

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Cabinet**

5 February 2020

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

#### **Matter for Decision**

#### **Wards Affected:**

Coedffranc Central

### **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. Installation of a weatherproof shelter to enhance facilities at Skewen Park.

The proposal is to procure and install an ornate shelter at Skewen Park, which falls under the purview of Coedffranc Town Council. The shelter is intended to be a place of refuge for Park users during inclement weather.

The shelter to be purchased is of robust construction, comprising of an aluminium framework and clear toughened glass. The Town Council have chosen a shelter of mainly transparent design to discourage vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

The need for this project has been brought to the attention of Town Councillors, and consequently the Ward Member, by concerned citizens of Coedffranc Central. Skewen Park is situated within a densely populated area and has excellent amenities including a fixed play area, paddling pool, tennis courts, a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and ornamental gardens. As a consequence it receives a high amount of footfall from a variety of users including dog walkers, families with pushchairs, children and young people. Feedback from residents has indicated that the lack of any place of shelter discourages the more vulnerable within the community, particularly the elderly, from using the Park when inclement weather is forecast, and that people are often 'caught out' in the open in the event of rain.

The long term community benefits associated with this project include assisting Parks users by providing shelter from poor weather, enabling residents to spend more time outdoors and adding another amenity to this already popular facility.

The total cost of the shelter, two internal seats, delivery to site and the materials and labour associated with its installation is £7,533.75. Coedffranc Town Council are applying to Councillor Arthur Davies' Members Fund portfolio for £7,500, and the remaining £33.75 will be contributed from Town Council reserves. Should the £7,500 be awarded Councillor Davies' Members Fund balance will be reduced to nil.

### **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.

Coedffranc Town Council have committed to the future care, insurance and maintenance of the shelter, and any costs associated with this will be met by their precept monies.

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 for the installation of a weatherproof shelter to enhance facilities at Skewen Park is approved, and that Councillor Arthur Davies contributes £7,500 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 Coedffranc Central initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Arthur Davies. Associated papers including the quotation for the shelter and the bank account details for Coedffranc Town Council 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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