

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Cabinet**

19 February 2020

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

#### **Matter for Decision**

#### **Wards Affected:**

Coedffranc West

### **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 the Ward Member for Coedffranc West.

#### **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 provide Skewen RFC Mini and Junior Section with essential training equipment and to train willing volunteers as Level 1 and Level 2 Coaches.

Equipment to be purchased includes tackle bags, tag belts, training balls, cones and resistance harnesses.

Skewen RFC is a member of the Welsh Rugby Union. The Rugby Club is at the heart of the community and currently caters for 110 children aged between 6 and 12 (Minis and juniors), training and playing fixtures at Court Herbert and Tennant Park on a mid-week and on a Sunday.

This investment will assist in providing dedicated sports equipment and coaching to each age group avoiding the need to share apparatus and personnel. It will provide a ready arsenal of equipment which will allow the Club to grow, increase participation and improve standards of performance

The need for the project has come from the existing participants, their parents, the coaches and the WRU. The Club has seen a period of growth in recent times and there is a need for greater expansion beyond the volume of training equipment which is currently available.

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 £2,026.63 from Councillor Helen Ceri Clarke's allocation, which is the total cost of purchasing the equipment and coach education (no match funding).

### **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 the Club. The equipment will be used during training sessions under the watchful eye of newly qualified WRU coaches and when not in use, it will be stored securely in a steel freight container close to the Clubhouse.

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 acquire new training equipment and Coach Education for the Mini and Junior Section of Skewen RFC is approved and that Councillor Helen Clarke's allocation of £2,026.63, 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 Skewen initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Helen Ceri Clarke. The Constitution for Skewen 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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