

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Cabinet Member for Performance and Capacity

Date of meeting: 9 August 2010
Report of: Head of Policy & Performance
Title: Community Grants

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To determine the award of Community Grants to voluntary and community organisations which meet the criteria approved by Cheshire East Council. The Council recognises the valuable input that the voluntary and community sector brings to the quality of life in the community. Funding is focused on those organisations that complement the aims and objectives of the Corporate Plan.
- 1.2 The Report covers the second round of grants for 2010/11, and makes recommendations in line with Cheshire East Council's Policy for the Allocation of Grants.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the following Community Grants be awarded/declined/deferred:

1)	Sol Theatre School be	awarded £250
2)	All Saints Church, Macclesfield be	awarded £250
3)	Nantwich Choral Society be	awarded £250
4)	Congleton Lions Club be	awarded £250
5)	St. Peters Church, Congleton be	awarded £250
6)	South Cheshire Clasp be	awarded £250
7)	Crewe & Nantwich Allotment Association be	awarded £250
8)	Greenspaces South Cheshire CIC be	awarded £250
9)	Congleton Pentecostal Church (Play scheme) be	awarded £250
10)	Crewe & Nantwich Senior Voice be	awarded £250
11)	Must See Musicals be	awarded £250
12)	Macclesfield Art Group be	awarded £250
13)	O.C.E.A.N. (Organisation Caring for Ethnic and All Nations) be	awarded £250
14)	Sandbach Today be	awarded £250
15)	Alsager Carnival Committee be	awarded £250
16)	Sandbach Concert Series be	awarded £250
17)	Bexton Pre-School be	declined
18)	Weston Cricket Club be	awarded £500
19)	Poynton Bowling Club be	awarded £376
20)	Cheshire A Cappella be	awarded £500
21)	Alexandra Soccer Centre Lions Jnr. F.C. be	awarded £500
22)	Disley Methodist Church & Community Hall be	awarded £500
23)	Liberty Dance Troupe be	awarded £500

24) Poynton Home Gardeners Club be	awarded £275
25) Childminders Support Group be	declined
26) Cheshire Peaks and Plains be	declined
27) Cheshire East Netball Club be	awarded £405
28) Acton Nomads RFC be	awarded £500
29) Breeze C.I.C. be	deferred
30) Plumley Village Hall Committee be	awarded £500
31) Shavington-cum-Gresty Drama Group be	awarded £200
32) Poynton Christian Fellowship be	awarded £500
33) Weston & Ivy Ward Dev. Group be	awarded £350
34) Polish Saturday Club be	awarded £200
35) 1 st Sutton Scouts & Guides be	awarded £709
36) Mount Pleasant & Mow Cop Village Hall be	awarded £1,500
37) Age Concern Cheshire be	awarded £1,500
38) Weston Comm. Dev. Group be	awarded £400
39) St. Peters Community Hall be	awarded £500
40) Rainow Women's Institute be	awarded £500
41) Marriott House Veterans Association be	awarded £890
42) Friends of Pleasure Play Area be	awarded £1,500

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations (Details of Grants)

3.1 EVENTS (UP TO £250)

Sol Theatre School (CGA.46)

All Saints Church (CGA.48)

Nantwich Choral Society (CGA.54)

Congleton Lions Club (CGA.65)

St. Peters Church (CGA.67)

Crewe & Nantwich Allotment Association (CGA.72)

Greenspaces South Cheshire (CGA.74)

Congleton Pentecostal Church (CGA.85)

Crewe & Nantwich Senior Voice (CGA.76)

Must See Musicals (CGA.77)

Macclesfield Art Group (CGA.83)

Sandbach Today (CGA.88)

Alsager Carnival Committee (CGA.68)

Sandbach Concert Series (CGA.60)

The above events are all annual productions/events, some with quite high costs and receive income from ticket sales as well as refreshments, programmes etc. These events are important to Cheshire East district as they do make a difference to local residents by way of enabling them to see local talent performing at reasonable prices. It is recommended that they all be awarded a grant of £250 and that their profit/loss for the events be monitored

South Cheshire CLASP (CGA.58)

The project is for a "one off" five week training course for single parents. The total cost is £1,780 and it is recommended they be awarded £250 as it is a short term project.

