

## 9. Frontline Councillors Community Grants Scheme

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### Purpose of the Report

To report on the progress of the pilot Frontline Councillor Grant scheme in Area North.

### Recommendation

Members are requested to note and comment on the report.

### Background

The Frontline Member Grant scheme was introduced as a pilot initiative, as part of the Councils work to enhance Area Working, promoting the role of the frontline councillor. Full Council approved this scheme in December 2006 and a budget allocation made by District Executive to provide each councillor with £2,500 to support local community projects. The detailed arrangements for the scheme were agreed in July 2007, with an agreement to evaluate the success of the scheme, which is being reported to District Executive in June 2008.

### The aims of the scheme

- To enhance the role of Ward Members as Community Champions, providing them with the tools to support local groups in their communities and become more involved in local projects.
- Provide an opportunity for Ward Members to support projects they know that meet identified local needs.
- Enable projects to secure funding when they don't meet the criteria and priorities of other funding programmes.
- Provide a quick and easy, accessible pot to enable projects to get off the ground.
- Ensure flexibility to enable projects to secure their last bit of funding, and ensure that other SSDC grant money (particularly Area Grants) is not being held up by delayed projects.

Full details of the scheme are included in Appendix A.

The scheme is administered by the Area Support Team Leader, with the authorisation of grants delegated to the Head of Area Development. This is the final report for the financial year 2007/08.

### Award details

The 13 Area North Councillors awarded a total of 59 grants of which 14 funded the complete project. 31 grants were awarded for building or street environment projects, 13 for youth activity or groups projects, 10 for community activity projects and 5 for pre-school projects. They are listed in the following table.

## Grants awarded (1<sup>st</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> March 2008)

Ward Member / Parish / Project	Grant	Project cost	%age
<b>Ann Campbell</b>			
<b>Long Load</b>			
Improvement to entrance of Long Load in Church Street	£600.00	£5,085.00	12%
Holiday Playscheme Support in the Parish	£300.00	£300.00	100%
<b>Martock</b>			
Martock Youth Centre Refurbishment	£500.00	£21,350.00	2%
Martock Youth Parish Council	£300.00	£301.91	99%
Replace broken Boiler in Scout Hut	£300.00	£2,532.00	12%
To provide canopy for Ash Scallywags outside play area	£500.00	£2,000.00	25%
<b>Ann Campbell Total</b>	<b>£2,500.00</b>	<b>£31,568.91</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Derek Nelson</b>			
<b>Curry Rivel</b>			
Curry Rivel New Playing Field project	£650.00	£1,000.00	65%
Curry Rivel Cricket Club Youth Teams	£300.00	£300.00	100%
Support Curry Rivel Music Society for youth music	£300.00	£600.00	50%
<b>Drayton</b>			
Refurbishment of exterior of Drayton memorial	£1,000.00	£5,000.00	20%
Drayton Parish Council Steering Group	£250.00	£1,000.00	25%
<b>Derek Nelson Total</b>	<b>£2,500.00</b>	<b>£1,000.00</b>	<b>32%</b>
<b>Derek Yeomans</b>			
<b>Barrington</b>			
New Barrington Village Hall Noticeboard	£650.00	£1,061.00	61%
<b>Kingsbury Episcopi</b>			
Redecoration of East Lambrook School Room	£600.00	£855.00	70%
<b>Muchelney</b>			
Renovation of the Muchelney Lady Chapel - installation of lighting and fixtures	£550.00	£17,400.00	3%
<b>Puckington</b>			
Parish Church Path Safety Resurfacing	£700.00	£2,830.00	25%
<b>Derek Yeomans Total</b>	<b>£2,500.00</b>	<b>£22,146.00</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Jill Beale</b>			
<b>Compton Dundon</b>			
External lighting for Compton Dundon car park	£450.00	£934.45	48%
Compton Dundon Cricket Club - Junior Coaching	£50.00	£220.00	23%
<b>Somerton</b>			
Somerton Roundabout Playgroup Rebuilding Fund	£500.00	£150,000.00	0.3%
Somerton Town Centre CCTV	£1,500.00	£8,500.00	18%
<b>Jill Beale Total</b>	<b>£2,500.00</b>	<b>£159,654.45</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Jo Roundell Greene</b>			
<b>Chilthorne Domer</b>			
Refurbishment to showers in Chilthorne Domer recreational club house	£300.00	£1,000.00	30%
<b>Montacute</b>			
New gate between Montacute car park and football pitch	£250.00	£690.00	36%
<b>Tintinhull</b>			
St Michaels Family Play & Youth Day	£1,950.00	£1,950.00	100%
<b>Jo Roundell Greene Total</b>	<b>£2,500.00</b>	<b>£3,640.00</b>	<b>69%</b>

