

OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE Epsom and Ewell

LOCAL COMMITTEE IN EPSOM & EWELL MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS 8 MARCH 2010

KEY ISSUE

To consider new proposals for expenditure from the Members' Allocations budget 2009/10.

SUMMARY

This report sets out new schemes suggested by Members for funding from the Members' Allocations budget.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked:

To approve the proposed expenditure from the Members' Allocations budget.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Each Member of the County Council has been allocated a budget of £8,250 in 2009/10 to be spent in accordance with his/her wishes on schemes and projects, which promote social, environmental or economic well-being. Each Member's proposal will require the approval of the Local Committee.
- 1.2 The Committee has also been allocated a capital grant of £35,000. This funding may only be used for capital projects and schemes. It will be allocated equally on a Division basis of £7,000 each, subject to agreement by the whole of the Local Committee.

2. <u>MEMBERS' REVENUE ALLOCATION – NEW FUNDING BIDS</u>

2.1 ADDITIONAL LIGHTING – ROSEBERY PARK

To install an additional light in Rosebery Park to illuminate a dark area near to the children's playground. (A plan showing the exact siting is included with the application form.) New lighting at this site will improve the safety of the area.

Members Chris Frost
Project Cost £ 1,700
Amount Requested £ 1,700

2.2 NESCOT / PRIEST HILL FENCING

In 2007, a total of £8,000 was set aside from Members' Allocations for a project that would involve widening the existing footpath, erecting new fencing and possibly improving the lighting and CCTV provision. This was intended to address the issues of personal safety along the footpath and security of adjoining land. So far this work has not been started and the money is still reserved. Following further discussions, David Wood wishes to allocate a further £3,000 to this project.

Member David Wood
Project Cost £ t.b.a.
Amount Requested £ 3,000

2.3 FOOTPATH TO WEST EWELL INFANTS SCHOOL

Part re-shaping of the footway at West Ewell Infant School, which includes removal of redundant drainage grilles, grip cutting (drainage slots in the adjoining grassed area to allow water to get away) and the installation of 6 posts to prevent anti-social parking.

Members Eber Kington
Project Cost £ t.b.a.
Amount Requested £ 3,000

2.4 A PLACE TO DANCE – FREEWHEELERS THEATRE COMPANY
The Freewheelers Theatre Company began in 1994 at the Queen Elizabeth
Foundation. They bring together disabled and non-disabled actors and

supporters, production teams and the local community, using theatre and dance, wheelchair and voicebox technology, multimedia, animations, puppets and shadows to create innovative work. They are putting together a programme of dance and film and request £500 to cover the cost of hiring the venue (Big School Theatre at Epsom College).

Members Jan Mason
Project Cost £ 10,200
Amount Requested £ 500

2.5 EPSOM & EWELL LOCAL IMAGES ARCHIVE

Epsom & Ewell Local and Family History Centre, based in the Library at Bourne Hall, requests funding to purchase archival quality photo-pockets for the long-term preservation of more than 3,000 photographs of the borough together with other original documents. The items will first be catalogued and then stored in the acid-free pockets, a measure which experts from The National Archives and Surrey History Centre advise is the minimum requirement to safeguard these items for the future.

Members Chris Frost

Project Cost £ 960 Amount Requested £ 960

2.6 CHALK LANE GATE

A chain which had previously been fitted to the gate at Chalk Lane was illegally removed. The proposal is to fit a new design of chain which, it is hoped, will prevent this from happening again.

Members Chris Frost

Project Cost £ 400 Amount Requested £ 400

2.7 CUDDINGTON CROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL – LIBRARY RENEWAL PROJECT

Funding is requested to contribute towards the cost of updating significant library stocks. Outdated non-fiction materials will be replaced with a focus on staying healthy and safe, bullying, citizenship, social issues and inclusiveness/diversity issues as well as self-esteem building. The application requests 50% of the cost, with the balance coming from school funds.

Members David Wood
Project Cost £ 1,000
Amount Requested £ 500

2.8 EWELL COURT PARK WOODLAND WALK ENHANCEMENT

The Friends of Ewell Court Park request funding to cover the cost of purchase and installation of a rustic sign to mark the walk (£60) and a rustic wooden bench to be sited along the walk with a view of the river (£130).

