

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Cabinet**

9 December 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 two of the Ward Members for Aberavon.

#### **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 training equipment for Fairfield Karate Club.

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

Fairfield Karate Club operates from the Community Resource Centre on Michna Street, Aberavon. Participants span a wide cross section of people of all ages and abilities, and the Club regularly engages in local tournaments.

The Club wishes to purchase essential items of training equipment including a boombox, which will be used for circuit training and when practicing 'The Bleep Test', competition standard kick bags and portable mats.

The need for the proposal has been brought to the attention of Councillors Nigel Hunt and Scott Bamsey by the Principal Instructor. The Club is situated within one of the most underprivileged and economically deprived areas in Neath Port Talbot. Many participants cannot afford to pay subscriptions but rather than being turned away, the Club allow them to train for free, with instructors often paying for venue hire out of their own pockets. Although this has helped to keep many of the disengaged children and young people off the streets and engaged in positive pursuits, it has left the Club without any financial legacy with which to purchase equipment.

The long term community benefits associated with the project include improved health, fitness and well-being, and instilling a sense of pride, discipline and self-respect amongst the younger participants.

The new items of equipment will be stored securely and covered against theft by the Club's Insurance Policy.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £2,305.80, split equally between Cllr Nigel Hunt and Cllr Scott Bamsey's portfolios (£1,152.90 each). There is no match funding associated with 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 new equipment will be the sole responsibility of Fairfield Karate Club, who have made an ongoing commitment to ensuring the apparatus is appropriately cared for and maintained.

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 training equipment for Fairfield Karate Club be approved, and that Cllr Nigel Hunt's allocation of £1,152.90, and Cllr Scott Bamsey's allocation of £1,152.90 be awarded 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 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 Aberavon initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Nigel Hunt. The Constitution, quotations and bank account details for the Fairfield Karate Club 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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