



NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET (FINANCE) SUB COMMITTEE

20 OCTOBER 2021

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF FINANCE – HUW JONES

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected – Onllwyn

Report Title – Community Councils Minor Projects Scheme – Application from Onllwyn Community Council

Purpose of Report

1. To seek Members' approval to provide a grant to Onllwyn Community Council under the Council's Community Councils Minor Projects Scheme.

Background

2. Neath Port Talbot Council has approved a Community Council Minor Projects Grants Scheme in order to assist Community Councils in undertaking minor capital projects. Approved grants are required to be claimed within two years of approval.
3. The Council has received an application for grant aid under the above mentioned scheme from Onllwyn Community Council. This application is for grant assistance towards the cost of developing a new fixed play area, with the emphasis being on providing opportunities for adventurous and challenging play for juniors and teens. The play area will be located on a 700m² area of green space at Banwen Park, the home of Banwen RFC (SA109LG). The Community Council have leased the land from Banwen RFC for a period of 125years. The estimated cost of the works overall is £100,000 plus recoverable VAT.

4. The balance of the project costs will be financed as follows:-

The Community Council will apply for 80% of the total project cost (£80,000) from the Maes Gwyn Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund. The Community Council has an excellent track record of successfully applying to Maes Gwyn for numerous projects, including a Community Ranger initiative, improvements to Right of Way 33, the provision of defibrillators for the community, a new Skate Park and the conversion of a tennis court into a Multi-Use Games Area(MUGA). The remaining £6,000 shortfall associated with this proposal has been ring-fenced for the project from Community Council Reserves.

Proposal and Financial Impact

5. The application from Onllwyn Community Council complies with the conditions of grant and is entitled to grant support at 70% up to a maximum of £14,000 in accordance with the Minor Projects Grants Scheme and payment be made on receipt of paid invoices together with a copy bank statement.

Integrated Impact Assessment

6. There are no impacts in respect of the obligations to the Council under the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Standards (No 1) Regulations 2015, the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and support via this grant is a positive impact in respect of the Wellbeing and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Valleys Communities Impacts

7. Applications for grant are available to Community Councils across the county borough.

Workforce Impacts

8. There are no workforce impacts.

Legal Impacts

9. Grants are provided in line with the approved scheme criteria.

Risk Management Impacts

10. All grant applications are considered on their own merit and in line with the approved scheme criteria.

Consultation

11. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendation

12. It is recommended that Members approve a grant of 70% of actual costs up to a maximum of £14,000 to Onllwyn Community Council.

Reason for Proposed Decision

13. The decision is in compliance with the approved policy and to enable community improvements.

Implementation of Decision

14. The decision is proposed for implementation after the 3 day call-in period.

Appendices

None

List of Background Papers

15. Application from Onllwyn Community Council.

Officer Contact

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