Members Eber Kington

Project Cost £ 190 Amount Requested £ 190

2.9 SHADBOLT PARK POND RESTORATION

Some years ago, the concrete liner of Shadbolt Park Pond cracked and the pond dried up. Even after heavy rainfall there is seldom any depth of water and the area has become unsightly. Work is already in hand to clear the area around the pond using volunteer labour in conjunction with Lower Mole Countryside Management Project and Surrey Wildlife Trust. Local fundraising has raised almost £500 to date and Shadbolt Pond Restoration Group requests a contribution from Members' Allocations towards the cost of completing the work.

Members Eber Kington

Project Cost £ 4,093 (including 10% contingency - £370)

Amount Requested £ 3,583 Recommendation £ 2,902

2.10 IMAGINATION PODS

Imagination Pods is an arts project for young people to be run in Woking and Epsom. Selected artists will work with young people to design a temporary structure for their grounds. In Epsom, the selected artist will work with young people from Karibu, a residential care home, and a group of those excluded from school and attending Lintons. The young people will be invited to the 'Celebrating Surrey' festival in June 2010, where the work will be on display and they can participate in many creative activities on offer. Following the festival, the Pod and the work of the young people will be sited temporarily in a public space in the borough of Epsom & Ewell. The project offers opportunities to learn new skills and to obtain recognised accreditation through the Arts Award Scheme. So far, £5,000 has been promised and a bid for £2,500 from the Arts Council recently resubmitted.

Members CF £500, JM £500, CT £500, DW £500 Project Cost £ 9,500 + staff time and 'in kind' donations

Amount Requested £ 2,000

2.11 FAMILYLINE VOLUNTEER HELPLINE COMPUTER

FamilyLine offers a free confidential helpline and email support service for families in Surrey. Calls cover a wide range of issues including, abuse, relationships, teenagers, bullying, behaviour, isolation and depression. Volunteers use a computer to access a database for information they need to help callers, and also to write up calls and log data in a confidential system. The existing PC is old and prone to crashing and funding is requested to purchase a replacement which would be compatible with other existing hardware.

Members Chris Frost

Project Cost £ 360 Amount Requested £ 360 2.12 DRIVE FOR VOLUNTEERING ACROSS SURREY – SURREY WILDLIFE TRUST

Between April 2008 and March 2009, volunteers donated over 3,000 working days towards SWT's community projects, helping to maintain, recreate or restore sites for wildlife conservation and public enjoyment. There are many volunteering opportunities in the middle and east of the county that are currently constrained by lack of transport. At present, SWT has one old and outdated minibus based in Pirbright. The Trust would like to acquire a second vehicle to be based on Norbury Park which would facilitate volunteer work parties at Howell Hill and other nearby nature reserves and open spaces.

Members Chris Frost (£500) and David Wood (£559)

Project Cost £ 25,000
Amount Requested £ 3,000
Recommendation £ 1,059

2.13 ADVENTURE CABIN – EWELL GROVE INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL Funding is requested to contribute to the purchase of an adventure cabin for the playground. This equipment will provide a much-needed area for children to socialise and interact with each other at playtime, and would also be used by the After School Club and other community groups. The cabin is made from waste HDPE and it is hoped that the introduction of recycled products into the school will increase the children's awareness. The application requests a £500 contribution with the balance of funding coming from the PTA.

Members David Wood Project Cost £ 798 + VAT

Amount Requested £ 500

2.14 SCIENCE AT2 SKILLS DEVELOPMENT – EPSOM PRIMARY SCHOOL Focused hands-on science experiments in class context would improve the children's practical science skills. Epsom Primary School requests contributory funding towards the purchase of the necessary equipment and resources.

