

Report to Belle Vale and Hayley Green and Cradley South Community Forum

13th October 2013

Report of Lead Officer

Area Grants

Purpose of Report

- 1 To consider applications for grant assistance from the Community Forum Funding Budget.

Background

2. The 10 Community Forums are responsible for allocating expenditure from the Community Forum Funding Budget. The guidelines against which allocations from the delegated budget should be considered are set out in Appendix 1. These are corporate guidelines only and it is ultimately for each Community Forum to decide on individual applications. Copies of the applications referred to in this report have been sent to Members prior to the meeting.

Applications

3. 4 previous applications have been approved at the former Halesowen Community Forum, for which the funding commitment will be shared equally between the Belle Vale and Hayley Green and Cradley South and the Halesowen North and Halesowen South Community Forums. For information, these applications are;
 - Halas Homes - £5,000 toward an extension to an existing building in order to provide increased floor space for training provision.
 - Ups and Downs - £4,595 toward play equipment and the cost of trips etc for a group providing support to families with children with Downs Syndrome.
 - Halesowen Age Concern £2,500 towards a new marquee and fundraising events.
 - Fast Aid (volunteers supporting the West Midlands Ambulance Service) An application for £10,000 in total (£1000 from each Forum for a vehicle to assist with 999 emergency calls. This project was agreed in principle at the last Forum, to be confirmed by the Lead Officer in conjunction with the Chair/vice Chair when the application had been appraised.

4. Since the last meeting of the Forum, two further applications have been received;

- Halesowen in Bloom – an application for £4,149.60 towards the group's work in providing and maintaining planters etc. The application is also being taken to the Halesowen North and Halesowen South Community Forum.
- Unit3sixty C.I.C. – an application for £50,000 in total (£5,000 from each forum), to create a local community enterprise/facility for young people at Mill Race Lane in Stourbridge, which will provide a safe, stimulating environment to socialise, make friends and to get and stay fit and healthy. This will involve liaising with Borough schools and Colleges and Partnership agencies to offer a wide range of activities revolving primarily around an indoor skate park. Please note that any award would be subject to planning permission

Finance

5. Taking account of previous commitments from this Community Forum and the former Halesowen Community Forum, the current balance of funding available to the Belle Vale and Hayley Green and Cradley South Community Forum is £11,702.25.

Law

6. The Localism Act 2011 gives the Council a power of general competence to act in the interests of the community.
7. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables the Council to do anything that is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive to or incidental to the discharge of its statutory functions.

Equality Impact

8. This report complies with the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy.

Recommendation

9. That:-

- i) The Community Forum considers the applications referred to in this report and makes a recommendation to the Director of Corporate Resources.



.....
Phil Coyne
Assistant Director of the Urban Environment
and Lead Officer to the Community Forum.

Contact Officer: Phil Coyne
Telephone: 01384 814004
Email: phil.coyne@dudley.gov.uk

List of Background Papers

- The application forms on which this report is based have been sent to Members prior to the meeting but contain exempt information under the terms of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.
- Appendix 1 Corporate Guidelines for Considering Funding Applications.