



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
(MOLE VALLEY)**

LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING

6 MARCH 2013

KEY ISSUE

To give consideration to the funding requests received that have been sponsored by at least one County councillor.

SUMMARY

Surrey County Council's Local Committees receive funding to spend on locally determined purposes that help to promote social, economic or environmental well-being. This funding is known as Member Allocations.

For the financial year 2012/13, the County Council has allocated £12,615 revenue funding to each county councillor and £35,000 capital funding to each local committee.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) is asked to:

- (i) Agree the items recommended for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 Member Allocation funding, as set out in section 2 of the report and summarised below:

Organisation	Project Title	Amount
Buckland Parish Council	Refurbishment Of Buckland War Memorial	£2,000
Mole Valley District Council	Cotmandene Conservation Project	£5,000
Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall	Sound Bites for Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall	£5,000

Ashtead Cricket Club	Parsons Mead Development	£5,000
Betchworth Parish Council	Betchworth Burial Ground Jubilee Pavilion	£3,000
Satro	Primary Science Workshops - Eastwick Infant And Junior School	£1,500
The Vine Project	Fix It Project	£1,000
The Harvest Community Church	Multimedia Project	£2,187
Dorking Concertgoers Society	Concert In Dorking Halls	£1,434
Bookham Residents Association	Electronic Sign Bookham High Street	£3,000
Brockham Choral Society	Replacement Staging Trailer	£500

- (ii) Note the expenditure previously approved by either the Community Partnerships Manager or the Community Partnerships Team Leader under delegated powers, as set out in section 3.
- (iii) Note any returned funding and/or adjustments set out within the report and at Appendix 1.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The County Council's Constitution sets out the overall Financial Framework for managing the Local Committee's delegated budgets. The underlying principle being that Member Allocations should be spent on local projects that promote the social, environmental and economic well-being of the area.
- 1.2 At its 7 June 2012 meeting, the Local Committee (Mole Valley) decided to divide its £35,000 capital budget equally amongst the Committee's county councillors. This means that in addition to their £12,615 revenue allocation, each councillor also has £5,833 to spend on capital projects.

- 1.3 Member Allocation funding is generally made to organisations on a one-off basis, so that there should be no expectation of future funding for the same or similar purpose.
- 1.4 Member Allocation funding will not usually be granted for purposes that benefit one individual, nor to fund schools for the direct delivery of the National Curriculum, nor to support political parties.
- 1.5 When considering bids, organisations applying are advised against assuming that the Local Committee will meet the total cost of their project.

2. BIDS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL – REVENUE/CAPITAL FUNDING

- 2.1 The proposals for revenue and capital funding for consideration and decision at this Committee are set out below.

Refurbishment of Buckland War Memorial

Helyn Clack £2,000 revenue

Buckland Parish Council has submitted an application to help fund the cost of cleaning and refurbishing the Buckland War Memorial in advance of the Centenary of the start of the First World War. The area of paving around the War Memorial will be lifted and a new concrete base constructed. A step will be incorporated onto the side of the paving nearest to the pond and new paving will be laid. The granite war memorial will be cleaned and the lead lettering repaired and re-enamelled. It is hoped that sufficient funds will be raised to install a quick response (QR) code close to the memorial.

The total cost of the project is £6,835. £3,483 has been promised (donations secured to date from within the village of £535.50, funds raised through sale of walk booklets of £837.50 and the Parish Council will contribute £2,110). £1,352 has yet to be found, of this the War Memorial Trust are considering a grant of a maximum of £395 and other fundraising and donations are to be sought from within the village of at least £1,000.

Cotmandene Conservation Project

Stephen Cooksey £5,000 capital

Mole Valley District Council has submitted an application for funding for the restoration of the verges of the public open spaces using granite setts. This will protect the site of nature conservation importance, ensuring the protection of a public amenity and retaining the special character of this part of the conservation area. It will safeguard registered common land.

The total cost of the project is £5,000.

Sound Bites for Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall

Chris Townsend

£5,000 revenue

Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall has submitted an application to help fund the supply and fitting of additional stage speakers and associated equipment. The project will supply and fit entirely new cabling to all areas of the building and also upgrade its audio equipment to enable remote control. New shelves and brackets for the equipment will be fitted. This will assist users of the hall to hear speakers, music and other live entertainment.

The total cost of the project is £6,691. If this bid of £5,000 is successful the remaining funding has been promised by Friends of Ashtead Village hall and other regular donors.

Ashtead Cricket Club Parsons Mead Development

Chris Townsend

£1,000 revenue

£4,000 capital

Ashtead Cricket Club has submitted an application to provide a new pavilion for both cricket and football. This funding will help to cover the costs of the site preparation, connection of utility services, foundations, build and fit-out. The pavilion will serve the existing needs of the junior players at the ground - i.e. changing, storage, shelter and kitchen.

