

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

31 July 2019

Report - Head of Transformation - A.Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Glynneath

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 tabled by one of the Councillors representing the Ward of Glynneath.

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.

Background

3. To provide and install park furniture to include benches, picnic tables and recycling units within the Welfare Park, Glynneath.

This bid has been developed to 'Enhance Existing Council Services' and to assist the Glynneath Town Council in achieving its aspirations to completely remodel the Park in accord with a phased Development Plan.

The proposal can be seen as Phase 1 of an ambitious Master Plan to improve all play apparatus, create a new Memorial Garden, reconfigure and drain sports playing fields, refurbish on site changing room accommodation, the tennis courts and provide essential car parking within the Welfare. The Welfare Park is the principle receiving centre for play, exercise, sport and outdoor recreation in Glynneath and is a popular venue for community based activity.

This Application is to equip the Park with 8 seats (with arm rests), 2 picnic benches (with disabled access) and 2 Recycling Units (with separate compartments to recycle plastic, paper and glass).

The scheme has been arrived at by seeking quotes from NPTCBC approved suppliers and installers. The products that are to be used

are from sustainable origins and are sufficiently street tough to protect against vandalism and misuse.

Long term there will be very little maintenance with each unit concreted into its own plinth. This will protect against ground erosion, puddling and the need to grass cut around the legs of each installation.

The need for this initiative has been established from several Community Surveys and an Asset Management Plan commissioned by the Glynneath Town Council. The need to improve the Welfare Park was seen as a priority in a recent consultation exercise carried out by 'GKA Associates'.

The long term sustainable community benefits associated with the project include increasing the footfall and use of the park for child centred activity, improving Health & Well Being across the generations and being the pump priming mechanism and catalyst needed to drive the future regeneration and investment.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £9,976 which is the net value of the project (the Glynneath Town Council being responsible for the recoverable VAT). The request is made by Councillor Simon Knoyle, one of two Ward Members for Glynneath, who would wish to contribute the whole of his Members Fund to this initiative.

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 ongoing inspection and maintenance of the park furniture will be the responsibility of the Glynneath Town Council and its grounds staff. The Recycling Units will be emptied daily and recyclable waste will be dealt with correctly. Glynneath Town Council has CCTV in the park and this will be directed at the new seating to help prevent damage and abuse.

There are no financial implications for NPTCBC.

Integrated Impact Assessment

5. A first stage impact assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act 2010), the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well - being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The first stage assessment has indicated that a more in - depth assessment is not required as the summary concludes there are positive outcomes for the sustainable development principle, collaboration and involvement, with no impact on equalities or the Welsh language.

Valleys Communities Impacts

6. No implications

Workforce Impacts

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

Legal Impacts

8. 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

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

Consultation

10. There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

11. That this project proposal to provide seating and improved waste management opportunities in Glynneath Welfare Park is approved and that Councillor Simon Knoyle's allocation of £9,976, under the Members Community Fund is awarded.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

12. 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

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

List of Background Papers

14. This Glynneath initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Knoyle. The Constitution, audited Accounts, Insurance Policy and Bank Account details for Glynneath Town Council have been retained for future reference. The Quotes for the purchase and installation of the seats, benches and recycling units have been entered on File for reference. The first stage Impact Assessment documentation associated with this project proposal has also been retained.

Officer Contact

15. Paul Hinder, Project Development & Funding Manager, (ELLL).

Tel: 01639 763390, email: p.hinder@npt.gov.uk

