

# **Cabinet Member for Strategic Communities**

## **Agenda**

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**Date:** Monday 30th July 2012  
**Time:** 10.00 am  
**Venue:** Committee Suite 1 & 2, Westfields, Middlewich Road,  
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

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The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

### **PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT**

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

3. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos.11 and 35 a period of 10 minutes is allocated for members of the public to address the meeting on any matter relevant to the work of the meeting. Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes but the Chairman or person presiding will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned where there are a number of speakers. Members of the public are not required to give notice to use this facility. However, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours' notice is encouraged.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide at least three clear working days' notice in writing and should include the question with that notice. This will enable an informed answer to be given.

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For requests for further information

**Contact:** Paul Mountford

**Tel:** 01270 686472

**E-Mail:** paul.mountford@cheshireeast.gov.uk with any apologies

4. **Policy for the Allocation of Grants** (Pages 1 - 8)

To consider a report requesting that the existing policy for the allocation of Community Grants be amended to allow applications to be accepted from Town and Parish Councils in order for them to hold funds on behalf of establishing Community Led Planning groups, for the next and subsequent financial years.

5. **Community Grants** (Pages 9 - 18)

To determine the award of Community Grants to Voluntary and Community Organisations, which meet the criteria approved by Cheshire East Council.

**THERE ARE NO PART 2 ITEMS**

## **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

### **Cabinet Member for Strategic Communities**

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> July 2012
<b>Report of:</b>	Partnerships Manager
<b>Subject/Title:</b>	Policy for the Allocation of Grants
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Councillor David Brown

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#### **1.0 Report Summary**

- 1.1.1 To amend the existing policy for the allocation of Community Grants. This will allow applications to be accepted from Town & Parish Councils, in order for them to hold funds on behalf of establishing Community Led Planning groups, for the next and subsequent financial years.

#### **2.0 Decision Requested**

- 2.1 To adopt the amended policy for the allocation of Community Grants that allows applications to be accepted from Town and Parish Councils.

#### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 3.1 The Council recognises the valuable input that the voluntary and community sector brings to the quality of life in the community and the scheme has enabled funding to be focused on those organisations that complement the aims and objectives of the Corporate Plan. A large number of organisations have received funding which has enabled a wealth of community activity to take place. A similar demand for funding is anticipated in the future. The draft Policy is appended to this report.

#### **4 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 The recommendations relate to all wards within Cheshire East

#### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 All Ward members

#### **6.0 Policy Implications including – Carbon Reduction - Health**

- 6.1 Positive impact

#### **7.0 Financial Implications (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)**

- 7.1 The recommendations will enable grant applications for 2012/2013 to be funded within existing budget provision.

## **8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)**

- 8.1 In awarding grants, the Council must ensure that in each case it has the legal power to fund the proposed scheme. In all cases there is a condition requiring a report back to the Council on the expenditure of the grant. Consideration should also be 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 should ensure 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**

- 9.1 The risk of not agreeing an approach to funding the community and voluntary sector is that some organisations may be unable to continue their activities, resulting in a loss of community benefit. This is a particular issue during an economic downturn when other funding sources may not be available.

## **10.0 Background and Options**

- 10.1 A decision is required to enable Town and Parish Councils to hold funds on behalf of establishing Community Led Planning groups.

## **11.0 Access to Information**

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

Name: Lynsey Cooper

Designation: Local Area Partnership Administrator

Tel No: 01270 685809

Email: [lynsey.cooper@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:lynsey.cooper@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

POLICY FOR THE  
ALLOCATION OF  
COMMUNITY GRANTS  
2012/13

Revised July 2012

## **1.0 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Cheshire East Council operates a Community Grants Scheme within the boundaries of Cheshire East. This Policy addresses the governance arrangements, procedures and monitoring process to facilitate the scheme.
- 1.2 The aim of the Grants Scheme is to support small scale community projects that will improve the quality of life for local communities. Grants will be awarded to organisations projects or events which meet the priorities in the Sustainable Community Strategy – Ambition for All.
- 1.3 When using the term grants in this Policy it refers to the giving of a set amount of Council funds to organisations through an application and assessment process 4 times each financial year.
- 1.4 Administration of the Community Grants Scheme is through the Performance and Partnerships Team within the Places and Organisational Capacity Directorate.

## **2.0 LEGAL AND BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**

- 2.1 The Cheshire East Borough Council Constitution states that each Cabinet Member is responsible for:
  - 2.1.1 Ensuring that budget control and financial monitoring is within the scope of their Portfolio;
  - 2.1.2 Approving the use of specific grants/and or funding for non-government sources and any annual delivery plans and agreements in relation to such funding.
- 2.2 The Performance and Capacity Portfolio Holder will be responsible for the Community Grants Scheme and has delegated authority to approve applications for grants from local organisations to assist in developing community based activities and projects, subject to the maximum amounts set out in paragraph 3.2 of this Policy.
- 2.3 In order to assist the Portfolio Holder with the decision making process, The Partnerships Team Officers will offer administrative and professional support to ensure that all grants are made in accordance with the criteria set for grant applications.
- 2.4 All grant decisions will be made based on affordability criteria and within the agreed budget approved by Council each year.
- 2.5 The Portfolio Holder will be responsible for setting aside a proportion of the budget for promotion and publicity purposes, as required.

