

Area West Committee – 17th April 2013

10. Request for Community Grants (Executive Decision)

Strategic Director: Rina Singh (Place and Performance)
Assistant Director: Helen Rutter (Communities)
Service Manager: Andrew Gillespie, Area Development Manager (West)
Lead Officer: Paul Philpott, Community Development Officer
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Purpose of the Report

To consider one application for financial assistance from the Area West Community Grant Scheme. Dowlish Wake Playing Field Trust are seeking to replace post and rail fencing and two gates that have rotted.

Public Interest

This report considers one application made under the Area West Community Grant Scheme. This Scheme was established to assist local communities to bring forward projects that benefit their town or village.

Recommendation

That members approve the following grant.

Applicant	Project	Grant requested
Dowlish Wake Playing Field Trust	Replacement of post and rail fencing and two gates	£1,000

Dowlish Wake playing Field Trust

Background

Dowlish Wake and the neighbouring village of Kingstone are two rural parishes totalling 225 houses and approximately 600 residents. The village pavilion was built in 2004 to replace an earlier building. Dowlish Wake does have a small hall which is considered unsuitable for most functions, so the pavilion also serves as a community facility. Kingstone does not have a village hall and makes use of the Dowlish Wake facilities for their events.

The pavilion is an active hub for clubs and organisations within the community and receives regular bookings from Chard, Ilminster and the surrounding villages. The Trust a registered charity manages and owns on behalf of the community the playing field, the pavilion, the car park and the children's adventure playground.

The clubs and organisations who use the hall on a regular basis include:

- The golf croquet club
- The football club
- The festival society
- The Church for a variety of events.

As both clubs play in leagues they regularly invite visitors to the facility. The pavilion is also hired for private functions particularly birthday and children's parties.

Project Description

The fencing and gates at the entrance to the playing field are now 25 years old and rotten in many places. Children regularly climb onto the fence on their way to the adventure playground and sections have collapsed under the weight of adults climbing over it. The aim of this project is to replace 100m of fencing and install two new gates to ensure the facility remains safe and well maintained.

Project costs

Quotes have been obtained and the total cost for this project is £1,966.

Table 1:

Replacement of two gates and associated fencing	£1,966
Total Project Cost	£1,966

Funding

The playing field trust have received donations of £396 towards this project and have received a grant of £600 from the Parish Council.

The committee are now seeking a match funding grant of £1,000 from SSDC to meet the total project cost.

Table 2:

Funding Source		
Donations	£396	Secured
Parish Council	£600	Secured
SSDC	£1,000	Pending
Total Project Cost		£1,966

Assessment

Table 3:

Category	Score	Maximum score
Eligibility	Y	
Target Groups	5	7
Project	4	5
Capacity of Organisation	11	15
Financial need	5	7
Innovation	1	3
TOTAL	26	37

The Community Development Officer has assessed the application and the project has reached an overall score of 26 as outlined in the table above. This application exceeds the minimum score required for funding to be considered.

Recommendation

The Community Development Officer recommends that the grant be awarded in full.

Financial Implications

This grant can be awarded from the retained budget allocation of £21,457. A Balance will remain in the retained budget of £20,457.

Council Plan Implications

Focus Four: Health and Communities – We want communities that are healthy, self reliant and have individuals who are willing to help each other.

Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications (NI 188)

There are no implications within this project.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The pavilion provides ease of access from the car park via a sloping ramp.

Background Papers: *Community Grant Criteria*

(www.southsomerset.gov.uk/communities/funding-for-your-group-or-project)

Area West Committee March 2011 Capital Grants
