

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

19 February 2020

Report of the Head of Transformation - A.Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Trebanos

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 Councillor for Trebanos.

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. Application to furnish the Environmentalist Group 'My Green Valley' with litter picking equipment and Zero Waste Boxes.

This project proposal is to install volunteer Area Managers across six defined area in the vicinity of Pontardawe including Trebanos, Rhydyfro, Alltwen and Ynysmeudwy, to organise at least four litter picking events per year.

'My Green Valley' will help the Council in maintaining litter free areas, tackle fly tipping , promote recycling, educate future generations on local environmental issues and maintain green spaces. The local knowledge of the volunteer workforce can be harnessed to encourage participation and focus on litter hotspots.

The new equipment sought from Grant aid will include 10 sets of litter pickers, Hi - Vis jackets, gloves, hand sanitiser, first aid kits, sharps boxes and ancillary items. Also it is the intention to promote the collection and reuse of non - recyclable waste such as crisp packets, sweet wrappers, Styrofoam, etc. by acquiring two 'Terracycle' zero waste boxes (to be located at Trebanos Community Hall). The cost of these boxes include the shipping of these non - recyclable items back for sorting, to be repurposed into new products.

The purchase cost of the litter picking equipment and the 'Terra - Cycling' Bins is £2,637.51 and the financial support to make this

project proposal deliverable is sought from Councillor Phillip's Members Fund.

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 project will help the Council keep the County free from litter and inspire a change and shift in community mentality and how best to sympathetically manage and dispose of waste. Residents will be more environmentally aware and take pride in their surroundings.

The project will be supervised by the Area Managers, who will maintain the initial momentum and interest.

There will be no future revenue expenditure for the 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 to support the voluntary sector in creating litter free zones in Trebanos and outlying areas is approved and that Councillor Phillips contributes £2,637.51 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 Trebanos initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Rebeca Phillips and the Environmentalist Group known as 'My Green Valley'. The supporting documentation submitted by the voluntary community organisation has 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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