



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
(Epsom and Ewell)**

LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING

10 DECEMBER 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 (Epsom & Ewell) 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 this report and summarised below:

Organisation	Project Title	Amount
1st Cuddington (warspite) Sea Scouts	Secure Scouting At 1st Cuddington	£4,500
Epsom & Ewell Borough Council	Cox Lane Bmx/skate Facility	£10,000
Cuddington Croft Primary School Team	Wraparound/extended Care Provision	£1,000

- (ii) 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.

- (iii) Note any returned funding and/or adjustments, as set out within the report and at Appendix 1.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 At its 25 June 2012 Local Committee (Epsom and Ewell) meeting, councillors agreed that each member should have an equal share of the £35,000 capital budget (£7,000) alongside their individual £12,615 revenue allocations.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 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.

Secure Scouting At 1st Cuddington

Eber Kington	£1,000 capital
Chris Frost	£1,000 capital
Colin Taylor	£1,000 revenue
David Wood	£1,000 capital
Jan Mason	£500 capital

1st Cuddington (Warspite) Sea Scouts has submitted an application for a funding contribution of £5,000 towards the provision of a powder coated mesh fence.

The 1st Cuddington (Warspite) Sea Scouts wish to erect a new fence to secure the 1st Cuddington HQ – Fancourt Hall in Cunliffe Road, Stoneleigh. 1st Cuddington (Warspite) Sea Scouts have invested massively in their HQ at Fancourt Hall over the last 2 years - both in terms of funds and time. The massive improvements include the replacement of the roof and the windows. Not only have these massively improved the look of the building but they have increased the thermal and acoustic insulation of the building. The group has done this work after going through the proper due diligence of undertaking a planning application so that all options could be considered. They are absolutely delighted that thanks to the hard work of the members of the group and some generous support they have been able to rejuvenate Fancourt Hall without having to take the option of selling part of the land. It is now important that they replace the fence, which is 50 years old and failing rapidly with an appropriate and secure modern fence. This is what this project will look to do.

The 1st Cuddington (Warspite) Sea Scouts still have a serious problem with security. The original fence from the 1960s still protects the hall and it is insecure and an eyesore. They believe that replacing the fence will achieve two things:

- It will secure the property properly - adding to the safety of all concerned and helping to ensure that Scouts is available to all the young people of the area who may wish to participate.
- It will drastically improve the visual amenity of the area - removing a rusted chain link fence and replacing it with a modern, smart fence. They have received numerous comments from other local residents regarding the state of the fence and it's visual impact.

The reason why this is so important is that over the years The 1st Cuddington (Warspite) Sea Scouts have suffered real problems, acts of theft, assault and vandalism against property and individuals associated with the The 1st Cuddington (Warspite) Sea Scouts. Proper secure fencing will help make sure that those young people from all walks of life still get the opportunities The 1st Cuddington (Warspite) Sea Scouts can offer.

A good, secure fence will allow secure storage of assets such as trailers, prevent volunteer time being wasted on clearing up any damage and ensures that money and time invested in the community gives the best possible returns.

The total cost of the project is estimated to be £7,000 to £9,000 and The 1st Cuddington (Warspite) Sea Scouts have adequate reserves to meet the balance.

Cox Lane BMX/Skate Facility

Colin Taylor	£2,000 revenue
Chris Frost	£2,000 capital
Jan Mason	£3,000 capital
Eber Kington	£2,000 capital
David Wood	£1,000 capital

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council has submitted an application for a funding contribution of £10,000 to remove the outdoor basketball court and replace it with a bespoke concrete bmx/skate facility as designed by the local young people who wish to use it.

At the end of Cox Lane, opposite the Community Centre on the Watersedge Estate, there is a tired looking outdoor basketball court which is rarely used. The local young people have approached their Community Police Officers and their Ward Councillor to request if they can have a more popular facility built there. Specifically they have requested somewhere for them to ride their bikes and scooters as well as their skate boards. This facility will service the Watersedge estate as well as communities near Ruxley Lane and Chessington Road, providing an opportunity for a highly requested activity.

