



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (SPELTHORNE)

MEMBERS' FUNDS

18 January 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 that the Ashford Rotary Clubs Dictionary project 2009 underspent by £180. This will be rolled over to the 2010 project which was awarded funding of £2680 in November 2009. This will reduce Mr Walsh's contribution by £180 (para 2.1).
2. To agree change of funding for Thomas Knyvett school from Mrs Turner-Stewart's revenue allocation to Mrs Coleman's capital allocation (para 2.2).
3. To consider an application for funding of £1000 from Relate West Surrey towards start up costs for relationship counselling, to be funded from Mrs Coleman's allocation (para 2.3).
4. To consider an application for funding of £2060.10 from Homestart Spelthorne for the recruitment and training of volunteers (para

- 2.4).
5. To consider an application for funding of £2145 from Spelthorne Borough Council for improvements to Shortwood South footpath, to be funded from Mrs Turner-Stewart's allocation (para 2.5).
 6. To consider an application for funding of £1000 for an equipment upgrade for Laleham Archery Club, to be funded from Mrs Turner-Stewart's allocation (para 2.6).
 7. To consider an application for funding of £500 for a fish tank for Meadowside Older People's home, to be funded from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation (para 2.7).
 8. To consider an application for funding of £500 from Spelthorne Neighbourhood Watch, to be funded from Mrs Coleman's allocation (para 2.8).
 9. To consider an application for funding of £895 from Desborough Sailing Club, to be funded from Mr Walsh's capital allocation (para 3.1).
 10. To consider an application for funding of £599.25 from Clarendon Primary School for the replacement of a pond liner, to be funded from Mrs Coleman's capital allocation (para 3.2).
 11. To consider an application for funding of £3000 from the 1st Shepperton Scout Group to be funded from Mr Walsh's capital allocation (para 3.3).
 12. To consider an application for funding of £3615 for the purchase and installation of a street light to be installed in the alleyway between French Street and Lime Crescent Sunbury, to be funded from Mrs Nichols capital allocation (para 3.4).

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The budget for 2009/10 made the following funds available - £8250 revenue allocation per Member and £5000 capital allocation per Member. These figures show the amounts still available taking account of any funding awarded under delegated authority.

Member's Revenue Allocation

	Balance Remaining £
Mr Agarwal	3204
Mr Beardsmore	6542
Mrs Coleman	3669
Mrs Nichols	8015
Mrs Saliagopoulos	5136
Mrs Turner-Stewart	2869
Mr Walsh	3367

Total £32802

Member Capital Allocation

	Balance Remaining £
Mr Agarwal	5000
Mr Beardsmore	5000
Mrs Coleman	5000
Mrs Nichols	5000
Mrs Saliagopoulos	2850
Mrs Turner-Stewart	0
Mr Walsh	5000

Total £27850

2.0 MEMBER'S REVENUE ALLOCATION

2.1 Ashford Rotary Club Dictionaries Project

Funding was given to the Ashford Rotary Club in 2008/9 for the provision of dictionaries to year 5 pupils within Spelthorne. The Rotary Club has confirmed that the project underspent by £180. It has been agreed by contributing Members that this amount will be rolled over to the project for this financial year. This will therefore reduce Mr Walsh's contribution to this project by £180.

2.2 Thomas Knyvett School signage £500 (Carol Coleman)

Mrs Turner-Stewart gave £1000 revenue funding to Thomas Knyvett school in August 2009. Mrs Coleman would now like to contribute £500 to this funding from her capital allocation, thus reducing Mrs Turner-Stewart's contribution to £500. Members are asked to agree to this change.

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.

2.3 Relate West Surrey £1000 (Carol Coleman)

Relate West Surrey is seeking funding of £1000 towards start-up costs for relationship counselling at Clarendon Children's Centre in Ashford. The total cost of the project is £5943 and they are seeking funding from the Local Committee towards specific costs for room hire £633 and publicity £500. It is anticipated that they will undertake 150 hours of counselling per year and that the majority of clients will come from within the Ashford catchment area. The average cost paid for each session is expected to be £30. The cost of publicity will cover the provision and publication of press releases and

newsletters and the delivery of posters and leaflets to GP practices, health centres and schools within the catchment area. This will be funded from Mrs Coleman's allocation.

