



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (TANDRIDGE)

COUNTY COUNCILLORS' ALLOCATIONS FOR 2011/12

2 March 2012

KEY ISSUE

To set out the funding available to County Councillors from the delegated budget for 2011/12 and to consider requests for funding received from local organisations and community groups.

SUMMARY

Surrey County Council's Local Committees receive delegated funding to allocate to local and community organisations and projects that meet specific social, economic or environmental needs.

For 2011/12 the allocation to each County Councillor is £8,410 revenue funding. In addition each Local Committee receives a further £35,000 to spend on capital projects in the local area, making a total of £85,460 available to the Local Committee (Tandridge).

The County Council's Constitution further allows Members to delegate authority to agree applications up to a maximum of £1,000 outside of public meetings. These are formally recorded in each subsequent formal report.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Tandridge) is asked:

- (i) to consider new requests for funding from the Members' Allocations budget; and
- (ii) to note any payments made under delegated authority.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Surrey County Council's Local Committees receive delegated funding to allocate to local and community organisations and projects that meet specific social, economic or environmental needs within the parameters of their espoused priorities.
- 1.2 At SCC's annual budget meeting in February 2010, the recommendation was to delegate £8,410 revenue per County Councillor, plus £35,000 per Local Committee for capital projects, resulting in a total of £85,460 for the Tandridge Local Committee as a whole.
- 1.3 Any adjustments due to projects carried over or funds due to be returned from the previous year, are listed at Annex A.
- 1.4 Tandridge Local Committee members have agreed to continue to pool their funding and to prioritise applications according to need rather than dividing the available funds on a strictly geographical basis.
- 1.5 A summary of all applications for this financial year that have already been agreed or are under consideration is attached as Annex A.

2 NEW BIDS

- 2.1 Members will have been sent copies of the application forms for the following new bids. A brief summary is included here for general information.
- 2.2 **Friends of St Stephens School £3578 sponsored by Tony Elias**
Funding is sought to re-develop an area of the school field in order to provide a decked stage for creative play and performances. This will aid the development of children's speech and language needs by providing performance space for the school, the Friends of St Stephens School and other local community events. The request is for 75% of the total cost of the project of £4770, the remainder coming from the school and governors' funds.
- 2.3 **Tatsfield in Bloom 2012 £1,000 sponsored by David Hodge**
Funding is being sought for a project that will improve the village environment throughout 2012. It will provide floral and other displays in the summer and winter celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics; environmental projects (such as more permanent planting); regular litter clearing; and running the Village in Bloom competition. Funding will also enable the recipients to compete in the South & South East in Bloom from which they received a Gold Award last year. The applicants have already been selected to be one of the four representatives of the region in the national Britain in Bloom competition, competing against the best villages in the UK.

2.4 **Burstow Church Tower Repairs £2,500 sponsored by Michael Sydney**

An application for funding to strengthen the church tower's structural and bell frame timbers has been received. If approved by the Local Committee, this funding would contribute towards the building works required to address the excessive movement of the timber tower during bell ringing due to age, rot and insect infestation. The cost of the project is estimated at £8,695 and contributions totalling £1,800 from the Surrey Association of Church Bell Ringers and Burstow Henry Smith Charities have already been received towards it.

2.5 **Felbridge Diamond Jubilee Country Show £1,000 sponsored by Michael Sydney**

Funding for a country show that will involve the whole community, build community spirit and enable individual groups/charities to promote and fundraise for their causes is being sought. While the show will be instigated in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year, the aim will be for it to continue and establish itself as an annual event. The Country Show will be open between 10am-5pm with a family disco in the Village Hall from 6pm-10pm. There will be a craft tent and a horticulture tent, in addition to arts groups in the Village Hall itself. There will be an indoor demonstration area as well as an outdoor area and a wide variety of food will be available throughout the day and evening provided by local vendors.

3 **BIDS APPROVED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

3.1 Under the terms of the constitution, bids up to a maximum of £1,000 can be approved outside of formal meetings under delegated authority and those approved since the last local committee are noted here.

3.2 **Oxted Young Persons Theatre £977 sponsored by Nick Skellett**

Funding was sought to give young people the opportunity to create, access and achieve in the arts by participating in weekly drama workshops, taking part in theatre projects with professional artists, visiting theatres/performances, galleries in the local community and training/career advice in the arts. The intention is that young people have the opportunity to develop core skills of positively engaging, creating and communicating.

