

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

25 September 2019

Report of the Head of Transformation - A.Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Port Talbot

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 jointly by the three Ward Councillors for Port Talbot.

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 create a new Junior Training Practice area on a plot of overgrown land at Ynys Park for Trefelin Boys & Girls Club

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

Due to a steady increase in the number of junior age groups participating in football at Trefelin Boys & Girls Club it has become necessary to develop additional grassed areas and training resources to keep pace with growing demand.

The Club has a plot of land immediately adjacent to the Main Field (previously given over to a Practice area many years ago by now overgrown with volunteer saplings, scrub and low value pasture grasses) and they wish to clear it and re- establish it a Practice area. The area at 3,500 square metres can easily accommodate the additional footfall and participation if correctly developed. This will go some way to providing opportunities for sports participation within the Club, opportunities that are currently denied.

This Application has been assisted by fully utilising the 'Community Pay Back Scheme' that the NPTCBC instils within its preferred Contractors. The Building Contractor responsible for the conversion of the Port Talbot Magistrates Courts to Office Blocks has gifted operators, Plant and Heavy machinery to clear the site in Ynys Park in readiness for the Club to embark upon the wholesale re - soiling,

fertilising and seeding of the area designated as a new Practice Training area.

The scheme has been brought to the attention of the local Members by the Trefelin Boys & Girls Club. The labour, plant and material for both the clearance work and the establishment of the new sward are to be sourced from the local supply chain.

The need for this initiative has been established from projecting the number of age groups, Teams, (both male and female), the Sections, participants and non - participants associated with the Club in Season 2019/2020. There is an unmet demand for training facilities which would stifle the aspirations of the Club in the forthcoming season and beyond.

The long term sustainable community benefit associated with the project is to keep the Trefelin Boys & Girls Club at the forefront of developing sport, exercise and physical activity in Port Talbot. The investment will keep the Club viable and will ensure the Club continues to be a pivotal sporting hub for the many, not just the few.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £4,500. The total material cost of the project is £5,012 of which the Boys & Girls Club is contributing £512, and all of the labour 'in kind'.

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, upkeep and future welfare of the Practice area will be the responsibility of the Trefelin Boys & Girls Club and their ground staff.

There will be no revenue burden on 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 create a new training area within the grounds of Ynys Park, Port Talbot is approved and that Councillor Rahaman, Keogh and Freeguard contribute £1,500 each under the Members Community Fund.

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 Port Talbot initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted jointly by Councillors S. Rahaman, D. Keogh and S. Freeguard. The Quotes generated by the Boys & Girls Club have been entered on File for reference. The supporting documentation (the Constitution, Accounts, Bank Account details, Insurances, etc.), that accompany a bid made to the Members Fund by a Third Sector Organisation, have been entered on record. 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

