



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

LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING

12 SEPTEMBER 2012

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 |
|--|---|---------------|
| Liquid Connection | Total Football | £1,500 |
| Friend's of St Andrew's Box Hill Care Team | Fire escape route from the recent Jubilee kitchen extension to the Fire assembly point. | £6,055 |
| Headley Parish Council Headley Playground Steering Group | Headley Playground Refurbishment | £4,000 |

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|---|---|--------|
| Peter Pan Playschool | Peter Pan Playschool Garden Improvement Project | £4,000 |
| Leatherhead Drama Festival | Leatherhead Drama Festival 2013 | £2,000 |
| Encore Youth Orchestra | Phoenix Project, Encore Youth Orchestra | £1,900 |
| Lower Mole Countryside Management Project | Lower Mole Project Land Rover | £2,500 |

- (iii) 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.
- (iv) Note any returned funding and/or adjustments, as 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 Members Allocations should be spent on local projects to promote the social, environmental and economic well-being of the area, as required by the Local Government Act 2000.
- 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 £5833 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.

Total Football

Tim Hall £1,500 Revenue

Liquid Connection has submitted an application for a funding contribution towards facilities hire. The project Total Football aims to provide healthy, positive activities for young males aged 11-16. The project takes place on Friday nights which is a key time for anti-social behaviour in the area, and therefore Liquid Connection aim to engage high-need young people with activities which are beneficial to them. Liquid Connection will give 'at risk' young males something productive and fun to engage with. The project has grown significantly in the last 12 months, with regular attendance going from 30 each week to around 60 each week in 2012. The Committee's funding will allow Liquid Connection to secure the project for the 2012/13 school year. By obtaining small entry fees from participants, the project is making steps towards becoming self-sustaining in the future. The total cost of the project is £4,625 with the remainder being met through existing and some anticipated funds from Sported.

Fire escape route from the recent Jubilee kitchen extension to the fire assembly point

Hazel Watson £6,055 revenue

Friend's of St Andrew's Box Hill Care Team has submitted an application for a funding contribution towards the provision of a one metre wide escape path (suitable for wheelchair users) and emergency lighting with a handrail from the fire escape door of the Jubilee kitchen extension to the fire assembly point. This will allow safe evacuation in case of emergency including the less able and mobility impaired/elderly users. Earlier this year the St Andrew's Box Hill Care Team received a grant of £12,675 to build the kitchen extension for the community hall from the County Council's Community Improvement Fund. The total cost of the escape path project is £7,080 with the remainder being met through fundraising.

Headley Playground Refurbishment

Hazel Watson £4,000 revenue

Headley Parish Council's Headley Playground Steering Group has submitted an application for a funding contribution towards the exterior fencing. The project is for the renewal of all playground equipment and fencing. The playground is an important facility for local children contributing to their health and fitness, as well as social interaction. The present playground is elderly and has come to the end of its natural life.

The overall cost of the project is £60,000 and the estimated cost of this element of the project (fencing) is £5,000. Local fund-raising and donations have already raised over £8,000 and the project intends to secure the rest of the resources needed by making further grant applications.

Peter Pan Playschool Garden Improvement Project

Clare Curran

£4,000 revenue

Peter Pan Playschool has submitted an application for a funding contribution towards improving the current garden area. The project intends to design and build a safe, stimulating and fun outdoor environment for the children. The design will also reflect its multi-functional use with Eastwick Road Church members and other community groups using the hall when not in use by the playschool. In summary, the Playschool will flatten and lay a section of the garden with an all-weather artificial grass surface; build raised beds to encourage children to grow their own plants and vegetables; add a nature corner which will include seating and a willow hut; maintain a natural garden feel but also make it more fun and inviting for the children. The playschool is extremely privileged to have access to a large and private garden. However, over the years the grass has been unable to cope with the daily use and trampling by the children and increasingly the surface has become muddier, uneven and slippery with very little grass now remaining. The total cost of the project is £7,500 with the remainder being met through fundraising events and donations from local businesses and charities. Peter Pan Playschool has raised £2,500 so far from fundraising events that have been organised and supported by the parents at Peter Pan Playschool Eastwick Road Church has donated £1,080 raised at their annual gift day. Atkins Plc - donated £250 from their Community Sponsorship scheme. Bookham Rotary have donated £100. Peter Pan Playschool parents have donated £250. Waitrose (Cobham) have agreed to include the Peter Pan Playschool Garden Fund in their Community Matters draw during September (Peter Pan Playschool will receive approximately £200). Peter Pan Playschool still need to find a further £750 and they have contacted local businesses and charities for donations, and have further fundraising events organised for next term.

