



**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL
COMMITTEE IN SPELTHORNE
20 FEBRUARY 2006

MEMBERS' FUNDS**

KEY ISSUE:

To make decisions on funding proposals.

SUMMARY:

The report makes recommendations on a number of proposals.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is asked:

1. To note the funding approved under delegated authority (paras 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6)
2. To consider making an increased contribution of £600 to Community Speedwatch for equipment from Mr Davies' allocation.
3. To consider making a contribution of £1472 towards parent group leaders, children's books and training materials for the Family Links service in Stanwell Fields School and Bucklands School and agree how this should be funded.
4. To consider whether to make a contribution to Shopmobility and if so at what level and by whom.
5. To agree to defer the request for a contribution towards a Project Development Co-ordinator for Stanwell Children's Centre, if it

- proceeds, to the next financial year.
6. To consider making a contribution of £3000 to the 8th Ashford Scout Group towards the costs of cold weather tents and how this should be funded.
 7. To consider making a contribution to Crest Cancer Information and Support Centre towards the costs of printing information packs and newsletters and how this should be funded.
 8. To consider making a contribution towards a newspaper advertisement for the Local Committee on 20 March, to a maximum of £462 and how this should be funded.
 9. To consider making a contribution of £10000 from the capital allocation to refurbish the kitchen area at Stanwell Fields school, as part of the Children's Centre, if it proceeds.
 10. To note that the £800 previously awarded to Ashford Camera Club for a digital projector and laptop computer will now be spent only on a digital projector. The Club will raise funds separately to purchase a laptop computer.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The budget for 2005/06 made available a capital allocation of £35,000 and £11,500 for each Member's Revenue Allocation i.e. £80,500 for this Committee. The figures below reflect the balances left for Members' revenue funds and the capital allocation after the Committee's spending decisions and action agreed under delegated authority so far this financial year. It should be noted that a delegated authority item for Shortwood School (and noted in this report at 2.1) paid from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation prior to the Local Committee meeting on 12 December was not reported to the Local Committee at that time. Consequently Mrs Saliagopoulos had less in her allocation than reported and was unable to contribute fully to Age Concern security packages and not at all to Ash Technology College whiteboards. The shortfall of £120 has been made up from Mr Burrell's allocation, with the agreement of Mr Burrell, the Chairman and the Area Director.

1.1 Member's Revenue Allocation

	Balance Remaining £
Mrs Saliagopoulos	0
Ms Turner	408
Mr Agarwal	1081
Mr Beardsmore	701
Mr Burrell	1795
Mrs Coleman	183
Mr Davies	1931

Total £ 6284

Committee Capital Allocation – Balance Remaining

Total £ 12751

- 1.1 The criteria to be applied to the use of funds in 2004/05, as agreed by the Committee on 11th July 2005, are attached as Appendix 1.

2.0 MEMBER'S REVENUE ALLOCATION

Delegated authority

2.1 Shortwood Infant School (Mrs Saliagopoulos)

A sum of £750 from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation was agreed for the costs of refurbishment of the activity playground.

2.2 Purchase of trees (Mr Beardsmore)

A sum of £180 from Mr Beardsmore's allocation was agreed towards the cost of purchasing new trees for Sunbury.

2.3 8th Ashford Scout Group (Mrs Coleman)

A sum of £750 from Mrs Coleman's allocation was agreed for the costs of benches for the Scout Group.

2.4 Advertisement for Local Committee meeting (Mr Burrell)

A sum of £573.36 was agreed from Mr Burrell's allocation to pay for the February Local Committee meeting to be advertised in the Staines & Ashford News and the Informer.

2.5 Staines & Laleham Cricket Club

A sum of £449.65 from Mrs Turner's allocation was agreed towards repairs to the cricket table cover.

2.6 Clare Road Shops (Mr Agarwall)

A sum of £50 was agreed to tidy up the hedge in front of Clare Road shops (north side) in Stanwell.

FUNDING BIDS

The following new requests for funding have been received since the last meeting of the Local Committee. The name of the Divisional Member or Member proposing the scheme is in brackets and where the project would benefit Spelthorne residents Borough wide these have been proposed by the Chairman.

