

Halesowen Area Committee – 14th September 2005

Additional Report of the Area Liaison Officer

Request for Capital Funding – Christmas Lights

1. I received too late to be included in my report at Agenda item 9, a request from the Halesowen Chamber of Trade (HCT) for funding towards the cost of Christmas lights in the Town Centre.
2. The Chamber of Trade are proposing to purchase a new and extended Christmas light display this year with a total estimated purchase cost of about £17,500. It would be necessary to upgrade the existing light system to dovetail with the new proposed displays and this will cost about £9,100. The running costs for the display, including the opening ceremony and associated events, are estimated to be about £4,000.
3. The HCT has sufficient funds to meet the running costs and the upgrade of the existing system, but is seeking support of £6,000 towards the cost of the new display.
4. The Committee has previously contributed towards the cost of Christmas lights. It is expected that the new display will raise the profile of the Town Centre and contribute to the economic well-being and further regeneration of the Town Centre and encourage Local Pride.
5. This is an application which meets the funding criteria and I am recommending that the Committee approves an allocation of £6,000 for which there is provision in the budget.



Mike Williams
Area Liaison Officer

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