Leatherhead Drama Festival 2013

Tim Hall

£2,000 revenue

Leatherhead Drama Festival has submitted an application for a funding contribution towards the cost of hiring the Leatherhead Theatre during the Junior Week thus enabling ticket prices to be kept at a reasonable level. The Leatherhead Drama Festival (LDF) will be a competitive event held at the Leatherhead Theatre for up to 30 amateur

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drama groups (juniors and adults), run over two weeks in May with a public audience and in front of a professional adjudicator (Member of the Guild of Drama Adjudicators - GoDA). All competing groups will present one-act plays, for which they will receive marks from the adjudicator. In so doing, they will entertain the paying audience. The Gala Awards Night will feature two of the groups who will re-perform their plays, following which the Awards will be presented to all the winners by the Festival's Patron, Sir Michael Caine, CBE (filming schedule permitting). In order to support the Junior Week of the two-week Festival in May 2013, Leatherhead Drama Festival are requesting funding aid as the ticket sales do not cover the costs of hiring the Leatherhead Theatre plus Stage Management, but the Junior Week is so integral to the success of the whole Festival. The total cost of the project is £24,600 (theatre hire including commissions is £10,720) with the remainder still to be found through other requested grants and sponsorships (£5,800). The Festival has been supported by the Local Committee (Mole Valley) every year since its inaugural Festival in 2004 with sums between £1,500 and £2,500 per year. The bid received this year will constitute a repeat bid, as described in paragraph 1.3 of this report.

Phoenix Project, Encore Youth Orchestra

Clare Curran

£1,900 capital

Encore Youth Orchestra (a non-profit making youth orchestra, dedicated to developing a love of music in young people and nurturing a wide range of musical abilities and talent) has submitted an application for funding towards the purchase of Percussion instruments and new portable Music Stands. In September 2010 Encore Youth Orchestra re-introduced a percussion section to their Youth Orchestra after several years' absence. Encore Youth Orchestra already have some percussion instruments from previous but they need to add to these, especially since their percussion section is growing. Their current portable music stands are very old and battered and, since they have had to throw away quite a number on health and safety grounds, they now need urgent replacements as there will not have sufficient instruments to share. The total cost of the project is £1,900.

Lower Mole Project Land Rover

Chris Townsend

£2,520 capital

Lower Mole Countryside Management Project has submitted an application for £5,000 towards the purchase of a Land Rover vehicle.

The Project organises a volunteer programme that enables individuals from the local community to help with practical conservation and access across the Project area, which includes the district of Mole Valley. Each year around 13,000 volunteer hours are achieved, making the Project one of the largest generators of voluntary activity in the region.

The Land Rover is an essential vehicle for the running of the Lower Mole Project. It will be the only four wheel drive vehicle that the Project will have that can access places that its minibus cannot. It will be the main towing vehicle for the trailer that the Project recently purchased with a grant.

The total cost of the project is approximately £28,000 of which £15,400 has already been raised. Further contributions are being sought from the the Local Committees in Epsom and Ewell (£4520) and Elmbridge (£5,000).

3. DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVED BIDS

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

| COUNCILLOR | PROJECT | AMOUNT |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|
| Helyn Clack | Diamond Jubilee Trees for Buckland Village Green | £250 Revenue |
| Stephen Cooksey | Dorking Jubilee Celebrations - Dorking Events | £200 Revenue |
| Hazel Watson | Replacement of Westhumble millenium sign | £415 Revenue |
| Stephen Cooksey | Opposition of Planning Application no. MO09/0110 regarding exploratory oil & gas drilling by Europa Plc in Bury Hill Wood, off Coldharbour Lane, nr Coldharbour, Surrey. | £500 Revenue |
| Tim Hall | Becoming More Audacious | £1,000 Revenue |
| Tim Hall | Brighter Fetcham | £550 Revenue |
| Chris Townsend | Grant towards Day Centre Running Costs | £500 Revenue |
| Helyn Clack | | £250 |

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|-------------|---|--------------|
| | Ockley Village Olympics 2012 Celebrations | Revenue |
| Helyn Clack | Edolphs Farm Premises Licence Application research and leaflet printing costs | £500 Revenue |
| Helyn Clack | Refurbishment of the Village Hall | £1,000 |

4. ADJUSTMENTS TO DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVED BID

- 4.1 An adjustment to the bid for a one off sum of £400 from Tim Hall's capital allocation awarded to SCC Dorking Library to fund walking aids reported at the Local Committee on 7 June 2012 has been made. The cost of the walking aids had reduced when the order was placed and therefore it was possible to purchase four rather than two walking aids.

5. OPTIONS

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

6. CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 The appropriate Surrey County Council services and partner agencies are consulted when bids are submitted, as required.

7. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 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 Chart in the Local Committee's financial position statement attached at Appendix 1.
- 7.3 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.

8. EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 Local Committee funding can be allocated to projects that benefit a diverse range of community safety needs.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 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.
- 9.2 The Local Committee is asked to consider the items submitted for funding from the 2012/13 Local Committee delegated budgets, as detailed in the report.

10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 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.

11. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 11.1 If approved by the Local Committee, organisations will be approached to sign funding agreements for their projects based on the bids submitted.
- 11.2 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.
- 11.3 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