



## **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **CABINET (POLICY AND RESOURCES) SUB COMMITTEE**

**25 JULY 2023**

#### **REPORT OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER – HUW JONES**

##### **Matter for Decision**

##### **Wards Affected – Dyffryn**

##### **Community Councils Minor Projects Scheme – Application from Dyffryn Clydach Community Council**

##### **Purpose of Report**

1. To seek Members' approval to provide a grant to Dyffryn Clydach 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 Dyffryn Clydach Community Council.
4. This application is for grant assistance towards:-
  - Purchase and installation of IT equipment to ensure council are able to facilitate hybrid meetings and training sessions.

- Set up of permanent office base for RFO/Clerk.
- Purchase of projector for main hall.

**How will this project contribute to the Council's four well-being objectives as set out in the 2022-2027 Corporate Plan?**

This project will contribute to the Council's Objective "To ensure that all our communities are thriving and sustainable" as follows:-

- Clerk office - the Clerk will now have a permanent work base to ensure they are accessible to our hall users and members of the public on a regular basis.
- All Councillors will be provided with equipment to ensure that council meetings can be held on a hybrid basis and that members of the community will be able to access the council meetings online as per regulations.
- Committee room will be adapted to be used for training of staff, councillors and local residents as well as offered for hire for corporate training events which will increase community council revenue.
- Purchase and installation of projector & screen in main hall which can be used by current user groups ie historical society.
- Equipment can also be used by council and other users to encourage youth engagement in events planned such as youth film nights etc.

The estimated cost of the works overall is £10,000 to £15,000 plus recoverable VAT.

How will the balance of the project costs be financed?

Dyffryn Clydach Community Council have sufficient funds to be able to cover the cost of 50% of the cost of purchasing the new equipment.

What are the revenue implications?

The committee room is only currently used twice per week by external groups and occasionally by the community council. The installation of IT equipment in the committee room will mean it can

be used for other purposes such as corporate training and team building sessions.

With the installation of a projector and screen in the main hall, this will hopefully attract user groups who engage with young people and will arrange sessions during the evenings for the local community.

### **Proposal and Financial Impact**

5. The application from Dyffryn Clydach Community Council complies with the conditions of grant and is entitled to grant support at 50% up to a maximum of £10,000 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 50% of actual costs up to a maximum of £10,000 to Dyffryn Clydach 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.

## **List of Background Papers**

15. Application from Dyffryn Clydach Community Council.

## **Officer Contact**

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