

Area North Committee – 27<sup>th</sup> August 2008

## 11. Area North Grants – Monitoring Report

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### Purpose of the Report

To update Members on community grants approved since the grants report in February 2008, from the Area North Committee budgets and capital programme, including those grants approved by the Head of Area Development (North) under delegated authority. An update on progress of grants carried forward from previous years is also included.

### 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 a list of all Community Grants awarded in 2007/08.

**Appendix 2** contains the current SSDC Community Grant Policies for Member's reference.

#### 1. Grants awarded by the Area North Committee since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008

Date	Applicant / Group	Project	Grant awarded	Update
Jul	South Somerset VCA	Langport and Somerton Links community transport service	£5,000	Also awarded for £5,000 in 2009 and 2010. Service Level Agreement to be signed.
Jul	Petherton Arts Trust	Essential improvement to the David Hall	£5,000	Offer letter sent

## 2. Grants awarded under delegated authority 1<sup>st</sup> February 2008 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008

This table lists the grant awarded last year from the Community Grants Budget under delegated authority (grants less than £750). These are agreed with the Ward Member or Chairman (for area wide grants) in conjunction with an assessing officer, usually the Community Development Officer.

Applicant	Project	Total cost	Approved	% of project cost	
Curry Mallet Toddler Group	Toys/equipment for Group	£500	£250	50%	Paid
Pitney Playing Field Trust	Purchase and erection of cone climber	£6,000	£750	13%	Paid
Trustees of Ilton Memorial Hall (Merryfield)	Car parking lights	£3,140	£750	24%	Awaiting planning permission
South Petherton Parish Council	Youth Shelter	£11,800	£750	6%	Installed, awaiting invoice
Montacute Carnival	Village bunting	£1,750	£250	14%	Paid
Aller Recreation Field Association	Additional seat in playing field	£650	£330	50%	Paid
Somerton Arts Festival	Sponsorship for the Children's fun day	1,337	£250	19%	Paid
Lopen Parish Council	Lopen village newsletter – Lopen Eye	£600	£300	50%	Paid
Golden Oldies	To offer a 6 month programme of weekly singing sessions in Somerton & Langport.	£10,000	£500	5%	Paid
Long Load Village Hall	Handrails for village hall	£350	£175	50%	Awaiting planning permission
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£36,127</b>	<b>£4,305</b>	<b>12%</b>	

## 3. Grants awarded during 2007/08 and carried forward

The table below shows projects carried forward from 2007/08 into the current year.

Applicant	Project Description	Grant awarded	Current position
Martock Parish Council	Martock Community Office – Market House redevelopment	£25,000	Completion projected for November 2008
Lopen Parochial Church Council	Construction of a small porch to house toilet block	£7,500	Completed and paid
Martock Parish Council	Play area & recreation equipment	£ 12,500	Completed and paid
Stoke Sub Hamdon Sports & Recreation Trust	Sport & Recreation Facilities	£11,677	Paid

## 4. Grants awarded in previous years and carried forward 2008/09

Name of Project	Description	Amount Awarded	Status
South Petherton Allotment Holders	Provide fencing for security	£ 1,250	Meeting in September, may be withdrawn
South Petherton Blake	Toilet replacement & lift platform	£ 5,000	Toilets completed. £3,037

Hall			towards lift access under review
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### Implications for Corporate Priorities

The provision of Community Grants supports 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:

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

### Financial Implications

None from this report.

**Background Papers:** *Grant application files and Committee reports to award grants*

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