The total cost of the project is envisaged to be £75,000 although detailed estimates are still to be obtained. Ashtead Cricket Club are looking at other funding through various grants and donations. It is hoped that Sport England's Inspired Facilities scheme might provide the bulk of the funding. Further money may be obtained from the Football Association and some from local donors.

Betchworth Burial Ground Jubilee Pavilion

Helyn Clack

£3,000 capital

Betchworth Parish Council has submitted an application for a funding contribution for the construction of an oak Jubilee Pavilion in the Parish Burial Ground to provide seating and shelter for mourners, walkers and parishioners. The Burial Ground is over 200m from the church and will provide shelter and a welcome rest for mourners arriving on foot from the Church. It will also provide shelter at other times for relatives, visitors and walkers to simply sit and contemplate, whilst admiring the tranquillity of the Burial Ground and the stunning views across the Common Field to the North Downs. This will also be a fitting and practical commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The total cost of the project is £20,150. This includes foundation work provided by local tradesmen at zero cost, a bespoke timber pavilion £14789 and path works £5362.50. Funding of £10,800 has already been collected by the Betchworth Jubilee Committee and via the Parish Council. If this bid for £3,000 is successful the remaining shortfall is being sought through applications to other grant funding organisations, the Gatwick Trust and the Infrastructure Fund. If successful, Betchworth Parish Council anticipates having enough funding to erect the Jubilee Pavilion and will delay the creation of the path until further funds are available.

Primary Science Workshops - Eastwick Infant And Junior School

Clare Curran

£1,500 revenue

SATRO has submitted an application for funding a series of three one-day science workshops for Years 2, 3 and 6 at Eastwick Infant and Junior School during the 2013 autumn term. SATRO events are designed to inspire and enthuse young people about their future careers. Each workshop is delivered by volunteer scientists and engineers, giving children and teachers the chance to talk to 'real scientists' about their day jobs and to take part in activities that they do not have the equipment or skills to deliver themselves. It is considered particularly important to encourage primary age children to enjoy science so that they can continue their interest through to secondary level.

The total cost of the project is £1,500. (£500 per workshop).

Fix It Project

Clare Curran

£1,000 capital

The Vine Project has submitted an application for a funding contribution of £37,994 for a new van for the Fix It Project. The project will involve volunteers reaching out to the community to collect donated furniture items that might otherwise have been discarded but which can be repaired and re-used. The van will therefore be the backbone of this project, providing not only the means of collecting donated furniture goods and delivering them to clients in need but also acting as the main means of interfacing with the public for The Vine Project's volunteers. This will help them to build confidence and to develop their social and work skills. The volunteers will be supported and trained to undertake basic repairs or refurbishment of the furniture items within a safe and simple workshop setting. They will also be able to restore a piece of furniture for their own or other residents who have been referred to The Vine Project's furniture project. Referrals include those who have previously experienced homelessness and have no furniture or few possessions, or families on low incomes who cannot afford essential, good quality furniture.

The total cost of the project is £39,994. Only £2,000 from the WRAP Fund has yet been secured, to date. Therefore, if approved, the Community Partnerships Team will seek confirmation from The Vine Project that this project will go ahead.

Multimedia Project

Stephen Cooksey

£2,187 revenue

The Harvest Community Church has submitted an application for a funding contribution for the purchase and installation of multimedia equipment. This will allow the church, residents and other organisations using the church as a community space to use multimedia for presentation, films, youth work and training events. The Harvest Community Church is aware that this would be a very valuable tool in enhancing the facilities at the hall for church and community users (often in conjunction with each other) as there are no other such facilities in the area.

The total cost of the project is £2,187.

Concert in Dorking Halls.

Stephen Cooksey

£1,434 revenue

Dorking Concertgoers Society has submitted an application for a funding contribution of £1,434 to cover hall hire and some marketing expenses for this presentation of professional, classical music to local residents. The **English Chamber Orchestra's concert on 23 November 2013** will be one of a series promoted on an annual basis by the Society for the community.

The total cost of the project is £10,995 made up of orchestra fees £9,300, Dorking Halls hire £1,195 and marketing circa £500. The remainder of the funding will come from ticket sales and is still to be found.

Electronic Sign Bookham High Street

Clare Curran

£2,722 revenue
£278 capital

Bookham Residents Association has submitted an application for a funding contribution of £3,000 to purchase, install and maintain an electronic sign. 47% of Bookham population gets their information about local events etc. from static notice boards. This new facility will enable this information to be more pertinent, up to date and attractive. Also to be evaluated by other parts of Mole Valley as to the effectiveness of this approach.

