

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Cabinet**

06 March 2019

### **Report of the Head of Transformation A.Thomas**

#### **Matter for Decision**

#### **Wards Affected:**

Neath South

#### **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 Ward Members for Neath South.

#### **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. To provide essential changing facilities to the Mount Pleasant bowling green pavilion.

This bid has been developed by Melin United Bowls Club Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) as a means of assisting Voluntary Sector provision.

The proposal is to equip the pavilion changing rooms with free standing and wall mounted benches, hangar units and non - slip flooring. This has become necessary as the Club has, following a robust recruitment campaign, needed to convert one side of the pavilion for Ladies Bowls and the current furnishings and fittings prove to be too cramped when the six bowls rinks are fully operable (attracting 48 male and 24 female team members).

The project will add slatted benches, floor fixings, single and double sided cloakroom units and vinyl non - slip flooring. This proposal will assist the Club in making better use of the building and further developing its Junior Academy with Crynallt and St. Joseph Primary Schools.

The need for the project has arisen as a result of the Club growing its membership since 2011. The 'Come & Try' sessions have allowed the Club to recruit an additional 18 lady bowlers and 7 junior members. In

2017 the Club secured a fully insuring and maintaining Lease from NPTCBC and it is now responsible for self - management of the entire facility which includes the Green, the pavilion and associated grounds. The growth in the Club warrants this investment. The investment will help the Club to further increase its capacity and its appeal, to involve the surrounding community.

The long term sustainable benefits associated with the proposal include making the Mount Pleasant Bowls pavilion a more community friendly venue to use. This new investment will help secure the future of the Club and improve the ambiance for visiting teams which include those bowlers drawn from Port Talbot, the Rhondda Valley, the Taff Valley and the neighbouring Neath Clubs.

The total cost of this scheme is £2,393.35 (inclusive of VAT which is non - recoverable). Councillor Peter Rees would wish to invest £2,393.35 in order to make this project a reality.

### **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 by making best use of the existing self-management arrangements and the volunteer maintenance work programme that has been embedded since taking on the NPTCBC Lease. The Club will continue to develop grant bids and organise fund raising events to keep pace with the day to day operational costs that have been adopted under the Terms of the Lease.

### **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 improved amenities within the Mount Pleasant Bowling Green pavilion is approved and that Councillor Peter Rees' allocation of £2,393.35, under the Members Community Fund is 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 Neath South initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Rees. The Application has been made in association with a Third Sector Organisation and as a consequence the Constitution, Accounts, Bank Account details, Insurance Policy and the Quotations that have been generated for the proposed work, by Melin United Bowls Club, have been retained for future reference.

### **14. Officer Contact**

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