

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

20 February 2019

Report of the Head of Transformation - A.Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Pontardawe

Project Proposal made to the Members Community Fund

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Cabinet approval to fund a project proposal that requests financial support under the Members Community Fund. The project has been submitted by one of the Pontardawe Ward Members.

Executive Summary

2. The Members Community Fund was approved in its present form at Cabinet Board on the 16.05.18 and was launched at an All Members Seminar on the 14.06.18. The Fund is to be used to address local needs and to support projects and initiatives that will contribute towards creating vibrant and sustainable communities.

The Project Development & Funding Unit (PDFU) within ELLL is charged with the governance of the Fund and will act as the Grant Management Organisation.

Bids can be made for projects that enhance existing Council services, assist voluntary sector provision or form part of a larger initiative that is in need of additional financial support.

Eligible projects will include those that enrich the environment, promote non - statutory education and learning, assist Health & Well Being, and promote culture and / or recreation in all its forms.

Another project proposal now seeks funding and has been formally submitted to the PDFU. The bid has been checked for completeness, accuracy and deliverability and is 'fit for purpose' and ready for determination by Cabinet.

Project Proposal

3. Crowd Control Barriers for Pontardawe Arts Centre.

This bid has been developed by The Friends of Pontardawe Arts Centre (PAC) and is intended to cordon off the PAC forecourt to allow community events to be staged.

The proposal is to promote community events such as the Winterfest, Foodie Fridays (held monthly), Pontardawe Music Festival, Saint David's Day, Armistice Day, Christmas parade, etc. by creating a compound on the forecourt with portable low height (1.1 metre)safety fencing.

The proposal will assist Event Organisers in complying with the NPTCBC Trade Licencing requirements for a Street Fayre as the forecourt will then be deemed part of the Arts Centre where the point of access can be controlled.

The need for the project has arisen from there being no ready source of low height crowd control barriers available from within NPTCBC (following the demise of the Special Events Team) .Barriers can be hired from external providers at considerable cost to PAC, which is not sustainable. The Pontardawe Chamber of Trade & Commerce has a supply of barriers to loan but they often use them at the very

time PAC need them as both organisations form an integral part of the Festival season.

The long term sustainable benefits associated with the proposal include generating a footfall of several thousand visitors to the Festivals, the Foodie Fridays, the Christmas parade and the other programmed calendar events that are scheduled for the Town Centre. This in turn helps to sustain PAC and assists the local business sector making Pontardawe more vibrant and a better place to live, work and visit.

The total cost of this scheme is £1,095.50 (inclusive of VAT). The investment will create 30 loose leg anti - trip barriers, feet and banner covers. The request for Grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for 100% of the project cost from Councillor Linet Purcell's allocation.

Financial Impact

4. In order to win favour in Cabinet all projects must be sustainable. Projects must have a robust exit strategy that places no additional revenue or financial burden on the Council.

The project will be sustained in the long term as the barriers are constructed of galvanised steel with no maintenance implications. Upon purchase the barriers will be securely stored within the perimeter grounds of PAC.

Equality Impact Assessment

5. There is no requirement under the Constitution for an Equality Impact Assessment on this item.

Workforce Impacts

6. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impacts

7. The delivery of the Members Community Fund will come within the purview of the Local Government Act 2000 which introduced well-being powers which enable every Local Authority to have capacity to

do anything which it considers likely to promote an improvement to economic, social or environmental well-being in the area. Under section 56 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 sanction is given for both Executive and Non - Executive Members to invest within their own Ward.

The Council's Constitution should be referred to for explicit guidance on governance.

Risk Management

8. There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

Consultation

9. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

10. That the project proposal for the provision of 30x 1.1 metre x 2.3 metre barriers (with associated anti trip feet) is approved and that Councillor Purcell's allocation of £1,095.50 under the Members Community Fund, be awarded.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

11. To approve the Application for funding that has been received under the Members Community Fund. The Members Community Fund will continue to receive bids until the due deadline date of 31.03.2020.

Implementation of Decision

12. The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

List of Background Papers

13. This Pontardawe initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Purcell. The Constitution, Audited Accounts, Quote, Bank Account details and

Insurance documentation for 'The Friends of Pontardawe Arts Centre' have been retained for future reference.

14. Officer Contact

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