



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (SPELTHORNE)

MEMBERS' FUNDS

16 March 2009

KEY ISSUE

To make decisions on funding proposals.

SUMMARY

The report makes recommendations on a number of proposals.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) is asked:

1. To note funding given by Members of the Local Committee in 2008/9 (appendix 1).
2. To note funding given by Spelthorne Borough Councillors towards the Youth Café costs, thus reducing Mrs Saliagopoulos' contribution to £2553 (paragraph 2.1).
3. To note change of use of funds for the Friends of the Fordbridge Centre (paragraph 2.2)
4. To note funding approved under delegated authority (paragraph 2.3-2.12).
5. To consider an application for funding of £343.50 from Surrey Police towards the costs of a bicycle for the PCSO, to be funded from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation.
6. To consider an application from the Youth Development Service

- for funding of £6957 for Stanwell Youth Centre replacement, to be funded from Mr Agarwal's allocation.
7. To consider an application for funding of £6000 from Stanwell Fields School for library books, to be funded from Mr Agarwal's allocation.
 8. To consider an application from St Nicholas School for funding of £3000 for an outdoor stage area, to be funded from Mr Burrell's allocation.
 9. To consider an application for funding of £2420 from the Rotary Club of Ashford to supply dictionaries to Year 5 school children within Spelthorne.
 10. To consider an application from Surrey Highways for funding of £900 towards the costs of tree trunk removal at Dunboe Place Shepperton.
 11. To consider an application from Surrey Highways for funding of £3185 for an upgrade of the zebra crossing on Fordbridge Road, to be part funded from Mrs Coleman's allocation £2901 and the capital allocation £284.
 12. To consider an application from Staines Shopmobility for funding of £4040 for 3 new scooters and 1 electric wheelchair, to be funded from Mr Burrell's allocation £1648 and the capital allocation £2392.
 13. To consider an application for funding of £15000 from Matthew Arnold School towards the costs of a new outdoor football pitch and sports ground, to be funded from the capital allocation.
 14. To consider an application for funding of £1990 from Spelthorne Borough Council towards new equipment for the GP referral scheme, to be funded from the capital allocation.

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 The budget for 2008/09 made the following funds available - £11,000 per Member and £35,000 capital allocation. These figures show the amounts still available taking account of any funding awarded under delegated authority.

Member's Revenue Allocation

	Balance Remaining £
Mr Agarwal	13226
Mr Beardsmore	152
Mr Burrell	6344
Mrs Coleman	3401
Mr Davies	1012
Mrs Saliagopoulos	2945
Mrs Turner-Stewart	582

Total £27662

Committee Capital Allocation

Total £18693

2.0 MEMBER'S REVENUE ALLOCATION

2.1 Youth Café £2553 (Mrs Saliagopoulos)

At the Local Committee meeting on 24 November 2008, Mrs Saliagopoulos supported a bid from Ashford Congregational Church for the Youth Café in Staines. It was agreed at that meeting that Mrs Saliagopoulos would provide funding of £3353, subject to any contributions from Spelthorne Borough Councillors. These contributions now total £800, thus reducing Mrs Saliagopoulos' contribution to £2553.

2.2 Friends of the Fordbridge Centre £990.77 (Mrs Coleman)

Funding of £990.77 was given under delegated authority to the Friends of the Fordbridge Centre for the costs of insuring the minibus (£700.55), AA breakdown cover (£201.12) and certification of wheelchair lift (£88.50). They have subsequently advised that the costs were slightly less than anticipated and that £71.48 of the funding is outstanding. They have requested permission to use these funds for some work that they had carried out very recently in relation to the alternator. The Area Director, in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and Mrs Coleman, has agreed this change of use of funding.

Delegated authority

2.3 Surrey Police £800 (Laurie Burrell)

A sum of £800 from Mr Burrell's allocation was agreed towards costs for a virtual boxing club at the Greeno Centre.

2.4 Age Concern £1000 (Carol Coleman)

A sum of £1000 from Mrs Coleman's allocation was agreed towards the Winter Warmth Hardship Fund.

