42,200	42,200
Counselling Service		
Match Funding Support	-	-
Afan Valley Outreach Project	987	980
Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service	47,939	47,939
OAP Associations	15,361	15,360
Racial Equality Council	23,076	20,000
Victim Support Schemes	3,810	0
- Neath)))
- Port Talbot)))
Prince's Trust Volunteers	3,115	3,115
St. John's Ambulance	3,000	3,000
West Glamorgan Blind Welfare Association	2,104	2,100
Maintenance of Mechanics	13,520	13,520
Institute (in lieu of grant aid to Antiquarians & Archives)		
One-off grants)	1,000)	1,000)
Hardship Rate Relief)))
Total	<u>267,800</u>	<u>254,164</u>
Contribution from Reserves		-1,364
	<u>267,800</u>	<u>252,800</u>

A reserve of £40,490 as at 31.3.12 is also available.

It should be noted by Members that a comprehensive review of grants and payments to the Third Sector/Voluntary Organisations is to be carried out during 2013, in line with Council approval at its meeting of 30th January 2013.

Other New Grant Applications

1.3 Please see Appendix 1.

Recommendation

1.4 It is recommended that Members:

- Approve the grants set out in Section 1.2 above;
- Decide on the applications set out in Appendix 1;
- Note the review to be carried out and reported back to Members over the next few months.

Reason for proposed decision

To decide on the funding applications.

List of Background Papers

Letters of application.

Appendices

Appendix 1 –Miscellaneous Grant Applications

Wards Affected

All.

Officer Contact

Mr H J Jenkins – Director of Finance & Corporate Services
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COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS APPLICATIONS

(a) **Implementation of Decision**

The decision is proposed for implementation after the 3 day call-in period.

(b) **Sustainability Appraisal**

Community Plan Impacts:

Economic Prosperity	Positive
Education and Lifelong Learning	Positive
Better Health and Well Being	Positive
Environment and Transport	No impact
Crime and Disorder	No impact

Other Impacts:

Welsh Language	No impact
Sustainable Development	No impact
Equalities	Positive
Social Inclusion	Positive

(c) **Consultation**

There has been no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

MISCELLANEOUS GRANT APPLICATIONS

Applicant	Purpose	Amount Request /Cost of "Project"	Previous Support	Comments
Giants Grave Boys & Girls Club Briton Ferry	Annual rental for the lease of Giants Grave Boys & Girls Club for a 25 year period subject to 5 yearly rent reviews	Annual rental of £300 p.a.	None	Suggest applicant contribution in respect of the annual rental of £50 p.a.
Gwynfi Miners Community Hall Blaengwynfi	Annual rental for the lease of the Social Welfare Hall for a 25 year period subject to 5 yearly rent reviews	Annual rental of £8,500 p.a.	None	This application was deferred from your last meeting for further information. Suggest applicant contribution in respect of the annual rental of £200 p.a.
Neath Port Talbot Credit Union	Loss of funding provision from 2 providers – SGEI and RDP totalling £120k is expected from September 2013. Replacement funding required for approx. 18 months as it is then anticipated that additional income streams can be identified.	Contribution towards £120k loss of income	None	Insufficient budget available. Proposed referral to Welsh Government and DWP in order to seek assistance to help individuals in respect of Welfare Reform impacts.
Aber Valley Heritage Group Caerphilly	Request for contribution towards a Welsh National Mining Memorial during their Centenary Year (2013).	No amount specified	None	There have been 25 mining disasters in the NPT area during the period 1758 – 1943.

2. COMMUNITY COUNCILS MINOR PROJECTS SCHEME

Background

2.1 The above scheme was introduced in order to assist Community Councils in undertaking minor capital projects within their area. The scheme allows applications every two years and any project must be completed within 3 years of approval.

Purpose of Report

- 2.2 We have received two applications for grant aid under the above mentioned scheme.
- 2.3 The first application is from Coedffranc Community Council to provide a new Skate Park with all relevant equipment.
- 2.4 The second application is from Seven Sisters Community Council. This application has been made to enable the Community Council to repay a proportion of its PWLB loan debt.
- 2.5 Previously the Community Council had borrowed money from the PWLB to fund capital works relating to the Tennis Court and Bandstand improvements at the Recreation Ground. The cost of the annual repayment of this loan is some £5,900.
- 2.6 Attached at Appendix 2 is the criteria for awarding funds under the Community Council's Minor Projects Scheme. Members will note that the award criteria is normally based on service improvements.
- 2.7 Cabinet Board is requested to consider and decide on the application. Should Members agree to support the application the maximum amount to be granted is 60% up to a maximum grant of £12,000.

Recommendation

2.8 It is recommended that the application from Coedffranc Community Council complies with the conditions of grant and I therefore recommend that support of 40% up to a maximum grant of £8,000 be made in accordance with the schedule on receipt of paid invoices together with a copy bank statement.

2.9 Members consider and decide on the application from Seven Sisters Community Council.

Reason for Proposed Decision

To decide on the funding applications from Community Councils in line with the Community Councils Minor Projects Scheme.

List of Background Papers

Application Forms.

Appendix

Appendix 2 – Community Council Minor Projects Grant Scheme Criteria

Wards Affected

Coedffranc Central, Coedffranc North, Coedffranc West, Seven Sisters

Officer Contact

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**COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINOR PROJECTS SCHEME –
GRANT CRITERIA**

- (i) The County Borough Council reserves the right to refuse any grant application.
- (ii) Applications which support community plan outcomes will receive more sympathetic consideration.
- (iii) There will be a presumption against any scheme with additional revenue costs.
- (iv) Formal public acknowledgment must be made by the Community Council to the Financial Support given by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in supporting any scheme.
- (v) Any additional running costs must be met in full by the Community Council who must produce a certified statement to this effect.
- (vi) Schemes which reduce annual running costs will be considered in a more favourable light.
- (vii) The maximum grant payment shall be based upon a scheme cost of £20,000 – i.e. schemes in excess of £20,000 will not be automatically refused but the grant will only be calculated on £20,000.
- (viii) Grant will be payable at the percentage rate shown in the table.
- (ix) Community Councils will be restricted to grant applications totalling £20,000 for a period of two years from the original date of approval.
- (x) The grant payable will be based upon the estimated cost or actual cost of the scheme whichever is the lower.
- (xi) Interim payments may be made, on submission of a certified statement of cost and work, to be inspected by a representative of the Authority prior to payment.

- (xii) Where the property or land, for which the Council has made a capital grant, is sold within a period of five years from the payment of the grant, such grant will be repaid to the Council out of the proceeds of the sale.
- (xiii) All schemes must be completed within three years of the date of approval.
- (xiv) No retrospective grants will be approved.
- (xv) The Capital Grants system may be amended or withdrawn at the sole discretion of the County Borough Council and with no notice periods. However, any commitments entered into will be honoured.

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

COMMUNITY COUNCILS MINOR PROJECTS SCHEME

(a) **Implementation of Decision**

The decision is proposed for implementation after the 3 day call-in period.

(b) **Sustainability Appraisal**

Community Plan Impacts:

Economic Prosperity	Positive
Education and Lifelong Learning	Positive
Better Health and Well Being	Positive
Environment and Transport	No impact
Crime and Disorder	No impact

Other Impacts:

Welsh Language	No impact
Sustainable Development	No impact
Equalities	Positive
Social Inclusion	Positive

(c) **Consultation**

There has been no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.