

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Cabinet**

8 May 2019

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

#### **Matter for Decision**

#### **Wards Affected:**

Seven Sisters

### **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 the respective Ward Member.

#### **Executive Summary**

2. The Members Community 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. Installation of an Ability Swing and improvements to the play provision at Ynysdawley Playing Fields, Nant y Cafn, Seven Sisters.

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

The Ynysdawley Playing Fields Association (YPFA) wish to install an 'Ability Swing' within the existing enclosed fixed play area at Nant y Cafn. The swing will be for the exclusive use of children and young people who are wheelchair bound, and will be housed within its own dedicated enclosure, accessible via a RADAR key. The contractor, 'GL Jones Playgrounds' of Gwynedd, will also undertake the necessary adaptations to the Park to make it accessible to wheelchair users, including a tarmac link path from the park entrance to the swing, removing a lipped transition, and installing new wet pour safety surfacing. The quotation also provides for a new See-Saw.

The Park is increasingly visited by groups and individuals with various disabilities, including pupils with complex needs from Ysgol Maes y Coed Special School. The YPFA wish to install this inclusive item of equipment in order to give disabled and special needs children the opportunities for play that their able bodied peers and siblings enjoy.

The long term sustainable benefits associated with the proposal include providing a safe and secure environment for play irrespective of disabilities and improved physical and social wellbeing amongst all children. There is currently no equipment for wheelchair users in the local vicinity and very little throughout the County Borough. The provision of this equipment in Seven Sisters will help to promote

inclusive social attitudes within the community, whilst giving children and young people the opportunity to build friendships and have fun.

The total cost of this scheme is £24,990. The project has already secured £8,000 from the National Lottery's 'Awards for All Wales' programme, £5,000 from the Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust and the YPFA have committed £1,990 from their own reserves. The request for Grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for the whole of Councillor Stephen Hunt's allocation of £10,000. This award would complete the funding package and make the proposal 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 YPFA have been the land owners of Ynysdawley Playing Fields since it was bequeathed to them in 1945. They will be responsible for ensuring that the play area and Ability Swing is fully maintained, insured, and inspected for the foreseeable future. The YPFA employs their own groundskeeper, who is responsible for carrying out routine maintenance, litter picking and site supervision, thus ensuring that the play area is kept clean and safe day to day.

The Ability Swing will be of robust construction comprising hot dipped galvanised steel. 'GL Jones Playgrounds' have been designing, manufacturing and installing traditional and inclusive play equipment for over 35 years. The equipment and safety surfacing comes with extended warranties and is compliant with the British Standard BS EN1176.

This project places no financial burden on 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 installation of an Ability Swing and improvements to the play provision at Ynysdawley Playing Fields, Nant y Cafn, Seven Sisters, is approved and that Councillor Stephen Hunt's allocation of £10,000 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 Seven Sisters initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Stephen Hunt. The Constitution, Audited Accounts, Quote, Bank Account details and Insurance documentation for 'The Ynysdawley Playing Fields Association' have been retained for future reference.

14. Officer Contact

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