O.C.E.A.N. (Organisation Caring for Ethnic and all Nations) (CGA.81)

The project is to run a 12 week dance course which is a “one off” event. It is recommended they be awarded £250.

3.2 ACTIVITIES (up to £500)

Bexton Pre School (CGA.47)

The project is to purchase outdoor clothing for the children to allow them to play outside in all weathers. The group are requesting the full amount of £432 and it is recommended they be declined a grant as the clothing does not aid development of the children.

Weston Cricket Club (CGA.57)

The club require a new mower as the existing mower is old and difficult to now find replacement parts. They have secured some funding from external sources and using some of their own funds. It is recommended they be awarded £500.

Poynton Bowling Club (CGA.63)

The project is to purchase new sets of bowls and to hire coaches to train and promote and develop the junior coaching scheme which is very popular. The total project amount is £536 and it is recommended they be awarded the balance required of £376.

Cheshire A Cappella (CGA.62)

The project is to run workshops to encourage new women to join the group also for training for the existing singers and to purchase portable stage risers to enable them to have the right equipment when performing concerts in various venues. The total cost of the project is £3,462 and they have secured some of their own funding. It is recommended they be awarded £500

Alexandra Soccer Centre Lions Jnr. F.C. (CGA.50)

The project is for junior football coaching and pitch hire to enable the coaching sessions to go ahead for juniors to develop their skills. The total project cost is £648 and it is recommended they be awarded £500.

Disley Methodist Church & Community Hall (CGA.70)

The group would like to install a suspended projector as the community hall is well used and this type of equipment would greatly benefit the users rather than a free standing projector. The total project cost is £1,866 and they are committing their own funds. It is recommended they be awarded £500

Liberty Dance Troupe (CGA.75)

This is a new dance troupe who have been using second hand uniforms and would now like to purchase their own. The total project cost is £1452 and it is recommended they be awarded £500.

Poynton Home Gardeners Club (CGA.52)

The group meet regularly and invite specialist speakers to give talks on various aspects of gardening. The majority of members are elderly and some have difficulty hearing and the project is to purchase a microphone system. Their funding comes from plant sales and fundraising so have very little to spend on this

equipment. The project cost is £475 and it is recommended they be awarded £275.

Childminders Support Group (CGA.86)

This is a small group of childminders who meet once a week. They do not meet the criteria as they have no accounts, bank account or constitution and it is therefore recommended they be declined a grant and advise them that in order to receive funding they need procedures in place and offer assistance if required.

Cheshire Peaks & Plains (CGA.66)

The organisation is working within the rural areas in Macclesfield/Poynton and the project is to purchase a mobile SID and rural watch signs. It is recommended they be declined a grant and that they approach Highways Department for the funding.

Cheshire East Netball Club (CGA.79)

The project is to pay for facility hire for 12 months and also kit. The club play in the Cheshire League and in order to develop further and increase membership they need extra kit. The total cost of the project is £897 and it is recommended they be awarded £405 for the cost of new kit.

Acton Nomads RFC (CGA.82)

The project is to purchase new training equipment. The membership is quite healthy and they are forecasting an increase in the next 12 months. They do have some reserves which is required for pitch hire. The total project cost is £787 and it is recommended they be awarded £500.

Breeze C.I.C. (CGA.81)

The project is to set up an allotment area with the intention of contracting with local health and mental health services etc. It is recommended the grant be deferred awaiting accounts.

Plumley Village Hall Committee (CGA.87)

The Committee require a hearing loop system for the village hall to aid people with hearing problems. The hall is regularly used and this would add to the accessibility for all. The total project cost is £1,300 and it is recommended they be awarded £500.

Shavington-cum-Gresty Drama Group (CGA.78)

The project is to purchase materials for re-usable stage sets. It is a small amount and they do have funding in their accounts to cover this but some will be used to cover the costs of performances. The project cost is £325 and it is recommended they be awarded £200

Poynton Christian Fellowship (CGA.89)

The project is to purchase Nintendo Wii's and associated equipment to try and stop some of the anti-social behaviour by youths in the area. Also it will be used by senior citizens as there are few leisure activities for this age range. The project is supported by the LAP Manager. The total project cost is £1,200 and it is recommended they be awarded £500 with the remaining costs being secured from other funders.

