
Halesowen Area Committee – 6th September 2007

Supplementary Report of the Area Liaison Officer

Request for Capital Funding – Halesowen Town Centre – Christmas Lights

1. A request from the Halesowen Chamber of Trade to provide funding for the purchase of additional Christmas lights for Halesowen Town Centre has recently been received.
2. Given the impact of the development work, the Chamber would like to increase the number of sets of lights in seven trees in the Town Centre and also provide a bespoke entrance crossing display across the High Street. It is felt this would make a strong message to passing traffic. The total cost would be about £5,100 and the Chamber has requested a grant of £5,000.
3. The Area Committee has previously approved grant, totalling £9,500 for the purchase of lights. The total cost of erecting, maintaining and running the Christmas lights is approximately £8,000 - £10,000 and this is met from a contribution from the Council's Town Centre Management Capital Budget and contributions from local businesses.
4. Additional Christmas lighting will increase the attractiveness of the Town Centre and particularly given the impact that the development work will have over the Christmas period, I am recommending the Committee approves a grant of £5,000 for 2007/08.

Recommendation

5. This is an application which meets the funding criteria and I am recommending that the Committee approves an allocation of £5,000 for which there is provision in the budget.



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Mike Williams
Area Liaison Officer

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