

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

5 February 2020

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 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 Aberavon Quins RFC Mini and Junior sections.

Equipment to be purchased includes balls, tackle bags and tackle wedges.

Aberavon Quins RFC is a Welsh Rugby Union affiliated Club which has been in existence since 1904. The Rugby Club is at the heart of Aberavon, and has developed close links with the community by hosting regular charity matches and entertainment events.

An investment in training equipment via the Members Community Fund will help safeguard the proud tradition of rugby in Aberavon. It will develop increased participation and improved standards of performance amongst those that will make the transition to Youth and then the Senior Teams.

The need for the project has come from the existing participants, their parents, the coaches and the WRU. The Club has both male and female participants playing in Under 7's, Under 8's, Under 9's, Under 11's and Under 12's squads. At present the Club simply does not have the volume of training equipment needed to serve all of these teams.

The community benefits associated with this project include the positive engagement of young people, their parents and

grandparents. Also the opportunity to get and keep fit, to pursue a sport that creates friendship, discipline, communication, well-being, team working and an active lifestyle.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £833.94, which is the total remaining balance of Cllr Steffan ap Dafydd's Members Fund allocation. The remaining £166.16 needed to achieve the total project cost of £1,000.10 will be realised via a personal donation to the Club by Cllr ap Dafydd.

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.

Upkeep of the equipment, its use and its servicing will be the responsibility of Aberavon Quins RFC. The equipment will be used during training sessions under the watchful eye of WRU qualified coaches and when not in use, it will be stored securely under lock and key.

There will be no revenue implications for the Council going forward.

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 purchase essential items of training equipment for Aberavon Quins RFC Mini and Junior sections is approved, and that Councillor Steffan ap Dafydd's allocation of £833.94, 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 Aberavon initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Steffan ap Dafydd. The Constitution for Aberavon Quins RFC, their Bank Account details, signatories, the quotations that have been developed to support the bid and the Insurance Policy have been entered on File for reference. The first stage Impact Assessment documentation associated with this project proposal has also been retained.

Officer Contact

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