



Report To: Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder
Lead Officer: Director, Health and Environmental Services

17 October 2017

Community Chest: Funding Applications

Purpose

1. To consider recent applications for funding from the Community Chest grant funding scheme during 2017/18.
2. This is not a key decision, however, has been bought before the Portfolio Holder following agreement at Leader's Portfolio Holder meeting on 17 July 2014 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.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that the Portfolio Holder:
 - (a) considers all new applications for funding that are set out in Appendix A of this report and makes a decision regarding the level of funding (£0 - £1,000) to be awarded for each or defer a decision if further information is required from grant applicants.

Reasons for Recommendations

4. 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).
5. 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.

Background

6. The Community Chest is grant funding available to voluntary and community sector groups, charities, parish councils and public sector bodies wishing to further improve quality of life in South Cambridgeshire. Applicants may apply for up to £1,000 for:
 - Improvements to community facilities (i.e. village halls / pavilions / play areas)
 - Repairs to historic buildings / monuments / memorials
 - Tree and hedge planting
 - Equipment / capital purchase
 - Materials
 - Start-up costs (may include training of staff / volunteers, hall hire and other revenue costs).
7. The guidance notes and eligibility criteria for 2017/18 can be found at <https://www.scamb.gov.uk/communitychest>

8. The amount of funding made available in the Community Chest in 2017/18 was £55,000. At the Finance & Staffing Portfolio Holder meeting on the 22 August and additional £30,000 was allocated to the fund, following the withdrawal of funding from an expired capital grant, bringing the total for 2017/18 to £85,000. The funding is allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

Considerations

9. There are 11 applications for funding to be considered at this meeting. The applications were received between 1 September 2017 and 30 September 2017.

In addition there was one application received from overseas. This has not been included for consideration.

The total funding requested equals £9,121.00. The amount of funding remaining for allocation is £ 26,790.62

A summary of the applications can be found at Appendix A (copies of the application forms are available from the Sustainable Communities and Partnerships Team upon request).

Options

10. 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.

Implications

11. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk management, equality and diversity, climate change, community safety and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered:

Risk Management

12. Applicants are required to provide supporting documents such as copies of their constitution and quotes where applicable. Applicants must agree to the grant conditions before funds are released.

Consultation responses

13. Local members have been consulted on applications that directly affect their local area.
14. The Youth Council has been consulted on applications of interest.

Effect on Strategic Aims

15. The corporate aims are referenced in the criteria and guidance notes for the Community Chest.

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