Weston and Ivy Ward Dev. Group (CGA.90)

The group are setting up a cycling project to hold workshops to teach local residents to repair and maintain their own cycles, road safety training and to rebuild donated cycles. The total project costs are £500 and they have £150 towards the core costs and it is recommended they be awarded the balance of £350

Polish Saturday Club (CGA.24)

The club is run for children and the project is to purchase a computer, pens, books etc. They only have a limited budget as most of their funds are used for room hire. The total project cost is £500 for which CHAWREC (Cheshire, Halton & Warrington Race Equality Council) have given £300 and it is recommended they be awarded £200.

3.3 FACILITIES (up to £1,500)

1st Sutton Scouts and Guides (CGA.45)

The current cooker and hob is now too small as the scout hut is used by a number of community groups for various functions and a larger cooker would greatly add to the use of the hut. The group can match fund the project which has a total cost of £1,418 and it is therefore recommended they be awarded £709.

Mount Pleasant and Mow Cop Village Hall (CGA.53)

The project is to replace old wooden windows with upvc double glazing and a new fire door to the rear of the building. The hall is well used by a wide variety of community groups but they do not have sufficient funds to carry out the repairs themselves. The total project cost is £1,998 and it is recommended they be awarded £1,500.

Age Concern Cheshire (CGA.59)

Men In Sheds is a community project for older men who find themselves on their own. It will provide opportunities to share and learn new skills, make friends, improve self esteem etc. Age Concern have secured a large amount of funding from The Big Lottery to carry out the project throughout Cheshire East and West but require smaller amounts for topping up funding for individual "sheds". The total project cost is £29,470 and it is recommended they be awarded £1,500.

Weston Community Development Group (CGA.61)

The project is to install CCTV cameras on the Community Centre to discourage/deter vandalism and make the residents in the adjoining properties feel more secure. They have very little of their own funding and the project is being supported by the local Councillor. The total project cost is £452 and they can contribute £52. It is recommended they be awarded £400.

St. Peters Community Hall (CGA.64)

The group are in the process of completing their new build community hall and now actively seeking funding for furnishings. The project is to purchase stackable chairs and folding tables. They do have some funding towards the project which is £1,867 and it is recommended they be awarded £500.

Rainow Women's Institute (CGA.55)

The group would like to purchase new chairs for the hall as the existing chairs are old and uncomfortable. The hall is used by a variety of groups and they do not

have the funds to purchase the full quantity required. The full project cost is £656 and it is recommended they be awarded £500.

Marriott House Veterans Association (CGA.69)

The project is to upgrade the existing boiler which is old and expensive to run with a condensing boiler which is much more efficient. They do have some of their own funds and based on the cheapest quote of £1,780 it is recommended they be awarded match funding of £890.

Friends for Pleasure Play Area (CGA.71)

The grant is required towards third party funding (WREN) towards the project which is to install new play area/equipment. The total project cost is £45,000 and it is recommended they be awarded £1,500.

4.0 Wards Affected

4.1 All wards within Cheshire East Council

5.0 Local Ward Members

5.1 All Wards within Cheshire East Council

6.0 Policy Implications

6.1 Positive impact

7.0 Financial Implications 2010/11 and beyond (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)

7.1 All of the proposed grants can be funded from within existing budgets approved as part of the Council's Budget for 2010/11

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

8.1 In awarding grants, the Council has ensured that in each case it has the legal power to fund the proposed scheme. In addition in all cases there is a condition requiring a report back to the Council on the expenditure of the grant and consideration has been given in each case to the imposition of other appropriate conditions.

8.2 The Council's legal powers for awarding these grants are contained in various statutes, including Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, and Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000. In addition, the Council has ensured that there is a transparent process and policy in respect of determining the level of grant subsidy to any community group.

9.0 Risk Management

10.1 None

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 Applications received and allocated in accordance with Cheshire East Council's Policy for the Allocation of Community Grants.

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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