
Stourbridge Area Committee – Addendum to Grant allocations Report

15th October 2012

Report of the Area Liaison Officer

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the applications for Area Committee Grant allocations which have been received after the meeting of (Capital and Revenue Allocations) Working Group.

Applications

2. Norton Green Tenants and Residents Association

The aim of group is to improve the community for everyone within the catchment area. The committee volunteers work with local councillors and the police to address any issues affecting people in the Norton area.

The application is for £1185 for 2 laptops and printers, a camera and various accessories, which will be used by the group to print information leaflets and newsletters and help communicate with the wider community.

The group has supplied quotes, a constitution and financial information which shows £240 is being held as cash in hand or at bank.

Members of the (Capital and Revenue Allocations) Working Group have indicated that this grant should be approved.

3. Stourbridge Christmas Lights

An application has been received from Dudley MBC-Environmental Management Division for a grant of £5000 to provide Christmas trees at 3 locations within the Stourbridge Committee Area, i.e. Chequers Public House, Oldswinford Cross and Christ Church, Lye. The funding will allow for the purchase, erection and removal of the trees and associated energy costs. Installation and maintenance of the lights will be met from the division's existing budgets.

Members of the (Capital and Revenue Allocations) Working Group have indicated that this grant should be approved.

4. The Change Consortium

The applicant registered in October 2010 as a company limited by guarantee to undertake various projects in Birmingham and the Black Country.

One of these projects is The People's Orchestra which aims to fill the gap for young people to engage in music between the music service provided by local authorities and professional orchestras, although there are no age limits. Currently there are 6 members from the Dudley Borough and it is hoped that will increase to 23 by July 2013.

The first concert is to be held on 4th November 2012 at the Adrian Boulton Hall, Birmingham .

The Orchestra also has volunteers from the Dudley Borough who can use this experience to find paid employment.

The request is for a grant of £4957 to purchase 4 timpani drums.

Financial accounts to 31st October 2011 have been supplied which show a profit of £6307 and this is mainly held as cash at bank.

The application has been considered and refused by Brierley Hill Area Committee on the grounds that it did not fulfil its criteria for an award.

Some members of the (Capital and Revenue Allocations) Working Group have indicated that this grant should not be approved.

5. Insight Carers Service

The applicant is a registered charity run by carers for carers. It provides help and advice in various ways including:

- A training programme, Ready4life, for people with learning difficulties
- A café operated by people on the above programme to gain valuable skills and provide a social meeting place for others.
- A Leading role in Dudley's Parent Participation project
- "Looking after me" courses
- In partnership with Scope, a befriending service for parents of children with disabilities or special needs.
- The provision of a facility to be used by other local community

The grant is required to reconnect the gas supply and work to bring the kitchen to a functional standard.

The group made an application for £10,014 from Brierley Hill Area Committee, who granted £5000 with the request that the 4 other area committees consider a grant of £1250 each, because the group worked with residents across the whole borough, in order that all the funds could be found.

Some members of the (Capital and Revenue Allocations) Working Group have indicated that this grant should be approved.

6. Stourbridge Quakers

At the meeting in June 2012 a grant £5000 was awarded to Stourbridge Quakers for urgent building work. The group has received the funds and sent a letter of thanks to the Committee.

Finance

7. The Area Committee's delegated budget allocation is funded by the Council's revenue resources. The current position with regard to available resources is set out in paragraph 2 of the main report.

Law

8. Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, enables the Council to do any thing which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well being of the Borough or any part of it.

Equality Impact

9. This report complies fully with the Council's policies on equality and diversity.

Recommendation

10. It is recommended that the Committee :

- a. consider the applications as detailed in paragraph 2-5 of the report.
- b. Note the receipt of the letter of thanks as detailed in paragraph 6 of the report.



Area Liaison Officer

Contact Officer: Jane Porter

Telephone: 01384 814201

Email: jane.porter@dudley.gov.uk