

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

25 September 2019

Report of the Head of Transformation - A.Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Aberavon

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 respective Ward Members.

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 additional items of exercise equipment to increase user participation at Bulldogs Boxing and Community Activities.

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

The Bulldogs Boxing and Community Activities ('The Bulldogs'), is a lively hub in the Ward of Aberavon. In addition to a boxing provision, 'The Bulldogs' hosts a wide range of varied community activities including 'Walking to Wellness,' employment support (assistance with job applications and CVs) and a community gym. Participants span a wide cross section of local people of all ages and abilities.

The Bulldogs wish to purchase additional items of equipment which will enable yet further people to take part in their activities. Items to be procured include lighter weight slam balls, medicine balls and dumbbells, which can be utilised by the growing number of female users, and those who have disabilities affecting their upper body strength. The purchase of flooring mats will allow 'The Bulldogs' to deliver pilates, yoga and other forms of floor-based fitness activities.

The need for the proposal has been brought to the attention of Cllr Steffan ap Dafydd by representatives from 'The Bulldogs.' The facility has a number of disabled participants for whom their existing equipment is not suitable. Female members have requested lighter

weight fitness apparatus and the opportunity to attend stretching and core strength classes such as yoga and pilates.

The long term community benefits associated with the project include improved health, fitness and well-being, and enabling more people to take part in activities.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £999.40 from Councillor Steffan Ap Dafydd's allocation, which is the total value of the project.

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 exercise equipment will be the sole responsibility of the Bulldogs Boxing and Community Activities, who have made an ongoing commitment to ensuring the apparatus is appropriately cared for and maintained. 'The Bulldogs' will replace items as necessary using their own funds.

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 additional items of exercise equipment to increase user participation at Bulldogs Boxing and Community Activities be approved, and that Cllr Ap Dafydd's allocation of £999.40 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 03.02.2020 in readiness for Cabinet decision on the 19.02.2020. 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 Aberavon initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Steffan ap Dafydd. The Constitution, Audited Accounts, Insurance documentation, quotations and bank account details for the Bulldogs Boxing and Community Activities has been retained for future reference. The first stage Impact Assessment documentation associated with this project proposal has also been retained.

15. Officer Contact

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