2.7 Community Speedwatch (£600) (Mr Davies)

The Local Committee allocated funding of £400 to Community Speedwatch on 11 July 2005 to purchase 2 sets of equipment, 2 radar guns, 4 reflective jackets and 4 signs. However following the Local Committee decision and

before purchase, the radar guns were withdrawn from use within the UK, as they did not conform to specific legislation. The alternative radar guns, which are compliant with legislation, would cost a further £600 and Surrey Police are now seeking further funding of £600 to ensure that the Community Speedwatch initiative can go ahead. Mr Davies is willing for the additional £600 to be taken from his allocation.

2.8 Family Links (£722) (Denise Turner) (£750)(Victor Agarwal)

The Family Links project provides practical programmes for building relationships in families, schools and communities. The project is seeking funding of a) £450 for the training and setting up of 2 parent group leaders to run a termly parent group for Stanwell Fields school and the local community, b) £300 for children's books to assist the project at Stanwell Fields school, and c) £722 for training materials for Bucklands school. In both cases the projects will improve family relationships and behaviour in school, reduce the risk of school exclusion as well as improving physical and mental health of the children and adults.

2.9 Shopmobility (Mrs Salaigopoulos as Chairman)

An application for funding has been made by Staines Shopmobility, which is seeking funding from new sources to finance the original health joint finance funding which ended in March 2005. Shopmobility enables people of all ages with limited mobility or visual impairment the opportunity to use Staines Town Centre to do their own shopping, banking, sit by the river or enjoy other services in the town. The majority of users are from Spelthorne (584) with an additional 400 people from addresses within other parts of Surrey and surrounding areas and they estimate there will be nearly 5,000 visits to the service in 2005.

For the year 2005/06 Shopmobility's projected budget shows expenditure over income deficit of £22,982. They currently have some reserves of which £10,000 will be spent on replacing older mobility equipment but if no additional revenue is raised the remainder of the reserves will be used to continue to run the service which would then end in 2007.

The Trustees of Shopmobility are now exploring various sources of funding which could sustain the service. Any contribution from this Committee could only be a one off and could help reduce their current deficit budget. The bigger issue facing the service is how it can be sustained in the long term.

This item was included in the Members' Funds report to Local Committee on 10 October but a decision was deferred pending information from Shopmobility about obtaining income from other sources. Shopmobility has now confirmed that they have been unable to obtain further income apart from Spelthorne Borough Council's agreement that they will give £5000 for 2005/6, with decreasing grant awards of £2500 for 2007/8 and £1250 for 2008/9.

Members are asked to consider this request and determine whether a contribution should be made and if so how much and whether those Members with funds remaining would be willing to contribute equally to any payment.

2.10 Children's Centre Co-ordinator (Mrs Saliagopoulos as Chairman)

At the Local Committee on 12 December 2005, funding of £4000 was given towards the costs of appointing a temporary part-time Project Development Co-ordinator for 3 months to oversee and advance the development project for the proposed Children's Centre in Stanwell. The Centre has now been given the go-ahead to continue to the next phase and the Children's Centre are seeking further funding from the Local Committee of £10,000 for a permanent Project Co-ordinator. There are insufficient funds to make this level of contribution in this financial year and Members are asked to agree that the request be deferred and re-considered in the next financial year.

2.11 8th Ashford Scouts Group (£3000) (Mrs Coleman)

The 8th Ashford Scout Group currently has 5 cold weather tents, which sleep 10/12 boys. There are currently 35 Scouts within the troop and they wish to purchase more cold weather tents to enable them to take all the scouts within their troop on night exercises. The total cost of the tents is £3330 and they are seeking funding of £3000 from the Local Committee. The rest of the funding will be met from Group funds. Members are asked whether a contribution should be made and whether those Members with funds remaining are willing to contribute equally to any payment.