Members Colin Taylor
Project Cost £ 2,000
Amount Requested £ 850
Recommendation £ 500

2.15 COMMUNITY HUB - CENTRAL SURREY CVS

Plans are in train to establish the hub in Epsom High Street. It will serve as a gateway to information, advice, advocacy and services that are currently difficult to access for disabled people and carers, and provide a focus for disabled people in the local area. The hub will empower the large number of disabled people and carers in the Epsom and Ewell area, increasing their ability to shape their own services. Three year running costs for the project are £145,000 of which £117,000 is already secured from DOH and SCC. Much of the balance will come from rental income from other voluntary

organisations who will share the accommodation. The application relates only to set-up costs and covers the purchase of desks, chairs and computer equipment. (See also recommendations for use of the Local Committee's capital grant, para 4.1)

Members Colin Taylor Project Cost £ 3,000

Amount Requested £ 3,000

Recommendation £ 500 (+ £2,500 from capital grant)

2.16 THE LIGHTHOUSE PROJECT

Generation Church requests funding to purchase extra seating for the learning centre (£750) and an iPod Touch for use by young people struggling with dyslexia (£200).

Members Jan Mason

Project Cost £ 950 Amount Requested £ 950

2.17 PICTURE RAILS FOR GLYN HALL

Glyn Hall Trustees would like to provide a facility at the hall for art display. A quotation for the supply and fixing of picture rails to specification amounts to £245 + VAT.

MembersDavid WoodProject Cost£ 245 + VATAmount Requested£ 245 + VAT

Recommendation £ 250

2.18 SIGNS FOR NONSUCH PARK

The Joint Management Committee has identified a need for new and improved signs at the entrance to and within Nonsuch Park to improve the visitor experience. The new signs will provide visitor information regarding the museum, café, events and other facilities as well as increasing the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and other vehicle users. They will promote Nonsuch Park and Nonsuch Mansion and help to boost trade at the Mansion House, museum and café. The present road signs are confusing and Bovingdons Catering claim to have lost two clients already who have cited this as a reason for taking their business elsewhere. Detailed figures are not yet available, but a proposed scheme (including a mixture of new signs and refurbishing existing signs) has been estimated at roughly £6,000. The application requests £3,000 from Members' Allocations and Bovingdons Limited has agreed to match fund.

Members David Wood
Project Cost £ 6,000
Amount Requested £ 3,000

2.19 WOODEN BENCHES FOR HORTON COUNTRY PARK LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

In response to regular requests from the public, it is proposed to install three new benches alongside the main paths at the Local Nature Reserve. This will improve access for visitors of all ages.

Members Jan Mason

Project Cost £ 600 Amount Requested £ 500

2.20 SCHOOL LIBRARY ENHANCEMENTS – WEST EWELL INFANTS & NURSERY SCHOOL

The project involves refurbishment of the Library, including adding a new, exciting range of books to inspire the pupils of the school in developing literacy skills, both for reading and for their own writing. The total cost of the project is £7,760, including £3,000 to be spent on new books. The application requests a £500 contribution towards the cost of the books.

Members Jan Mason
Project Cost £ 7,760
Amount Requested £ 500

2.21 THURSDAY NIGHT YOUTH CLUB – STEPHEN WOODS CENTRE
A survey undertaken last August asked 20 of the young people who regularly
attend the Youth Club what they would like to have in the club. The Wii
came top of the poll for both girls and boys, while Indoor/Street Hockey was
the only indoor team game to interest boys and girls. Estimated costs
include a hockey coach for a 10 week pilot (£450) and application will be
made to PAYP (Positive Activities for Young People) for this element.

Members Jan Mason

Project Cost £ 979 Amount Requested £ 500

2.22 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS IN EPSOM & EWELL WEST DIVISION

Jan Mason proposes to contribute £1,179 towards environmental projects within her division. The improvements will focus mainly upon tree planting across the area, but may include other work as deemed necessary when the proposals are discussed in detail during the coming months.

Members Jan Mason
Project Cost £ 1,179
Amount Requested £ 1,179

2.23 CHERRY TREE ECO GARDEN – MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL Meadow Primary School would like to build an allotment and outdoor learning zone in the school grounds to teach the children about the benefits of growing your own food and composting garden waste. The proposal has been discussed with a local garden nursery centre who will be providing advice and assistance. This is seen as the first stage of a more extensive plan that will build over time, but initially involves constructing raised planting beds and composting area and purchasing greenhouse/polytunnel. Additional monies will be sought through fund-raising initiatives.

