

**Halesowen Area Committee – 12th September 2006**

**Report of the Area Liaison Officer**

**Delegated Capital Budget**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider requests for funding from the Delegated Capital Budget.

**Background**

2. The criteria against which allocations from the delegated capital budget should be considered are set out in the Appendix. The Area Committee has previously agreed that contributions from the budget will be limited to £5,000 unless exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated. A copy of the applications referred to in this report are available to Members on request.
3. Shell Corner Improvements  
At its meeting on 25th January 2006, the Committee considered a number of options for environmental and other improvements at Shell Corner and that further work to be done. As part of the annual review of spending, commitments and outline allocations at the meeting on 28th June the Committee approved an in principle allocation of £15,000, subject to further consideration of detailed proposals, which are now set out at Agenda Item No 13.
4. Hurst Green PTA  
An application has been received from the Hurst Green Primary School Parents and Teachers Association (PTA) for funding towards the cost of providing permanent seating and shelter on a new playground that has been built, following the completion of a classroom extension.

This will not only enable pupils to better enjoy their social times during school hours, but will also benefit pupils from Halesbury Special Needs School, who share this playground. It will also provide a resource that will benefit other organisations, such as a Brownie Group, two playgroups, an after school club and a breakfast and holiday club.

Having consulted with colleagues who are supportive of the proposal, I am recommending a grant of £3,000 be approved.

5. Beechtree and Wollescote Welfare Club  
A request has been received from the Beechtree and Wollescote Welfare Club, for funding towards the repair of the Club roof costing £1,750.00. The club provides recreational facilities for the use of the Community in Wollescote and is well used by local people.

The amount requested is £875.00 and the Club was anxious to commission the repairs

as soon as possible, I have, therefore, in consultation with the Chairman approved a grant of £875.00. On this occasion it was inappropriate to consult Councillor Body who has a personal interest in the matter as a Trustee of the Club.

### **Finance**

6. The total available for distribution in 2006/07 was £83,700, with £36,832 worth of allocations being approved/earmarked at the June Committee and the recommendations in this report will result in the following allocations:-

	£
<u>Recommended for approval:-</u>	
Hurst Green PTA	3,000.00
<u>Grants approved through delegated arrangements:-</u>	
Beechtree and Wollescote Welfare Club	875.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,875.00</b>

Leaving £43,000 available for the remainder of the year.

### **Law**

7. The Committee may incur capital expenditure in respect of the various statutory functions of the Council.
8. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive to, or incidental to the discharge of its functions.

### **Equality Impact**

9. This report complies fully with the Council's policies on equal opportunities and diversity. Some of the applications include facilities which are available to children and young people.

### **Recommendations**

10. It is proposed that the Area Committee:-
- (a) approves a grant of £3,000 to the Hurst Green PTA for seating and shelter on the new playground.
  - (b) notes my action, in consultation with the Chairman, in approving a grant of £875.00 to the Beechtree and Wollescote Welfare Club towards the cost of repairing the Club's roof.



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**Mike Williams**  
**Area Liaison Officer**

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### **Criteria for Bids/Allocations**

- a. The allocation to be spent on 'capital' schemes, as defined by legislation, i.e. one-off type expenditure on acquisition, construction, enhancement of land, roads, buildings, equipment or vehicles, which may also include the making of grants or loans for capital expenditure by others.
- b. Schemes should contribute to the Community and Council Plans and should not conflict with existing Council Policy.
- c. Schemes should be for the general benefit of the wider community, i.e. not just for the benefit of individuals or specific groups and should 'make a difference' in the local area.
- d. Schemes should not result in any on-going revenue costs.
- e. Consideration should be given to schemes that might generate external funding (*i.e. using these budgets as match funding*).