Ruxley Ward used to be known as a Self Reliance Area by Surrey County Council and Watersedge has since become a Stronger Neighbourhood Area as recognized by Epsom & Ewell's Local Strategic Partnership. This area has the lowest car ownership in the County so many of the families that live there do not have the opportunity to travel easily to other areas away from the estate. The Watersedge area also has the highest number of families with young children in "inappropriate housing" i.e. overcrowded accommodation and with no garden area for physical play within the Borough. In addition Ruxley Ward has the highest percentage of young people within the Borough and has very little play or outdoor sports opportunities to offer these young people. Any bmx/skate facility

built at Cox Lane will be a free facility which is much needed in this area due to the fact that the area has higher levels of income deprivation than others and therefore young people find it more difficult to access sports and leisure facilities generally due to cost. Despite all these statistics very little investment has been made within this area over the past 10 years.

The Borough's Open Spaces Audit (March 2006) highlighted there was a lack of play facilities particularly for young people aged 12-18 years. Suggestions included the installation of more skate facilities. The nearest bmx/skate facility for young people on the Watersedge estate is 2.6km away as the crow flies in Long Grove Park, Epsom and therefore significantly further with busy main roads to navigate. There has been a recent change to the only bus service to Epsom from the Watersedge estate and so young people will find it even more difficult to travel to and access the bmx/skate facility in Long Grove Park.

The Schools Consultation 2010 confirmed that the most popular activity that young people wanted to try was BMXing. The local young people from the Watersedge area have stated that they have a petition with 50 signed names on it all in support of the project. Both the local Police and Youth Development Officers have suggested that they are constantly asked when a bmx/skate facility will be built in the Watersedge area. The Council's Leisure Developments team has also received a number of queries asking if a bmx/skate facility can be built in the Ruxley area.

The total cost of the project is £84,204. Epsom and Ewell Borough Council have applied for £50,000 from Surrey County Council's Community Improvement Fund and £34,000 from Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, these funding requests are awaiting formal approval and the full amount requested may not be awarded hence the application from Members' Allocation funding.

Wraparound/Extended Care Provision

David Wood

£1,000 revenue

Cuddington Croft Primary School has submitted a retrospective application for a funding contribution of £1,000 towards constructing storage and kitchen facilities necessary to provide extended childcare provision before and after the school day. This is to provide storage for resources and facilities to prepare food for breakfast club and after school childcare. The need to provide extended care was identified by parental survey. The total cost of the project is £1,077 and the remaining funding is coming from the school's own budget. Please note that this project has already been completed in order that the extended service would be available for the new academic year.

3. DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVED BIDS

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

COUNCILLOR	PROJECT	AMOUNT
Chris Frost	Discovery Science Workshops - The Vale Primary School	£500
Chris Frost	Discovery Science Workshop - St Martin's CofE Infant School	£850
Chris Frost	Discovery Science Workshops - St Martin's CofE Junior School	£500
Jan Mason	Epsom And Ewell Boxing Club	£500

- 3.2 Members are requested to note that funding previously awarded to Epsom & Ewell High School to fund the project Epsom and Ewell High school musical instruments has been withdrawn and returned to Jan Mason's allocation.

Members are requested to note that funding previously awarded to Epsom & Ewell High School to fund the project Promoting Language Specialism has been withdrawn and returned to Jan Mason's allocation.

Members are requested to note that, in respect of the funding previously awarded to Auriol Bowling Club to fund the project Fencing to stop foxes digging up the bowling green surface, the project cost decreased from £1,000 to £711.57. Therefore an amount of £288.43 has been returned to Eber Kington's allocation.

4. OPTIONS

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

5. CONSULTATIONS

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 The appropriate Surrey County Council services and partner agencies are consulted when bids are submitted, as required.

6. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 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.

- 6.2 There are sufficient monies to fund all of the proposals contained within this report. If the above recommendations are approved the remaining are set out in the Chart in the Local Committee's financial position statement attached at Appendix 1.
- 6.3 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.

7. EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 Local Committee funding can be allocated to projects that benefit a diverse range of community safety needs.

8. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 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.

9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The Committee is being asked to decide on these bids so that the Community Partnerships Team can process the bids in line with the wishes of the Committee.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 10.1 If approved by the Local Committee, organisations will be approached to sign funding agreements for their projects based on the bids submitted.
- 10.2 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.
- 10.3 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

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