

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL****LOCAL COMMITTEE (RUNNYMEDE)****DATE: 13 MARCH 2017****LEAD OFFICER: MICHELLE COLLINS, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS TEAM  
LEADER WEST****SUBJECT: FUNDING FOR THE RUNNYMEDE COMMUNITY (2013-17)****DIVISION: ALL****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

This report provides a snapshot of local community projects, initiatives and infrastructure funded by Surrey County Council in the Runnymede area in the last four years. All have been funded through Member Allocations (allocated by the six county councillors for the area) or through the Community Improvements Fund (decided on by the Leader of the county council, based on advice from a panel of councillors).

The report does not provide a comprehensive list but a selection, with illustrations.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Local Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the report and the benefits to the Runnymede community from this public expenditure.

**This report is for information only.**

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The county councillors on the Runnymede local committee have access to Member Allocations Funding on an annual basis, to support:
- Community Wellbeing;
  - Economic prosperity;
  - Resident experience
- 1.1 As with all expenditure by the Council, spending of members' allocations should:
- Be directed to activities for which the County Council has legal powers;
  - Meet demonstrable local needs;
  - Deliver value for money, so that there is evidence of the outcomes achieved;
  - Be consistent with County Council policies;
  - Be approved through a process that is open and transparent.
- 1.2 Community groups approach their county councillor for financial assistance with an event or project which is coming up, and the councillor decides whether to support it financially and how much to award. The group then completes an online application form and payment is made soon after. All recently approved projects are reported in an annexe to the Member Allocations report to the Runnymede Local Committee, four times a year.
- 1.3 In 2013-14 each county councillor had £12,876 revenue and £5,833 capital to allocate. In 2014-15 each county councillor had £10,300 revenue and £5,833 capital to allocate. In 2015-16 the amount was reduced to £10,296 per county councillor, and in 2016-17 the amount per councillor has remained at £10,296 each.
- 1.4 The Community Improvements Fund (CIF) has been open to applications each year since 2012 ([www.surreycc.gov.uk/communityimprovementsfund](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/communityimprovementsfund) for details) with decisions taken centrally on which projects should be awarded capital improvements funding. The Runnymede area has had funding allocated in every year, and the successful organisations were as follows:
- Lyne Village Hall Committee
  - Kings Church - community building in Addlestone
  - The Journey River Church – for the Forest Estate Hub, Englefield Green
  - Egham Museum
  - Runnymede Foodbank (storage in Chertsey)
  - All Saints Church hall, New Haw
  - Egham Cricket Club pavilion

- Philip Southcote School, Addlestone Moor community café
- Chertsey Scouts – for a new HQ
- St John's Egham – Playbox Nursery outdoor area
- Runnymede Leisure – equipment at Kings Lane recreation ground

## 2. Member Allocations Funding Projects 2013-17

The following is a selection of projects funded by county councillors in Runnymede within the last four years. More examples can be viewed as News from Runnymede on the website: [www.surreycc.gov.uk/runnymede](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/runnymede)

### **Egham**

#### **Haven Children's Centre Outdoor Play**

Cllr Yvonna Lay allocated £634 to help fund the outdoor mud kitchen. This is great for the kids imagination and exploration as many children don't have the opportunity to play with mud and get dirty at home and offers new opportunities and experiences to play with different materials that they wouldn't normally get to experience.



#### **Runnymede Parkrun**

Marisa Heath, Chris Norman and Yvonna Lay contributed £250, £250 and £500 respectively to help launch Runnymede's first parkrun event in October 2016 at Homewood Park where 168 runners turned up, despite limited publicity. The parkrun is every Saturday morning, at Ottershaw Memorial Fields and remains popular.



#### **New Haw New doors at All Saints Church hall, New Haw**

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/runnymede](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/runnymede)



## ITEM 12

Mary Angell supported the purchase of some new doors for the church hall with £3,000 from her 2015-16 fund, as the old ones were deemed insecure and the hall was not very energy efficient. As a large number of groups use the hall the increased security and warmth, particularly in the winter, have been greatly appreciated.

### Virginia Water

#### New sofa for Virginia Water Library

In 2015 Mel Few contributed £495 to the Virginia Water Community Partnered Library for them to purchase a new sofa, to make sitting down to read a more comfortable and welcoming experience for its users. This followed an allocation of £2k in 2014 for a professional coffee machine, which has proved very useful.



#### Chertsey Black Cherry Fair

Over the last four years both John Furey and Chris Norman have allocated funds to pay for various elements of the ever-successful annual Black Cherry Fair held in Chertsey in July. In 2014, funds went towards the road closure which allowed for a procession with floats through the streets of Chertsey, when that year's theme was World War One.

### Borough-wide

#### Memory boxes for bereaved parents

The Runnymede county councillors supported the project with funds from their Members' Allocation. The funding was used to train young people – young offenders or those at risk of offending - to make the Memory Boxes during carpentry workshops. The finished boxes were then delivered to the neo-natal ward at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, to be given to bereaved parents whose new born children had died so that they could store keepsakes.



#### Egham – Magna Carta celebrations 2015



Chris Norman and Yvonna Lay contributed £5000 towards the Magna Carta community mosaics in the walkway to Waitrose from May 2015. The project was led by the Royal Holloway volunteering team who involved young people from five local schools and colleges in working with a mosaic artist to create the new murals in time for the June 2015 anniversary of 800 years of the Magna Carta, sealed at Runnymede Meadows.



Thorpe Ward residents were also awarded member allocations funding for these permanent planters for Magna

Carta 2015, in Egham Hythe and Thorpe.

## **CONCLUSION**

Communities within the Runnymede area have benefited from locally allocated funding from Surrey County Council which has been used to support public events, community buildings, services and support for vulnerable groups, young people, and the public at large. Bringing people together in this way helps to make the borough a more resilient and welcoming place.

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**Contact:** Local Support Assistant ([communitypartnerships@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:communitypartnerships@surreycc.gov.uk))

**Consulted:**

- Local Members have considered and vetted all applications.
- Community Partnerships Team assessed and processed all applications.

**Annexes:**

None

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