2.5 Community Orchard £1000 (Denise Turner-Stewart)

A sum of £1000 was agreed from Mrs Turner-Stewart's allocation towards tree planting for a community orchard in Staines South/Ashford West Division.

2.6 Surrey Police £459 (Denise Turner-Stewart & Denise Saliagopoulos)

A sum of £459 was agreed towards the costs of a bicycle for the PCSO in Staines Urban area, funded equally from Mrs Turner-Stewart's and Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation.

2.7 Homestart Spelthorne £200 (Denise Saliagopoulos)

A sum of £200 from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation was agreed towards the costs of a TV/DVD player for training purposes.

2.8 Buckland School £1000 (Denise Turner-Stewart)

A sum of £1000 from Mrs Turner-Stewart's allocation was agreed towards the costs of a peace garden and orchard area.

2.9 Spelthorne Crossroads £1000 (Victor Agarwal, Laurie Burrell, Carol Coleman, Frank Davies & Denise Saliagopoulos)

A sum of £1000 was agreed towards the provision of 72 hours of respite care within Spelthorne, to be split equally between Mr Agarwal, Mr Burrell, Mrs Coleman, Mr Davies and Mrs Saliagopoulos.

2.10 A2 Dominion Housing £1000 (Denise Turner-Stewart)

A sum of £1000 from Mrs Turner-Stewart's allocation was agreed towards the costs of a gazebo and cushions for the residents of St Martins Court.

2.11 Easter Community Radio £750 (Laurie Burrell and Frank Davies)

A sum of £750 was agreed towards the set-up costs of a community radio trial, to be split between Mr Burrell (£750) and Mr Davies (£250).

2.11 Spelthorne Young Voices £1000 (Denise Saliagopoulos & Denise Turner-Stewart)

A sum of £1000 was agreed towards the costs of new uniforms for the Spelthorne Young Voices choir, taken from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation (£200) and Mrs Turner-Stewart's allocation (£800).

2.12 Spelthorne & Runnymede Drama Festival £892 (Denise Saliagopoulos)

A sum of £892 from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation was agreed towards the costs of the 2009 Festival.

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.

2.13 Surrey Police £343.50 (Denise Saliagopoulos)

Surrey Police are seeking funding of £343.50 towards the costs of a bicycle for the PCSO in Ashford. The total cost is £793.50. This will benefit local residents. It should be noted that this is a retrospective bid as the order for the bike has already been placed. This will be funded from Mrs Saliagopolous' allocation.

2.14 Stanwell Youth Centre £6957 (Victor Agarwal)

Surrey County Council's Youth Development Service (YDS) has submitted a bid for funding to redevelop an old and redundant shower area into a music studio/decks room which will also provide for future growth into a digital recording/music making studio. The total cost of the project is £6957 to

include £2773 to create the door and window entries, £2684 to remove the showers and make good the space and £1500 to equip and redecorate the affected areas. In addition to this work, the YDS will redevelop a dance and drama studio in the current meeting room and also redecorate and improve the quality of the centre to enhance youth work delivery. Funding for this secondary aspect will be met from the Youth Centre's own reserves. These facilities will be available to all young people aged 11-25 within Spelthorne and are also aimed particularly at young people who live and frequent in Stanwell. This will be funded from Mr Agarwal's allocation.

2.15 Stanwell Fields School £6000 (Victor Agarwal)

Stanwell Fields Church of England School has recently carried out a capital building project to convert an old kitchen into a new school library. They had sufficient funds to complete the building project but are seeking funding of £10000 from the Local Committee to purchase new library books to replace old and outdated stock. All National Curriculum books are already provided in the classroom and the library books will be aimed at enhancing and extending their learning and improving literacy. The school caters for the local multicultural community with the children speaking 26 different languages. It is proposed that £6000 of this be funded from Mr Agarwal's allocation.

2.16 St Nicholas School £3000 (Laurie Burrell)

St Nicholas Church of England Primary School has submitted a bid for funding of £3000 to provide a digital stage lighting system. The total cost of the project is estimated to be in the region of £13351 and the remainder of the funds will be met from the school budget and PTA funds. This will enable drama productions at the school to be enhanced. This will be funded from Mr Burrell's allocation.