Members David Wood Project Cost £ 2,200

Amount Requested £ 500

2.24 LIBRARY ENHANCEMENT – ST CLEMENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Consultation with the children and their parents has identified the need to extend the non-fiction books in the school library in order to engage more boys and those children unused to reading home. A quote for £750 has been obtained from Heaths (educational bookshop) and the balance has been promised by Friends of St Clement's.

Members David Wood

Project Cost £ 750 Amount Requested £ 500

2.25 PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR EWELL CASTLE JUNIOR SCHOOL The acquisition of 2 Table Gameboards (picnic tables with gameboards on them) would provide quiet space in the playground for children who prefer to just sit and talk or play less active games.

Members David Wood
Project Cost £ 750 approx

Amount Requested £ 500

3 <u>MEMBERS' REVENUE ALLOCATION – APPROVALS UNDER</u> DELEGATED POWERS

The following application was approved by the Area Director under delegated authority in consultation with the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

3.1 TOUCH SCREEN FACILITY FOR EPSOM & EWELL CAB
A one-off sum of £1,000 from Eber Kington's allocation was agreed
(11.01.2010) as a contribution towards the cost of acquiring a touch-screen
PC for use in the Epsom & Ewell CAB client waiting room.

4 PROPOSALS AGAINST CAPITAL GRANT

4.1 COMMUNITY HUB - CENTRAL SURREY CVS

Plans are in train to establish the hub in Epsom High Street. It will serve as a gateway to information, advice, advocacy and services that are currently difficult to access for disabled people and carers, and provide a focus for disabled people in the local area. The hub will empower the large number of disabled people and carers in the Epsom and Ewell area, increasing their ability to shape their own services. Three year running costs for the project are £145,000 of which £117,000 is already secured from DOH and SCC. Much of the balance will come from rental income from other voluntary organisations who will share the accommodation. The application relates only to set-up costs and covers the purchase of desks, chairs and computer equipment. (See also recommendations for use of the Local Committee Members' revenue allocations, para 2.15)

Members CF (£750), EK (£250), JM (£1,500)

Project Cost £ 3,000 Amount Requested £ 3,000

Recommendation £ 2,500 (+ £500 from revenue allocation)

4.2 PRESTON DRIVE CARRIAGEWAY

The proposal is to repair the Preston Drive carriageway (Bradford Drive to Manor Drive) which comprises approximately 375 sq. metres. A suitable treatment would be a 6mm aggregate dense bitumen macadam laid to a thickness of 25-30mm. Cost is estimated at around £7,000 and Eber Kington wishes to contribute £4,000 from his capital allocation.

Members Eber Kington

Project Cost £ 7,000 Amount Requested £ 4,000

4.3 ELMSTEAD GARDENS ROUNDABOUT

The proposal is to complete the renewal of kerbs to the roundabout feature in Elmstead Gardens (inner kerb line only). The cost, including removal of the old kerb, soil reinstatement and traffic management, is estimated at £1,500.

Members Eber Kington

Project Cost £ 1,500 Amount Requested £ 1,500

4.4 FOOTWAY SURFACING REPAIRS IN EPSOM & EWELL WEST DIVISION To carry out footway surfacing repairs in Green Lanes, Amis Avenue and Derek Avenue.

Members Jan Mason
Project Cost £ 3,000
Amount Requested £ 3,000

4.5 LIGHTING COLUMNS FOR FOOTPATH ALONGSIDE CHEAM ROAD
The installation of 2 lighting columns by the footpath that runs alongside
Cheam Road on the south side, adjacent to Northey Avenue roundabout, will
improve the safety of the area.

Members David Wood
Project Cost £ 3,000
Amount Requested £ 3,000

4.6 HEIGHT RESTRICTION SIGNS - EWELL EAST STATION

It is proposed that height restriction signs should be installed and chevron markings applied to the rail over the road bridge adjoining Ewell East Station (Cheam Road).

MembersDavid WoodProject Cost£ 4,000Amount Requested£ 4,000

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The attached tables show commitment and balance remaining for Members' individual allocations and the capital grant.

6 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The contributions proposed would benefit a wide range of adults and children in Epsom and Ewell, some of whom may have disabilities.

7 CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

7.1 The spending proposals put forward for this meeting have been assessed against the County standards for appropriateness and value for money and it is recommended that they should be approved.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:

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