Ward Member / Parish / Project	Grant	Project cost	%age
<b>Keith Ronaldson</b>			
<b>Shepton Beauchamp</b>			
Renovation of Lethbridge Trust Play area facilities, including hedge laying	£2,500.00	£10,000.00	25%
<b>Keith Ronaldson Total</b>	£2,500.00	£10,000.00	25%
<b>Patrick Palmer</b>			
<b>Ash</b>			
Ash School Bell Tower Project	£1,100.00	£1,600.00	69%
<b>Long Load</b>			
Improvement to entrance of Long Load in Church Street	£600.00	£5,085.00	12%
<b>Martock</b>			
Replace broken Boiler in Martock Scout Hut	£300.00	£2,532.00	12%
Martock Youth Centre Refurbishment	£500.00	£21,350.00	2%
<b>Patrick Palmer Total</b>	£2,500.00	£30,567.00	8%
<b>Paull Robathan</b>			
<b>Lopen</b>			
Create new disabled toilet in Sunday School room	£200.00	£33,346.00	1%
Printer, Paper & Sundries for Lopen Parish Council	£294.32	£294.32	100%
<b>South Petherton</b>			
Continue the provision of Bus café in South Petherton	£750.00	£1,500.00	50%
South Petherton Cricket Club Flag	£250.00	£250.00	100%
PA System, Seavington Millennium Hall	£1,000.00	£1,754.15	57%
<b>Paull Robathan Total</b>	£2,494.32	£37,144.47	7%
<b>Roy Mills</b>			
<b>Langport</b>			
Computer for Langport Youth Club	£484.94	£484.94	100%
Promotional materials for Langport environmental community group	£1,250.00	£1,250.00	100%
To establish a Langport Community Choir	£500.00	£2,400.00	21%
<b>Roy Mills Total</b>	£2,234.94	£4,134.94	54%
<b>Rupert Cox</b>			
<b>Aller</b>			
Replacement of old bus shelter in Aller	£500.00	£2,500.00	20%
<b>High Ham</b>			
High Ham Parish website	£160.00	£160.00	100%
Replacement of crockery and cutlery at High Ham village hall	£350.00	£750.00	47%
<b>Long Sutton</b>			
Long Sutton Primary School Community Garden Project 2008	£300.00	£300.00	100%
Refurbishment and extension of Long Sutton BMX Track	£500.00	£5,405.00	9%
<b>Pitney</b>			
Refurbishment of Play Area & creation of a cricket net area	£500.00	£3,500.00	14%
<b>Rupert Cox Total</b>	£2,310.00	£12,615.00	18%
<b>Sue Steele</b>			
<b>Beercrocombe</b>			
Beercrocombe Preservation of Village Green	£300.00	£750.00	40%

Ward Member / Parish / Project	Grant	Project cost	%age
<b>Curry Mallet</b>			
New toys and play equipment for Curry Mallet Toddler Group	£300.00	£300.00	100%
<b>Fivehead</b>			
New construction toys for Fivehead Under Fives	£200.00	£200.00	100%
Fivehead Village Hall Enhancement	£300.00	£1,500.00	20%
<b>Hambridge and Westport</b>			
Refurbishment of village hall at Hambridge	£300.00	£1,731.00	17%
Safe outdoor area project for Hambridge Little Beavers playgroup	£200.00	£200.00	100%
<b>Ilton</b>			
Unit to display work of the Ilton Youth Group	£300.00	£300.00	100%
<b>Isle Abbotts</b>			
New toys and play equipment for Isle Abbots playgroup	£300.00	£340.00	88%
<b>Isle Brewers</b>			
Fixture of a durable bench on Isle Brewer's village green	£300.00	£370.00	81%
<b>Sue Steele Total</b>	<b>£2,500.00</b>	<b>£5,691.00</b>	<b>44%</b>

<b>Sylvia Seal</b>			
<b>Norton sub Hamdon</b>			
Flooring for changing rooms in Norton Sub Hamdon village hall	£1,000.00	£30,000.00	3%
Funding for community project detailing history of Norton Sub Hamdon	£200.00	£200.00	100%
Protective cases for Norton Movie Nites film viewing equipment	£100.00	£120.00	83%
<b>Stoke sub Hamdon</b>			
Hall fees for Stoke Youth Club	£700.00	£1,200.00	58%
New fencing & gateways to Stonehill Play Area	£500.00	£7,000.00	7%
<b>Sylvia Seal Total</b>	<b>£2,500.00</b>	<b>£38,520.00</b>	<b>6%</b>

<b>Tony Canvin</b>			
<b>Compton Dundon</b>			
External lighting for Compton Dundon car park	£450.00	£934.35	48%
Compton Dundon Junior Cricket Coaching	£50.00	£220.00	23%
<b>Somerton</b>			
Somerton Roundabout Playgroup Rebuilding Fund	£500.00	£150,000.00	0.3%
Somerton Town Centre CCTV	£1,500.00	£8,500.00	18%
<b>Tony Canvin Total</b>	<b>£2,500.00</b>	<b>£159,654.35</b>	<b>2%</b>

## Financial Implications

None

## Implications for Corporate Priorities

Applying the Frontline Councillor grant scheme contributes to a number of corporate priorities, at a very local level:-

- 8 Work in partnership with the public and private sector in developing and delivery of the Market Towns Vision
- 9 Identify and address the particular issues affecting rural areas
- 11 Work in partnership with others to improve the health prospects for all

- 15 Increase to 65% by 2010 the people who generally feel engaged in and can influence decision that affect their communities
- 16 Maintain above 80% the people satisfied with their neighbourhoods as a place to live

### **Other Implications**

The Frontline Councillor grant scheme provides the Ward Member with a simple means to make relatively small contributions to important parish projects – many of which have arisen through parish plans, or other identified local needs. In addition councillors can support many of the priorities within the Area North Development Plan.

**Background Papers:** *Area North Councillor Grant file*  
*District Executive Report 7<sup>th</sup> December 2006*  
*Full Council Report 14<sup>th</sup> December 2006*  
*Full Council Report 19<sup>th</sup> July 2007*