2.17 The Rotary Clubs of Ashford £2420 (Carol Coleman)

The Rotary Club of Ashford, in conjunction with the Rotary Clubs of Shepperton Aurora and Shepperton & Staines, are seeking to carry out a project to provide an illustrated dictionary to all Year 5 pupils within Spelthorne. The total cost of the project is £3031.20 and they are seeking funding of £2420 which will provide for the distribution of 1080 dictionaries within 21 primary schools within Spelthorne. This project aims to support the local schools' efforts at improving literacy and enhancing reading and comprehension skills in English. This will be funded by Mrs Coleman (£500), Mrs Saliagopoulos (£250), Mr Davies (£605), Mr Burrell (£796) and Mr Agarwal (£269) - total £2420).

2.18 Dunboe Place Shepperton Tree Trunk Removal £900 (Laurie Burrell)

Surrey Highways are seeking funding of £900 towards the cost of tree trunk removal in Dunboe Place Shepperton. Residents will also be contributing to this project. This will be funded from Mr Burrell's allocation.

2.19 Fordbridge Road safety scheme £3185 (Carol Coleman)

Surrey Highways are seeking funding of £3185 for an upgrade of Fordbridge Road zebra crossing at the junction of Clarendon Road. This will benefit

pedestrians and road users and has been requested by residents and Surrey Police. £2901 of this will be funded from Mrs Coleman's allocation, with a bid to the capital allocation for the remaining £284 (see paragraph 3.4).

2.20 Staines Shopmobility £4040 (Carol Coleman)

Staines Shopmobility is a registered charity providing mobility equipment to enable people with limited mobility to access shops, banks and other facilities in the town centre. They have over 2500 registered users with 250-300 new registrations each year and the service is used over 5000 times per annum. They are seeking funding of £4040 to purchase 3 new mobility scooters (£735 each) and 1 new electric wheelchair. This will benefit current and new users of Staines Shopmobility, the majority of which will be elderly or disabled people. £1648 of this will be funded from Mr Burrell's allocation, with a bid to the capital allocation for the remaining £2392 (see paragraph 3.1).

3.00 CAPITAL ALLOCATION

3.1 Staines Shopmobility £2392 (Carol Coleman)

Staines Shopmobility is a registered charity providing mobility equipment to enable people with limited mobility to access shops, banks and other facilities in the town centre. They have over 2500 registered users with 250-300 new registrations each year and the service is used over 5000 times per annum. They are seeking funding of £4040 to purchase 3 new mobility scooters (£735 each) and 1 new electric wheelchair. This will benefit current and new users of Staines Shopmobility, the majority of which will be elderly or disabled people. £1648 of this will be funded from Mr Burrell's allocation, with a bid to the capital allocation for the remaining £2392.

3.2 Matthew Arnold School football pitch £15000 (Denise Saliagopoulos)

Matthew Arnold school has submitted a bid for funding to install a full sized third generation football pitch. This will benefit the pupils of the school together with those who can hire out the facilities. It will also provide a training centre for referees and coaches. Overall costs are £559904 and funds have been raised from the Football Association, school funds, grants and Surrey County Council. They are now £15000 short of their target and are seeking this amount from the Local Committee.

3.3 Spelthorne Borough Council GP referral scheme £1990 (Denise Saliagopoulos)

Spelthorne Borough Council (SBC) operate a GP referral scheme in their leisure centres whereby clients with specific disabilities or health problems are referred for exercise by their GP. The scheme has been very successful and SBC have applied for funding to purchase additional equipment to meet the higher demand for the scheme. The total cost of the equipment is £1990 and SBC are seeking funding to cover the total cost.

3.4 Fordbridge Road safety scheme £284 (Carol Coleman)

Surrey Highways are seeking funding of £3185 for an upgrade of Fordbridge Road zebra crossing at the junction of Clarendon Road. This will benefit

pedestrians and road users and has been requested by residents and Surrey Police. £2901 of this will be funded from Mrs Coleman's allocation, with a bid to the capital allocation for the remaining £284.

4. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

Paragraph 1.1 sets out what remains of both the individual Members revenue allocation and the capital. There are sufficient funds for the revenue bids to be funded, however there are insufficient funds for all the projects seeking capital allocation funding and Members of the Local Committee will need to determine the recipients of the funding and the amounts.

5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

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

6. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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APPENDIX A

CRITERIA FOR USE OF FUNDS

1. MEMBER'S ALLOCATIONS

- a) Support for any one project will not normally exceed £10,000.
- b) 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.
- c) The funds will not be used to cover revenue costs – expenditure must be of a one-off nature or serve as “pump-priming”.
- d) Contributions will not normally be made to cover funding gaps arising from budget reduction decisions.
- e) Priority will be given to proposals attracting an element of match funding.
- f) Proposals will be considered from SCC services, other statutory bodies and voluntary organisations.

2. FUNDING PAID UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The decision to pay funding of not more than £1000 can be delegated to the Area Director, in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee. Funding paid under delegated authority is subject to the criteria laid down in paragraph 1 above, **and** the following additional criteria:

- a) the application must have been endorsed by the appropriate local Member
- b) the application should be for a maximum of £1000
- c) applications from private clubs or other membership organisations must clearly demonstrate the wider community benefit of the project
- d) projects must not contravene any of the Council's agreed policies or priorities
- e) the application should be for a future project, not a retrospective request.
- f) the application should not be to cover ongoing revenue costs.

3. 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 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:

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

APPENDIX B**GUIDANCE NOTE****SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE SPELTHORNE - MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS**

This guidance note is designed to assist in the consideration of applications for requests for funding from Members' Allocations, and should be used in conjunction with the formal criteria laid down for funding.

1. FUNDING CEILINGS

- i) There is a general presumption against requests for 100% funding of projects and the Local Committee would wish to see evidence of fund raising and/or other partner contributions. However the Local Committee reserves the right to fund 100% of projects, taking into account the overall resources of the organisation, the sum requested and any previous fundraising by the organisation.
- ii) Individual bids should generally be for no more than £10,000.

2. REPEAT REVENUE FUNDING

There is a general presumption against requests for repeat funding for the same project, as over time this would reduce the scope to fulfil the original aim of allocations which was to enable Members to respond to local issues. However, the Local Committee reserves the right to vary this rule where it is felt that the project is making an exceptional contribution to the community and more time may be required to secure alternative funding.

3. RETROSPECTIVE FUNDING

- i) As a general rule, it is not considered good practice to fund projects retrospectively and funding will not be considered for projects where the group has already committed, or decided to commit, funds.
- ii) Applications that are retrospective due to the timing of the Local Committee meetings may be considered provided that the proposed allocation has been brought to the attention of the Area Director before the event/purchase/expenditure takes place. However the group should be advised by the proposing Member that the Local Committee decision is not a 'rubber stamping' exercise and that any expenditure they commit in the hope of receiving funding is entirely at their own risk.
- iii) Applications for retrospective projects cannot be funded under the delegated authority powers.

4. PRIVATE CLUBS OR MEMBERSHIP ORGANISATIONS

Such organisations need to demonstrate clearly the wider community benefit that their project would bring.

5. FUNDING FOR INDIVIDUALS

Funding bids which would benefit an individual or an individual's property will not be considered.

6. HIGHWAYS PROJECTS

- i) Members' allocations should rarely be used to 'top up' the Highways budget agreed by the County Council, especially where the additional £100,000 capital allocation has been allocated by the Local Committee for Highways purposes. However, it is recognised that small street scene improvements, i.e. additional tree cutting or planting, can be a positive and welcome use of Members' Allocations.
- ii) Any such proposals should initially be shared with the West Area Group Manager/Local Transportation Manager for a view on appropriateness of the proposed expenditure bearing in mind any priority lists and the capacity for additional work to be carried out without damaging the implementation of the agreed work programme for the service.