

Area North Committee – 28th November 2007

10. Area North Grants – Update Report

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Purpose of the Report

To update members on grants approved since April 2007, from the Area North Development budget, including those grants approved by the Head of Area Development (North) under delegated authority. An update on progress of community grants awarded and carried forward from previous years is also included.

Members should note that this report is in addition to the quarterly budget monitoring reports, and is designed to support a greater focus by the Council on evaluation of longer term outcomes.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Members note the contents of the report.

Background

South Somerset District Council provides significant financial support in the form of grants to other organisations, to contribute to:

- Match-funding for projects – for example:
 - Community projects, assessed under SSDC Community Grants policies
 - Partner / agency led projects
 - Special grants programmes (e.g. business grants)
- Services provided by key partnerships and organisations
- Other innovative or feasibility work to address local needs

Area North's current financial resources include an annual grants budget and the 3 year Area Capital Programme. The Committee has also established a Small Business Grants scheme, which is reported on separately by the Community Regeneration Officer.

Grants are administered and monitored by the Area Support team, within Area Development North

Appendix 1 contains the current SSDC Community Grant Policies for Member's reference.

Members should note that an update on the progress of the pilot Frontline Councillor Scheme is reported separately elsewhere in this agenda.

Report

Grants awarded by the Area North Committee since 1st April 2007

| Date | Applicant / Group | Project | Total cost | Grant awarded | % | Update |
|------|---|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------|--|
| Apr | SSVCA - Langport and Somerton Links (Community Transport Service) | 2007-08 revenue support grant | £ 54,200.00 | £ 12,500.00 | 23% | Paid see report Sept 07, project exceeding expectations |
| Jun | Lady Smith Memorial Institute (Parish Rooms) Somerton | Refurbishment of the kitchen area, providing access for disabled people, new kitchen fittings, flooring and electrical work | £ 15,336.00 | £ 3,000.00 | 20% | Successful bid to Awards for All, contract to be let shortly |
| Oct | The Village Artists Group Stoke Sub Hamdon | Installation of Hearing Loop and Public Address System | £3,257.90 | £ 1,107.00 | 34% | In hand |
| | | TOTAL | £72,793.90 | £16,607.00 | 23% | |

Grants awarded under delegated authority 1st April 2007 – 31st October 2007

This table lists the grant awarded this year by the Head of Area Development under delegated authority (grants less than £750). These are agreed with the Ward member or Chairman (for area wide grants).

| Applicant | Project | Total cost | Approved | % of project cost | |
|--|--|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Hambridge Community Primary School | Talk School International Conference | £6,500.00 | £ 500.00 | 8% | Paid |
| Kingsbury Episcopi May Festival | Purchase of a new PA system | £ 507.20 | £ 200.00 | 39% | Paid |
| Community Green Fair | Activities for young people | £ 1,550.00 | £ 425.00 | 27% | Paid |
| Stoke Sub Hamdon May Fair | Fundraising for new changing rooms | £ 425.00 | £ 50.00 | 12% | Paid |
| Ilton & Broadway Scout Group (Area West committee) | Renewing camping equipment: contributing 10% of award | £ 4,423.00 | £220.00 | 5% | awaiting invoices |
| | TOTAL | £13,405.20 | £1,395.00 | 10% | |
| County Badminton Bursary | Awarded to an individual to help with costs incurred while representing the county | | £ 100.00 | | Paid |

Projects supported but not completed during 2006/07 - carried forward

The table below shows projects carried forward from 2006/07 into the current year.

| Applicant | Project Description | Project Cost | Grant awarded | % of project cost | Current position |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Martock Tennis Club - phase 2 | New lights & courts for the tennis club | £101,758.00 | £ 7383.00 | 7% | completed |
| Aller Recreation Association | Play area equipment | £ 14,905.00 | £ 7,452.00 | 50% | completed |
| Somerton Town Council | Bus Shelter (Behind Berry) | £ 2,545.00 | £ 1,272.50 | 50% | Under construction |
| South Petherton Tennis Club | Installation of third court | £ 21,820.00 | £ 4,320.00 | 20% | completed |
| Norton Sub Hamdon Changing Rooms | Update changing rooms | £ 22,050.00 | £ 11,000.00 | 50% | Completed, £636 outstanding |
| South Petherton Allotment Holders | Provide fencing for security | £ 2,500.00 | £ 1,250.00 | 50% | Pending |
| Barrington Players | Contribution towards lighting etc | £ 12,885.00 | £ 1,500.00 | 12% | completed |
| Martock Play equipment | Play area & recreation equipment | £ 60,000.00 | £ 12,500.00 | 21% | £1,603 to pay |
| Hambridge & Westport Recreation Trust | Disabled access & toilets | £ 9,000.00 | £ 4,693.00 | 52% | Awaiting invoices |

| Applicant | Project Description | Project Cost | Grant awarded | % of project cost | Current position |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Long Sutton Village Hall & Recreation Committee | Renovation of the pavilion | £ 18,000.00 | £ 8,000.00 | 44% | completed |
| South Petherton Cricket Club | Installation of safety netting | £ 2,077.03 | £1,000.00 | 48% | Partially completed, £303.16 to pay |

Grants carried forward from previous years into the current year.

| Name of Project | Description | Total Project Cost | Amount Awarded | % of project cost | Status |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|--|
| Somerton Memorial Gardens | Play area & recreation equipment | £ 90,000.00 | £22,500.00 | 25% | Completed - payment to be made |
| Langport Town Trust | Stair lift and ramp | £ 21,292.00 | £ 4,000.00 | 19% | Partially completed £1,464 outstanding* |
| South Petherton Blake Hall | Toilet Replacement & Lift Platform | £ 20,383.00 | £ 5,000.00 | 25% | £3,037 outstanding for stair lift, project in hand |
| Martock Parish Council – Phase 1 | New lights & courts for the tennis club | £ 14,965.00 | £ 3,375.00 | 23% | completed |
| Martock Parish Councils | Disabled access | £ 3,128.00 | £1,564.00 | 50% | Completed, £525 outstanding* |

* Area North 2007/8 Budget Monitoring Report for the Period Ending 30th September 2007 is recommending that balance be returned to the unallocated balance within the North Capital Programme.

Implications for Corporate Priorities

The provision of Community Grants meets the following corporate objectives:

- 8** Work in partnership with the public and private sector in developing and delivery of the Market Town Vision
- 9** Identify and address the particular issues affecting rural areas
- 15** Increase to 65% by 2010 the people who feel engaged in and can influence decisions that affect their communities.
- 16** Maintain above 80% the people satisfied with their neighbours as a place to live

Other Implications

The awarding of grants (and associated project development support) also contributes to priorities within:

- o The Area North Development Plan
- o The Somerset Local Area Agreement
- o Town and Parish community plans

Financial Implications

Impact of delegated grants on 2007/8 budget.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Opening balance of grants Budget | £ 35,360 |
| Awards since 1 st April | £ 12,512 |
| Community Grants under other delegation | £ 2,543 |
| Available balance | £ 20,305 |

Background Papers: Grant application files