

**Stourbridge Area Committee - 20<sup>th</sup> March 2006**

**Report of the Area Liaison Officer**

**Capital Allocations**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider two applications for a capital allocation.

**Background**

2. The Area Committee has an unallocated capital budget of £10,102.43 for 2005/6.
3. The Area Committee has previously agreed that contributions from the budget will be limited to £5,000 unless exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated. Spending proposals are invited from members of the Area Committee, the public, representative organisations and Council departments, and each proposal is assessed against the following criteria:-
  - (a) The allocation is 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 Plan 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 ongoing revenue cost to the Council;
  - (e) Consideration should be given to schemes which might generate external funding (i.e. using the allocation as match-funding); and
  - (f) Spending must be in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, and demonstrate Best Value.
  - (g) Approved allocations must normally be claimed within six months.

4. A copy of the applications referred to in this report are available to Members on request.

#### **Application by the Friends of Mary Stevens Park**

5. An application for a capital allocation has been submitted by the Friends of Mary Stevens Park for the erection of iron railing along the Norton Road perimeter of the park. It is intended that these railings would match the existing railings on the Norton Road perimeter roughly from the point opposite Grassmere Drive to the beginning of the wall in Stanley Road.
6. The estimated cost of this project is £6,500 and the Friends are applying for a capital allocation of £5,000. The balance of funding (£1,500) will be the subject of a separate application to the Stevens Trust at the next meeting of the Area Committee.
7. This application appears to satisfy the criteria set out in paragraph 3 above.

#### **Application by Withymoor Colts Football Club**

8. An application for a capital allocation has been submitted by the Withymoor Colts Football Club. The Club caters for boys from 5-16 years of age, and girls from 10-14 years of age. In total, the Club has 350 youngsters, of whom 100 live within Stourbridge. The Club has recently been awarded the Football Association Charter Standard.
9. The application is for a grant of £2,450.30 as follows:-
  - Training equipment (including goal nets and speed ladders) - £ 460.50
  - Nets and goals - £1,489.80
  - Barbecue and Marquee (to be used in other community events such as charity matches and fun runs) - £ 500.00
10. The Balance Sheet for the Club as at the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2005, showed a balance at the Bank of just over £15,650 with a net deficit of income over expenditure for 2004/5 of just under £2,500.
11. This application appears to satisfy the criteria set out in paragraph 3 above.

#### **Finance**

12. The Area Committee's delegated budget allocation is funded by the Council's mainstream capital resources. The current position with regard to available resources for 2005/6 is set out in paragraph 2.1 of this report.

#### **Law**

13. 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**

14. This report complies fully with the Council's policies on equal opportunities and diversity.

### **Recommendation**

15. It is recommended that the Area Committee consider the applications submitted by the Friends of Mary Stevens Park and the Withymoor Colts Football Club, as set out in this report.

John Polychronakis

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**John Polychronakis**  
**Area Liaison Officer**

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### **List of Background Papers**

1. Application submitted by the Friends of Mary Stevens Park.
2. Application submitted by the Withymoor Colts Football Club.