

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

27 March 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. Purchase of 3 metal 'Tommy' sculptures for the Royal British Legion (RBL) Pontardawe Branch.

This bid has been developed to 'Assist Voluntary Sector providers.'

Produced by veterans as part of the 'There But Not There' campaign, the 'Tommy' silhouette sculptures commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the WWI Armistice (2018), the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings (2019) and the centenary of the Royal Charter being given to the Royal British Legion (2021). The sculptures will be used by the RBL Pontardawe Branch every November to raise awareness as part of the 'Poppy Appeal' fundraising campaign. For the remaining months of the year they will be positioned in prominent places at Pontardawe Library, Pontardawe Leisure Centre and Pontardawe Heritage and Visitor Centre.

The demand for the project has been brought to the attention of Cllr Linet Purcell. There is a genuine need to raise awareness, particularly amongst the younger generation, of the sacrifice made by service men and women during both World Wars and in many conflicts since, and to raise much needed funds which will be used to support local veterans, service personnel and their families.

The long term community benefits associated with the project include increased awareness, a better understanding of the suffering endured by those affected by conflict, and the generation of much needed funds. By purchasing these figures from the 'There But Not There' campaign, the RBL will also be supporting other charities including 'Walking with The Wounded', 'Help for Heroes' and 'The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation.'

The request for Grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £2,328.82 from Councillor Linet Purcell's allocation which is the full cost of procuring the sculptures (no match funding).

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 'Tommy' sculptures will be the responsibility of the RBL Pontardawe Branch, who have made an ongoing commitment to ensuring that they are appropriately cared for, monitored and maintained for the foreseeable future.

This scheme has no financial implications for NPTCBC.

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 purchase of 3 metal 'Tommy' sculptures for the RBL Pontardawe Branch be approved and that Cllr Purcell's allocation of £2,328.82 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 Royal British Legion Pontardawe Branch have been retained for future reference.

14. Officer Contact

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