2.12 CREST (£750) (Mrs Coleman)

Crest is an information and support service for people suffering from cancer. It aims to alleviate physical, mental or financial distress or hardship of people with cancer and their friends, family and carers. Crest, which covers the boroughs of Elmbridge, Spelthorne and Runnymede, has asked for funding of £750 towards the costs of printing information packs and newsletters. The total costs of the project are £800, of which the rest will be raised through fundraising. Members are asked whether a contribution should be made and whether those Members with funds remaining are willing to contribute equally to any payment. Members are also asked to consider whether the Local Committees in Runnymede and Elmbridge should be approached for contributions.

2.13 Advert for March Local Committee (Up to £462) (Chairman)

To provide for funding for a public notice of the 20th March Local Committee meeting.

3. CAPITAL ALLOCATION

3.1 Stanwell Children's Centre (Mrs Saliagopoulos as Chairman)

This application was flagged at the meeting of the Local Committee on 12 December 2005. Stanwell Children's Centre has been given the go-ahead to continue to the next phase and they are seeking £10,000 to refurbish the redundant kitchen area at Stanwell Fields school for the Children's Centre.

4.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The contributions proposed will benefit a wide range of adults and children in Spelthorne, some of whom may have disabilities.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Paragraph 1.1 sets out what remains of both the individual and collective Members revenue allocation. The total revenue requested is £16284 but only £6284 revenue remains. If the Local Committee agree to defer the request for £10,000 for the Stanwell Children's Centre until the next financial year, the following bids could be approved: £600 for community Speedwatch; £722 plus £750 for Family Links at two schools; £3,000 for 8th Ashford Scouts cold weather tents; £750 for Crest; and £462 for the public notice of the 20th March Local Committee meeting. If agreed this could be shared amongst the remaining Members' funds if individual Members support the use of their funds in this way.

- 5.2 £12751 remains of the capital allocation, from which the item in paragraph 3.1 could be funded leaving £2,751 still to be spent in this financial year. Earlier this year the Local Committee agreed to fund £2,500 to Laleham Cricket Club towards the total cost of £5,000 to repair their cricket table subject to them raising the other £2,500 from other sources and supplying a statement of the extended community use that they would envisage with the upgraded facilities. At this stage we have not received the assurances and have asked the Club to provide this by 20th February if they are able to do so. A report on the outcome will be made to the 20th March meeting but it may result in the £2,500 being available for distribution for other projects.

6.0 CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 These proposals meet the criteria agreed by the Committee for financial support.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: **Budget Report to Council 8 Feb 2005**

APPENDIX 1

CRITERIA FOR USE OF FUNDS

The following criteria, as agreed by the Local Committee on 11th July 2005, will be applied to the use of these funds for the 2005/06 financial year.

MEMBER'S REVENUE ALLOCATION

- Support for any one project will not normally exceed £10,000.
- Any proposal to be considered by Committee must be proposed by at least one Member who is willing to provide at least some financial support to the project. However, Members whose funds are totally committed may still put proposals forward for support by the Committee.
- The funds will not be used to cover revenue costs – expenditure must be of a one-off nature or serve as “pump-priming”.
- Contributions will not normally be made to cover funding gaps arising from budget reduction decisions.
- Priority will be given to proposals attracting an element of match funding.
- Proposals will be considered from SCC services, other statutory bodies and voluntary organisations.

COMMITTEE CAPITAL ALLOCATION

The balance of the £35,000 initially allocated to support capital projects through voluntary organisations will be used for any suitable project promoting well being in Spelthorne and agreed by the Committee. These funds are not allocated to individual Members but are to allocated by Committee decision.

The following is a definition for “capital” in these circumstances:

Capital expenditure is defined as the acquisition, construction, enhancement or replacement of an asset. An asset can be land & buildings, vehicles, plant, furniture & equipment or infrastructure. In order for an asset to be capitalised it should yield benefits for a period of more than one year.

It is proposed that the following criteria should apply to this fund:

- Any proposal to be considered by Committee must be put forward by at least one Member.
- Priority will be given to proposals attracting an element of match funding.
- Proposals must be of a local nature and be for the benefit of the people of Spelthorne.