

## SCRUTINY - 10<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014

### PARISH AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVE FUND ALLOCATION OF GRANTS FOR 2014/2015

### REPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE (COMMUNITY DIRECTION)



#### WARDS AFFECTED: ALL PARISH WARDS

---

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To request the Scrutiny Commission approve the allocation of grants through the Parish and Community Initiative Fund 2014/15.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Scrutiny Commission supports the funding allocations of £98,549 as detailed in section 4, from the Parish and Community Initiative Fund 2014.
- 2.2 That the Scrutiny Commission supports the carry forward request of £16,488 allowing previous years schemes to be completed.

#### 3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

- 3.1 Since 2005 the Parish Community Initiative Fund has distributed over £749,000 towards 172 schemes to local parishes or voluntary organisations.
- 3.2 In 2013/14 the scheme received 27 applications from across the Borough and a total of £84,382 was awarded to 26 schemes

#### 4. APPLICATIONS FOR 2014/15

- 4.1 The table in Appendix 1 of this report provides an objective scoring summary of the assessments made of all the applications by the Green Space Team.
- 4.2 The assessment panel then determined grants to be allocated. This panel consisted of Caroline Roffey Head of Street Scene Services, Ian Pinfold – Green Space Manager, Edwina Grant – Strategic and Community Planning Officer, Paul Scragg – Senior Green Space Officer, Chris Pocock - Green Space Officer and Susan Chambers Green Space Officer
- 4.3 The maximum amount of funding available to each Parish is £10,000. The grant will fund a maximum of 50% of the project costs. Each applicant must seek support from their Parish Council and Borough Councillor. Only capital items are funded, the lowest submitted quote has been used to calculate the maximum eligible grant.

29 applications have been received requesting a total of £129,628.

- 4.4 Based on the information in Appendix 1 the assessment panel recommends funding the following schemes totalling £98,549: (Applications are set out in alphabetical order by parish and parish name is given in brackets)

1. Organ Restoration – St Peter’s Church, Thornton. (Bagworth & Thornton)  
Outline: Restoration of the church organ: £8,000
2. Replacement of Boiler – Barlestone Parish Church. (Barlestone)  
Outline: To replace the old boiler with a new more energy efficient model:  
£2,259
3. Footpath Resurfacing – Barlestone Parish Council. (Barlestone)  
Outline: resurfacing of footpath at Bosworth Road park to improve access:  
£4,925
4. Meeting point Children’s area – Elohim Church Hub. (Barlestone)  
Outline: Flooring and toddler play equipment for a community room at  
Elohim Church: £1,346
5. Resurfacing of play area car park – Barwell Parish Council. (Barwell)  
Outline: Resurfacing of a play area car park at Dovecote Way play area:  
£2,707
6. Public Address System and T Loop – George Ward Centre. (Barwell)  
Outline: Installation of a PA system and T Loop for the hard of hearing in a  
meeting hall at the George Ward Centre: £2,039
7. WW1 Commemorations – Barwell Parish Council. (Barwell)  
Outline: The installation of a hanging basket tree at Barwell War Memorial  
in commemoration of WW1: £600
8. Footpath Extension – Burbage Parish Council. (Burbage)  
Outline: The installation of a new footpath at Brookside Recreation  
Ground: £6,384
9. Community Defibrillator Project – Cadeby Parish Council. (Cadeby)  
Outline: The installation of a defibrillator for use in emergency by the  
general public: £1,000
10. Community Church Project – Cadeby Parish Council. (Cadeby)  
Outline: Restoration works to All Saints Church in Cadeby: £4,233
11. Footpath improvement Project – Carlton Parish Council. (Carlton)  
Outline: Installation of kissing gates to improve public access on  
footpaths in Carlton Parish: £1,404
12. Energy saving improvements – Desford Free Church (Desford)  
Outline: Insulation and draught exclusion works to improve energy  
efficiency at Desford Free Church: £510
13. Projection Facilities – Sport in Desford (Desford)  
Outline: The provision of a projector, computer and screen for use by a  
variety of groups for presentations and training: £450

