

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

9 December 2019

Report of the Head of Transformation - A.Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Taibach

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. Resurfacing of footway at Commercial Road, Taibach.

This bid has been developed to 'Enhance Existing Council Services' and has the full support of the NPTCBC Streetcare Team.

The proposal is to resurface a 200 square metre section of footway by removing the existing paving slabs and replacing them with a smooth tarmacadam surface. This section of pavement receives a high amount of footfall as it runs in front of numerous commercial properties including 'Williams & Wheeler' Chemists, Taibach Post Office, 'TJ's' Pet Shop, two hot food takeaways, two hair salons, and it is en route to the Aldi superstore.

The need for this initiative has been brought to the attention of the local Ward Members via numerous complaints made by residents, and through a condition survey instigated by the NPTCBC Streetcare Services. The stretch of footway is currently made up of uneven paving slabs which present with many trip hazards. There have recently been two incidents where members of the public have fallen due to the poor condition of the footway, which resulted in them receiving hospital treatment.

The long term benefits associated with the project include a safer and more suitable footway surface for the residents of Taibach.

The request for Grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £8,106.41 from Councillor Anthony Taylor's Members Fund portfolio, which is the total cost of realising 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 footway will be maintained, as it is now, by NPTCBC Streetcare Services in line with its current policies and procedures.

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 resurfacing of the footway at Commercial Road, Taibach, is approved and that the allocation of £8,106.41 under the Members Community Fund is 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 Taibach initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Cllr Anthony Taylor. The Application Form has been retained for future reference, as have documents associated with the first stage Impact Assessment.

15. Officer Contact

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