3.3 **South Godstone Sports & Community Association £500 sponsored by Tony Elias**

Funding for the provision of nine replacement radiators was sought for the sports hall. This was to totally improve the current failing system and update the heating system. The sports hall is used by various indoor clubs and hired for social events, meetings, parties and receptions in South Godstone, Parish of Godstone and surrounding areas.

3.4 **South Godstone Youth Club £460 sponsored by Tony Elias**

Funding was sought for a youth club that would benefit local young people and the community as a whole. The club would provide young people with a

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safe place to meet together and enable organised sports, cooking, arts, leisure activities and other community-based activities like re-painting the scout hut, hedge cutting and cleaning the village pond to occur. Equipment and games would also be provided.

3.5 Felbridge Village Hall WiFi £350 sponsored by Michael Sydney

Funding was sought to purchase a router/hub for use with the existing phone line to enable users of the village hall to have access to the internet. This includes a daily playgroup, toddler group, ballet and dance school, horticultural society, women's institute, various fitness and dance groups.

3.6 Tandridge Stroke Club £1000 sponsored by Nick Skellett

Funding was sought for a club for clients who have suffered a stroke to provide a stimulating environment both physically and mentally. This will provide a respite break for carers and reduce social isolation for both those being cared for and the carer. The group will be available for 12-15 clients at any one time benefiting up to 50 clients and their carers during a year.

3.7 Lingfield Churchyard Maintenance Group £924 sponsored by Michael Sydney

Funding was sought for equipment to be used by the Lingfield Lower Churchyard Maintenance Group. This includes strimmers, a wheelbarrow and supplementary equipment to enable the continued use of the churchyard by the public for quiet contemplations and the observation of wildlife. The Group has a voluntary working party once a month.

3.8 The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons £1,000 sponsored by Michael Sydney

Funding was sought by Lingfield Parish Council and Dormansland Parish Council for the provision of two beacons (£500 each) to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 4 June 2012. The beacons will be utilised in local community celebrations.

4 OPTIONS

- 4.1 The Local Committee may choose to approve all, any or none of the proposals under discussion.

5 CONSULTATIONS

- 5.1 In relation to new bids, consultation, where appropriate, may have been undertaken by the organisation receiving funding, the local elected member or the Community Partnerships Team as required, depending on the nature of the project. Further details are available on request.

6 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 All bids are scrutinised to ensure that they comply with the Financial Framework and represent value for money.
- 6.2 If all the new bids detailed in this report are approved in full, when combined with the bids already approved under delegated authority, the overall budget will reduce by £8078 leaving a balance of £5475. A breakdown of capital and revenue costs is indicated in Annex A.

7 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Local Committee funding is available to all residents, community groups or organisations based in, or serving, Tandridge and places no further restrictions on who may apply. The success of a bid depends entirely upon its ability to meet the agreed criteria, which are flexible and cover a wide-ranging and diverse variety of projects. The local priorities specifically target vulnerable adults and children, and member funding continues to support projects which benefit disadvantaged local people.

8 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Local Committee funding may 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 protocol, which is available from the Community Partnerships Team.
- 9.2 The Local Committee is asked to consider the items submitted for funding from the 2011/12 Local Committee delegated budgets as detailed in the report.

10 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 All projects under consideration have been sponsored by, and have the support of, the appropriate Local Member or, for District-wide bids, the chairman. County members are requested to consider each of them on their individual merits and to decide, as a group, whether or not to approve them.

11 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 11.1 If approved by the Local Committee, applicants will be required to sign funding agreements for their projects based on the bids submitted.
- 11.2 Any amendments to an approved bid will be discussed with the local Member and the Chairman and, if the changes are considered to be significant, a revised bid will be brought back to Committee for approval.
- 11.3 In all other circumstances the Community Partnerships Team will process the payments as soon as possible once a signed agreement has been received.
- 11.4 As far as possible, within three months of completion, all successful applicants will be contacted for details of how the funding was spent and will be asked to supply evidence.
- 11.5 A breakdown of expenditure for the year will be brought to the local committee annually for information.
- 11.6 The closing date for applications to be decided at the next committee meeting on 29 June 2012 is **Monday 4 June 2012**, unless otherwise advised.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Local Committee Funding Bids; Constitution and Local Protocol