

## FINANCE AND STAFFING PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S MEETING

TUESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2017

### DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder's Meeting held on Tuesday, 21 November 2017. Decisions made by the Portfolio Holder will be subject to call-in. Recommendations made to the Cabinet or to the Council are not subject to call-in. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes. Information items will be recorded in the Minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Ian Senior.

#### 1. COMMUNITY CHEST: FUNDING APPLICATIONS

The Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder agreed the following:

Name of applicant	Project description	Total cost of project	Total awarded
Litlington Parish Council	Purchase an information lectern for the Community Wildlife Site	£1,413	£879
Litlington Pre-school	Purchase of play equipment	£3,335	£1,000
Friends of Hatton Park School	Purchase of a community notice board	£968.80	£968.80
Melbourn Bowls Club	Purchase of new scoreboards	£599.70	£599.70
The Whittlesford Lawn Trust	Replacement play equipment	£74,974.30	£1,000
Shepreth Spitfires Football Club	Purchase of equipment, e.g. goals and training and coaching costs	£1,693.00	£1,000
Cambourne United Football Club	Purchase of equipment for new girls team, e.g. balls, nets, posts & flags	£1,465	£1,000
Caxton Village Hall	Purchase of lino, curtain tracks, tables etc.	£2,565.28	£1,000
Home Start Royston & South Cambridgeshire	Purchase of a gazebo, table cloth & banners	£936	£936

Friends of Petersfield School	Sensory Garden	£1,000	£1,000
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The Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder refused the following application:

Name of applicant	Project description	Total cost of project	Total applied for	Reason for refusal
Guilden Morden Primary School	New outdoor equipment	£12,500	£1,000	Does not comply with Community Chest criteria

**Options Considered:** The Portfolio Holder may consider all applications for funding that are set out in Appendix A of this report and

- (a) award the amount of funding requested
- (b) award an alternative amount of funding, including zero funding, or
- (c) defer a decision if further information is required from grant applicants.

**Reason For Decision:** The Portfolio Holder has responsibility to approve policies and criteria for the approval of grant schemes under which no award exceeds level one (£5,000). The Portfolio Holder makes all decisions regarding grant funding unless there is a conflict of interest. On 17 July 2014 the Leader agreed to make decisions on future Community Chest applications at Portfolio Holder meetings. The responsibility for grants was transferred to the Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder in May 2016.

## 2. RURAL SETTLEMENTS LIST 2018-19

The Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder approved the Rural Settlement List for 2018-19 as attached at Appendix A to the report from the Executive Director, and authorises its publication.

**Options Considered:** To consider the boundaries for Rural Settlements within the district. The Council has a legal duty to set and publish the list in order to facilitate the award of Rural Rate Relief.

**Reason For Decision:** The Council is required to determine annually the rural settlements within its area where the population of the settlement is less than 3,000, and to publish a list of settlements indicating their boundaries before 31<sup>st</sup> December each year.

## 3. LOCALISED COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME (RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL)

The Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder noted the report, and recommended to Full Council (at the January 2018 meeting) that the current scheme be continued into 2018-19 with minor technical changes where necessary.

**Options Considered: Option1** – Continue with the current scheme with the minor technical changes which have been consulted

**Option 2** – Consult upon and design an alternative amended scheme for operation in 2018/19

**Reason For Decision:** The current Localised Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS) has

been in operation since April 2013 and remains almost unchanged since implementation. The general principles of the scheme are of a maximum of 91.5% LCTS for those who are not in protected groups remains currently viable. The continuation of the scheme with some minor technical changes will allow time to evaluate the administration impact of Universal Credit Full Service roll out which for the majority of South Cambridgeshire residents begins in June 2018. A consultation exercise has been undertaken and all respondents agreed with the proposed changes to the scheme as detailed within this report.