2.4 Homestart Spelthorne £2060 (Richard Walsh)

Homestart Spelthorne has submitted a bid for funding of £2060 to recruit and train 10 new home-visiting volunteers. The costs are for advertisements and recruitment (£829.10), training sessions (£1176), and stationery costs (£55). This will allow Homestart to support 10-20 new families a year, which will benefit families living within Spelthorne by reducing isolation, increasing self-reliance and social skills, improving family health and parenting skills. Homestart currently has a waiting list of 28 families awaiting home-visit support and this year there has been a record number of families carried over (70) together with the new referrals received. Referrals are Spelthorne-wide but there has been increased demand from Ashford, Stanwell and Sunbury areas. Members are asked if they wish to contribute and if so, how much and by whom.

2.5 Shortwood South footpath improvements £2145 (Denise Turner-Stewart)

Spelthorne Borough Council has submitted a bid for funding of £2145 to carry out improvements to Shortwood South footpath improvements. This will make the off-road footpath, which runs from the Boundary Road estate in Ashford to Priory Green, Staines, more attractive for pedestrian use. The costs are for 40 tons of surfacing materials (scalpings) £1200, timber edging £870 and compactor hire £75. The work will be carried out by Surrey Probation Service - Community Payback team. This will benefit users of the footpath who are assumed to be residents of both Ashford and Staines. This will be funded from Mrs Turner-Stewart's allocation.

2.6 Laleham Archery Club £1000 (Denise Turner-Stewart)

Laleham Archery Club has submitted a bid for funding of £1000 for an upgrade to the club's equipment. The total cost of the project, to purchase 25 target stands, storage box and arrow equipment, is expected to cost £1295. The Club is based at Staines and Laleham Sports Association grounds and currently has approximately 60 members, of which 17 are juniors. Two thirds of the members reside in Spelthorne. The Club also participates in 3 training programmes open to the public and also have a go sessions at community events such as Laleham Fair and school fairs. This will be funded from Mrs Turner-Stewart's allocation.

2.7 Meadowside Older People's home £500 (Denise Saliagopoulos)

Meadowside Home provides support, care and housing for older people, including those suffering from mental and physical disability. It is operated on a not for profit basis. They are seeking funding of £500 towards overall costs of £1242 for the purchase of a fish tank. This will benefit residents and service users. This will be funded from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation.

2.8 Spelthorne Neighbourhood Watch £500 (Carol Coleman)

Spelthorne Neighbourhood Watch has submitted an application for funding for the purchase and installation of signs for Neighbourhood Watch. The total cost of the project is £700 for 35 signs and they are seeking £500 towards this. This will benefit local residents as it will act as a deterrent and publicise the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Any funding awarded will be subject to the completed installation of the signs prior to the commencement of the PFI Street Lighting Initiative. This will be funded from Mrs Coleman's allocation.

3.00 Capital Allocation

3.1 Desborough Sailing Club £879 (Richard Walsh)

Desborough Sailing Club has submitted an application for funding of £879 towards the enhancement of the safety/training boat of the Club. The overall cost of the project is approximately £2000 and the Club is seeking funding of £879 for the purchase of a new engine. This will benefit members of the club and the general public who are able to participate in RYA annual events: 2 sailing courses (4 days duration), 3 taster sessions, 2 open days, one sailability day for disabled people, 4 open regattas. The club operates on a voluntary basis and currently has over 250 members of which approximately 50% of these are from Spelthorne. This will be funded from Mr Walsh's capital allocation.

3.2 Clarendon Primary School £599.25 (Carol Coleman)

Clarendon Primary School has submitted a bid for funding of £599.25 for the purchase and installation of a liner for the school pond. This will benefit the pupils as well as the children who attend the Link up nursery on site and those who attend the Children's Centre based within the school. This will be funded from Mrs Coleman's capital allocation.

3.3 1st Shepperton Scout Group £3000 (Richard Walsh)

The 1st Shepperton Scout Group are a registered charity and are seeking to renovate the toilets, kitchen and hall areas of their headquarters building, including the provision of a changing area in the disabled toilet. The total cost of the project is £4375 and the Group is seeking £3000 towards these costs. This will benefit the Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts and Scouts in the Group as well as the Brownies and Guides who are regular users of the Headquarters. This will be funded from Richard Walsh's capital allocation.

3.4 Surrey Highways streetlight £3615 (Caroline Nichols)

Following discussion between Surrey Police and Surrey Highways, it has been agreed that a streetlight should be installed in the alleyway between French Street and Lime Crescent, Sunbury. This would improve safety for residents. This will be funded from Mrs Nichol's capital allocation.

4. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

Paragraph 1.1 sets out what remains of the individual Members revenue allocation and their capital allocations. There are sufficient funds for all the projects to be funded.

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 divided equally between Members but are agreed 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.