

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

25 September 2019

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 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.

Background

3. Purchase of essential items of catering equipment for Siop Pant y Coed Café, based in Tonna Hospital.

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

Siop Pant y Coed is a volunteer led, not-for-profit organisation that operates a community café and shop facility from Tonna Hospital. The volunteers also stage local events and fundraisers such as an annual Halloween Party, Christmas Fayre and monthly coffee morning for those affected by dementia. All profits raised by Siop Pant y Coed are used to support the work of Tonna Hospital.

Due to the recent introduction of additional clinics, there has been a significant increase in individuals accessing the Café provision. Whilst the volunteer effort is able to withstand the influx of additional patients, staff and visitors, their existing catering equipment is not robust enough to produce meals and refreshments on an industrial scale. In order to keep pace with the increased demand, the volunteers need to purchase more durable items of catering equipment including a large under counter freezer, a microwave grill, a bread maker and a panini maker.

The provision of these items will give the Café the means to operate more efficiently, and allow them to offer a wider range of competitively priced food options. There is no other facility offering meals and refreshments at Tonna Hospital. Siop Pant y Coed is a

lifeline to the patients and staff, and it is vital in supporting the health and wellbeing of those who make use of its indispensable services.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £1,510.76 from Councillor Leanne Jones' allocation, which is the full cost of procuring the items of equipment. If this application prevails Cllr Jones will have £2,589.25 remaining in her Members Fund portfolio.

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 catering equipment purchased via this application to the Members Fund will be the ongoing responsibility of Siop Pant y Coed, who have made an ongoing commitment to ensuring it is appropriately cared for and maintained. Siop Pant y Coed will replace items of equipment as necessary using the income stream generated from the Café.

This scheme has 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 the project proposal for purchase of essential items of catering equipment for Siop Pant y Coed Café be approved, and that Cllr Jones' allocation of £1,510.76 under the Members Community Fund be awarded.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

12. To approve the Application for funding that has been received under the Members Community Fund. Full Funding Applications can be made to the Members Community Fund until the 24.02.2020 in readiness for Cabinet decision on the 11.03.2020. The Fund will then close. Funds left unallocated will be returned to Reserves.

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 Leanne Jones. The Constitution, Audited Accounts, Insurance documentation, Quotations and Bank Account details for Siop Pant y Coed have been retained for future reference. The first stage Impact Assessment documentation associated with this project proposal has also been retained.

15. Officer Contact

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

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