The total cost of the project is £6,750. The remainder of the funding has already been promised by a variety of local community organisations

including the Thomas Flack Fund administered by Mole Valley District Council.

Replacement Staging Trailer

Helyn Clack

£500 capital

Brockham Choral Society has submitted an application for a funding contribution of £3,500 to purchase a second-hand braked trailer for storing and transporting the staging used by the choir for concerts, particularly at St Martin's Church, Dorking. The staging will be stored in the trailer at a property in Newdigate and transported in the trailer for use at St Martin's and any other venues.

The existing trailer was purchased second-hand some years ago and despite continuing maintenance, is no longer weatherproof, letting in rain and damp to the detriment of the staging's steel framework and plywood platforms. In addition the electrics of the trailer (rear lights) are becoming increasingly unreliable and the underlying structure of the trailer is also failing. Brockham Choral Society are concerned that they could be placed in the position where the trailer will fail them on the day it is needed for a concert, therefore they want to prevent this by replacing the trailer as soon as possible, certainly during the current calendar year. The staging is essential to the choir's performances in St Martin's Church, as the choir is now 80 members strong and needs the tiered staging in order to project the choral works over the orchestra to the full extent of the Church. The staging is also used by other choirs such as Ashted Choral Society and Leatherhead Choral Society. The need to provide this staging therefore benefits a much wider community than just that served by Brockham Choral Society.

The total cost of the project is in the region of £4,000 to £5,000. The remainder of the funding has yet to be raised.

3. DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVED BIDS

- 3.1 The Community Partnership Manager or the Community Partnership Team Leader (East Surrey) has approved the following bids under delegated authority since the last committee meeting:

COUNCILLOR	PROJECT	AMOUNT
Tim Hall	The Bridge Youth Centre refresh project	£718.96
Stephen Cooksey	Community Notice Boards	£950
Helyn Clack	Installation Of Posts On	£1,000

	Ockley Village Green	
Hazel Watson	St James Abinger War Memorial Project	£400
Clare Curran	Music Therapy for participants at the Grange, Bookham	£1,000
Helyn Clack	Village Hall - Sound & Vision	£800
Helyn Clack	Charlwood Village Fete	£1,000

4. OPTIONS

- 4.1 The Local Committee may choose to approve all, part or none of the funding proposals under discussion in this report.

5. CONSULTATIONS

- 5.1 In relation to new bids, consultation, where appropriate, may have been undertaken by the organisation receiving the funding, the local Member of the Community Partnerships Team as required.
- 5.2 The appropriate Surrey County Council services and partner agencies are consulted when bids are submitted, as required.

6. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Each project detailed in this report has completed a standard application form giving details of timescales, purpose and other funding applications made. The County Councillor proposing each project has assessed its merits prior to the project's inclusion as a proposal for decision by the Committee. All bids are also scrutinised to ensure that they comply with the Council's Financial Framework and represent value for money.
- 6.2 There are sufficient monies to fund all of the proposals contained within this report. If the above recommendations are approved the funds remaining are set out in the table containing the Local Committee's financial position statement attached at Appendix 1.
- 6.3 Please note these figures will not include any applications submitted for approval after the deadline for this report or that are currently pending approval under delegated authority. They also do not include any funding that is currently in the process of being returned to the Local Committee.

7. EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The allocation of the Committee's budgets is intended to enhance the wellbeing of residents and make the best possible use of the funds. Funding is available to all residents, community groups or organisations based in, or serving, the area. The success of the bid depends entirely upon its ability to meet the agreed criteria which is flexible.
- 7.2 Local Committee funding can be allocated to projects that benefit a diverse range of community safety needs.

8. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The spending proposals put forward for this meeting have been assessed against the County standards for appropriateness and value for money within the agreed Financial Framework and the locally agreed criteria, which are available from the Community Partnerships Team.
- 8.2 The Local Committee is asked to consider the items submitted for funding from the 2012/13 Local Committee delegated budgets for approval, as detailed in the report.

9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The Committee is being asked to decide on these bids so that the Community Partnerships Team can process them in line with the wishes of the Committee. The committee is also asked to decide how it wishes to spend its Community safety budget.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 10.1 If approved by the Local Committee, organisations will be approached to sign funding agreements for their projects based on the bids submitted.
- 10.2 Any changes to an approved bid will be discussed with the local Members and the Chairman and if the changes are considered to be significant, an amended bid will be brought back to the Committee for approval. In all other circumstances, the Community Partnerships Team will process the payments as soon as possible once the signed agreement has been received.
- 10.3 All successful applicants will be contacted for details of how the funding was spent and will be asked to supply evidence.

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Background Papers:

- SCC Constitution: Financial Framework
- Local Committee Protocol
- Criteria and Guidance for Members Allocations
- Local Committee Funding Bids