

Appendix T.

Background or 'Project Specifics' – Application MF075/T2

To set up a café type support group for the Parkinson's Society to operate from St. Theodore's Church Hall in Port Talbot.

This bid has been developed to 'Assist Voluntary Sector providers' working in close partnership with NPT Safe & Well.

The funding will be used for initial start-up costs which will include hall hire for the first inaugural year and language tutor fees.

The need for this initiative has come to the attention of the local Ward Members. The project proposal is to bring something positive back into the community after two years of restrictions. The project will have a positive effect on the well-being of many community members, especially those that have suffered isolation and loneliness. St. Theodore's are very supportive of this initiative which will again bring people together to socialise, to learn and rekindle friendships. The Parkinson's Group are well established in Neath, there is no provision at this time in Port Talbot.

Consultation has revealed that with the opportunity to start holidaying again there was a demand to learn conversational Spanish, which in the following year would expand to include tuition in the Welsh Language or even German.

The scheme has no further financial implications for NPTCBC as in subsequent years the venture would be supported by a combination of charges prescribed for refreshments, financial support from the Parkinson's Society and/or registration as an accredited course with Neath/Afan College campus.

Recommendations

The project is valued at £1,600, which is the cost of hall hire and the language tutor. The Applicants, Councillor Sharon Freeguard, Saif Rahaman and Dennis Keogh would wish to fund this project from their Members Fund allocation (£600 from Cllr Freeguard, and £500 each from Cllrs Rahaman and Keogh).

The project proposal is recommended for approval and financial support under the Members Community Fund.