14. Resurfacing and Site Interpretation – Earl Shilton Town Council (Earl Shilton)  
Outline: Resurfacing of an area of QE11 Hallfield Park, with block paving and the installation of an interpretive plaque: £6,750
15. Family Inclusive Sports Area – Groby Parish Council (Groby)  
Outline: The installation of a Multi-use Games Area at Quarry Park in Groby: £5,000
16. Renovation of Village Hall – Groby Village Hall Charitable Trust (Groby)  
Outline: Re-pointing of Groby Village Hall to help preserve the building: £2,100
17. Play Area improvements – Market Bosworth Parish Council (Market Bosworth)  
Outline: The installation of new safety surfacing to improve the play area at Waterside Mede in market Bosworth: £2,242
18. Furniture for Parish Hall – Market Bosworth Parish Hall management Committee (Market Bosworth)  
Outline: New furniture for newly refurbished Market Bosworth Parish Hall: £3,000
19. Play Area Improvements – Markfield Parish Council (Markfield)  
Outline: Play area improvements at Mayflower Close Play Area: £5,850
20. Community Defibrillator Project – Nailstone Parish Council (Nailstone)  
Outline: The installation of a defibrillator for use in emergency by the general public: £1,062
21. Community Defibrillator Project – Newbold Verdon Parish Council (Newbold Verdon)  
Outline: The installation of a defibrillator for use in emergency by the general public: £1,062
22. Outdoor Gym Equipment – Peckleton Parish Council (Peckleton)  
Outline: The installation of outdoor gym equipment at Stapleton recreation ground: £3,500
23. Play area fencing – Peckleton Parish Council (Peckleton)  
Outline: Fencing for the play area at Kirkby Mallory recreation ground to improve safety: £2,904
24. Church Tower repairs – St Martin’s Church DCC (Peckleton)  
Outline: repairs to the tower at St Martin’s Church in Stapleton: £3,596
25. Community Defibrillator Project – Ratby Parish Council (Ratby)  
Outline: The installation of a defibrillator for use in emergency by the general public: £1,152

26. Disabled pathway in the glade – Sheepy Parish Council (Sheepy Magna)  
Outline: The construction of a surface pathway at Sheepy Glade situated on Sheepy Playing Fields: £4,250
27. Play area improvements – Stanton under Bardon Parish Council (Stanton under Bardon)  
Outline: Play area improvements at Main Street recreation ground, Stanton under Bardon: £8,394
28. Dadlington Village Hall Kitchen Extension – Dadlington Village Hall Management Committee (Sutton Cheney)  
Outline: Construction of an extension to provide a new kitchen facility: £10,000
29. Repair and care project – St Peter’s Church Parochial Church Council (Witherley)  
Outline: Repairs and improvements to Witherley Parish Rooms for use by the community: £1,830

The Assessment panel recommends **rejecting** the following application:

1. New Club House Project – Market Bosworth Sports Club (Market Bosworth)  
Outline: The building of a new club house at market Bosworth Sports Club.  
Rationale: The application failed to meet the essential criteria as there is currently no planning permission for the new building and no planning application has been submitted. The total cost of the scheme is estimated at £343,000 and no further funding has yet been confirmed. The scheme was considered unlikely to be delivered in the next 12 months and we would suggest the applicant reappplies for funding next year.

#### 4.5 Previous Years Applications

There is 1 grant totaling £4,000 which was approved in 2012/13 where works are currently underway and are scheduled for completion in April 2014. This is: St Peter’s church toilet provision at Higham-on-the-Hill. There are 3 grants totaling £12,488, which were approved for 2013/14 where projects have been delayed. These will be completed in 2014/15. These are: Hard surface for basket ball net at Kirkby Mallory £2,493, Scout Hut improvements at Groby £5,000 and Outdoor gym and fitness equipment at Stoke Golding £4,995

### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (IB)

- 5.1 The total capital budget for 2014/15 is £100,000. The total grants recommended for approval is £98,549.
- 5.2 To allow for the carry forward of the 4 projects in 4.5 above the capital budget will be increased by £16,488. For 2014/15 after allowing for the carry forward request and the recommended bids a revised budget of £115,037 is being requested. If approved, these budget revisions will form part of the year end outturn process.

6. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (MR)**

- 6.1 The Local Government Act 2000 empowers the Council to give financial assistance where it considers that that expenditure promotes the economic social or environmental well being of the borough.

7. **CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The Parish & Community Initiative fund supports parishes and community groups to achieve the following aims and objectives of the Corporate Performance Plan:

- Creating a vibrant place to work and live
- Empowering Communities
- Providing value for money and pro-active services

8. **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

The projects rely on third party delivery and there is therefore a risk that some of the projects may not be delivered. – Only projects that are likely to be completed in the following 12 months are recommended for funding.

Misuse of funds – funding for projects is only released once scheme is completed and evidence of completion and payment of the works is received.

9. **KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

All grants are awarded to the rural areas, and parish council support is sought for each application.

10. **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety implications
- Environmental implications
- ICT implications
- Asset Management implications
- Human Resources implications
- Planning Implications - some schemes will require planning consent
- Voluntary Sector

---

Background papers: Appendix 1 attached

Contact Officer: Paul Scragg – Senior Green Space Officer x5983

Executive Member: Cllr B Crooks – Executive Member for Rural Issues