

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Cabinet**

30 October 2019

### **Report of the Head of Transformation - A.Thomas**

#### **Matter for Decision**

#### **Wards Affected:**

Sandfields East

### **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 three 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. To modernise and make safe the bowling green facilities at Vivian Park.

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

Vivian Park Bowling Association are the Leaseholders of the two bowling greens and the pavilion at Vivian Park. The Association currently fields two male and one female side, and they are intent on developing a junior section. This will secure the future sustainability of the Association and continue the long tradition of bowls in Sandfields East. Concerted efforts have been made to develop links with the local Primary Schools, however in order to host junior practice sessions, the bowling facility needs to be upgraded and users guarded against injury. This application to the Members Fund proposes to upgrade the existing, time-expired, hard wood bank tops surrounding the two bowling greens by replacing them with a permanent perimeter of brickwork pavours.

The need for the proposal has been brought to the attention of Cllr Edward Latham by representatives of Vivian Park Bowling Association. The existing bank tops are peppered with finger traps, loose sections, exposed metal plates, protruding screw tops and sharp splinters of wood, all of which have the potential to cause injury. If the Bowling Association are to encourage increased participation, particularly amongst the younger generation, they need

to mitigate against causing personal harm to existing and potential users.

The long term community benefits associated with the project include creating a safe environment to develop junior participation in the game of bowls.

The total cost of the proposal is £3,427. The project has already benefitted from a £500 grant award from NPTCBC Community Safety Funding and £362 from the Bowling Associations own reserves. The Association now requests £1,605 from Cllr Edward Latham's Members Fund portfolio. The remaining £960 will be contributed by the Bowling Association in the form of voluntary 'in-kind labour,' as three of the club members have the constructional expertise and wherewithal to undertake the building work themselves.

### **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 project will be sustained in the long term by the core of volunteers at the Vivian Park Bowling Association. As the long-term Leaseholders, the Association is responsible for fully insuring and maintaining the bowling greens as stipulated in their tenancy agreement with NPTCBC.

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 to modernise and make safe the bowling green facilities at Vivian Park, be approved, and that £1,605.00 of Cllr Latham's allocation 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 end of the financial year. 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 Sandfields East initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Edward Latham. The quotation and bank account details for Vivian Park Bowling Association have 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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