

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

31 July 2019

Report - Head of Transformation - A.Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Tonna

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 the Ward Member for Tonna.

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 road signage directing visitors to the Tonna Rugby Football Club.

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

Tonna RFC receives many thousands of visitors as a consequence of fielding four junior rugby teams; a Youth side and a Senior team. The venue is also used to stage the annual Carnival, Summer Music Festival, fireworks display, children's and OAP parties. The Clubhouse hosts the Neath Chess Club, darts teams, a Pool team and ad hoc social events and family celebrations. The location of Tonna RFC is remote and the Clubhouse and playing fields are not visible from Neath Road, St. Anne's Terrace and Henfaes Road therefore people attempting a visit to the Club for the first time often have difficulty which results in cars travelling unnecessarily back and forth through the village trying to select the best route.

This Application is to provide three road signs at the junction of St. Anne's Terrace into Dolcoed Terrace and Mount Pleasant. The road signs will be provided and installed by the NPTCBC Highways Dept. and will meet required standards.

The need for this initiative has been established from consultations held with residents who complain of unnecessary pollution, emissions and traffic congestion.

The long term sustainable community benefits associated with the project include easing the traffic flow, improved road safety, helping motorists to negotiate Tonna better and increasing the awareness and existence of the Club to newcomers - which in turn will contribute to the long term sustainability of Tonna RFC.

Following investment the ongoing costs associated with this project will be minimal. The NPTCBC as the Local Highway Authority will maintain the proposed work as Highway Asset Infrastructure.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £2,000 which is the total project cost. The request is made by the Ward Member for Tonna.

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 maintenance of the road signs will come under the NPTCBC Highways Dept. and will fall under the current maintenance regime for road signage.

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 new directional road signage to the Tonna RFC is approved and that Councillor Leanne Jones' allocation of £2,000, 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 Tonna initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Jones. The Constitution, audited Accounts and Bank Account details for Tonna Rugby Club have been retained for future reference. The location plans and quotation from the NPTCBC Highways Dept. have been entered on File for reference .The first stage Impact Assessment documentation associated with this project proposal has also been retained.

Officer Contact

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