## **3.0 APPLICATION PROCESS**

- 3.1 The Cheshire East Community Grants Scheme operates within set criteria, agreed by the Portfolio Holder and relevant Council Officers in line with the Council's Corporate Priorities.

### **3.2 What can be funded**

Grants up to the following amounts are available to support community, environmental, sports, arts, heritage and play projects, activities or events. See examples below:

***Facilities – up to a maximum award of £3,000***

- a) Renovations or improvements to buildings, play areas, conservation areas (not sports grounds or single use sports clubs);
- b) Grant towards third party funding e.g. WREN;
- c) Equipment for (a) above i.e. kitchen furniture, tables, chairs etc.
- d) Feasibility studies or architects fees up to a maximum of 5% of the costs.

***Activities – up to a maximum award of £500***

- a) Equipment/materials to help the organisation develop;
- b) Training courses;
- c) Specialist coaching or teaching sessions;
- d) Contributions towards facility hire (new groups only).

***Events – up to a maximum award of £250***

- a) Hire of facilities for rehearsals, workshops or events;
- b) Hire of equipment;
- c) Performers;
- d) Publicity.

***Community Led Planning – can apply for both of the grants below but not at the same time***

1. **Community-led Plan Starter Grant, up to a maximum of £250** for initial start up costs of developing a Community-led planning group.
2. **Community-led Plan Development Grant, up to a maximum of £500** for costs involved in the development of the Community-led Plan and Action Plan. The Development Grant can be used for :
  - a) Equipment/materials to help the group develop;
  - b) Training;
  - c) Specialist advice and support;
  - d) Contributions towards facility hire.

**3.3 What cannot be funded**

- Organisations which hold substantial free reserves, including local branches of national or regional organisation which hold free reserves which could be utilised;
- Applications from Town and Parish Councils;
- Work which has already taken place before receipt of offer letter;
- Individuals;
- General appeals, sponsorship or fundraising for national or local charities (including local branches) or other local organisations;
- Activities of a mainly political or religious nature;
- Assistance with providing transport;
- Refreshments and/or accommodation;
- Outings or day trips;
- Travel expenses;
- Projects, activities or events organised for the sole benefit of pupils of a school or college;
- Events which do not involve members of the local community participating;
- Repair costs where deterioration is due to neglect;
- Churches, where the project is related only to religious services or activity;
- Loan against loss or debt;
- Administration expenses e.g. postage, telephone, utilities etc.

- Running Costs e.g. gas, electricity, water, salaries, insurance.
- Land purchase;
- Vehicle purchase;
- Disabled facilities where there is no proven need for the work to be carried out or where upgrading is required for an existing facility to meet the statutory requirements of the DDA.

Note – Where applications are made under the community led planning, starter grant category applications can be accepted from Parish or Town Councils to hold funds for the community led planning group whilst they establish if the community is interested in undertaking a community led plan.

### 3.4 Who can apply

To qualify for a grant organisations must meet the criteria listed below:

- Operate within the Cheshire East area;
- Provide value for money
- Be a voluntary or community organisation or registered charity;
- Have a set of accounts or as a minimum an organisation bank statement;
- Have a properly constituted management committee with a signed constitution;
- Have appropriate safeguarding policies relevant to their organisation where children, young people or vulnerable adults are involved;
- Have their own bank or building society account with two signatories;
- Not have received a community grant in the current financial year.

### 3.5 Criteria for Funding

Priority will be given to applications for projects and activities which:

- Enhance the quality of life for Cheshire East residents;
- Support the priorities identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy Ambition for All;
- Increase involvement in the community;
- Attract more participants/volunteers;
- Demonstrate the potential to be sustained in the future;
- Show innovation and creativity;
- Have funding contributions from the organisations own funds and/or funding support from other bodies in place or promised;
- Provide direct participation by members of the local community via workshops, dance, music, sport etc.

### 3.6 General Conditions

- Grants are classed as one-off and should not be seen as repeat funding;
- Grants are awarded specifically for the purpose stated in the application. Should it be spent in any other way, without prior approval of the Portfolio Holder, the organisation may become liable to return the monies paid.
- Annual applications from the same organisation for the same purpose will not be considered;
- Grants for £500 and below will be paid in advance. A report and invoices or receipts must be forwarded to the Grants Officer within 6 months of the date of offer letter;
- Grants above £500 will be paid upon completion of the project. A report and invoices or receipts must be forwarded to the Grants Officer within 12 months of the date of offer letter;
- Organisations who are in receipt of other funding from the Council may apply to this grant scheme if the grant is required for a one-off project which is considered additional to the service already funded;
- Any profits from events must be used to further develop the organisation or for any future events and not used to support other organisations.



#### **4.0 DECISION MAKING PROCESS**

- 4.1 Having accessed all applications and consulted with the Finance Department, the Partnerships Team prepare a recommendations report to be assessed by the Portfolio Holder.
- 4.2 A Public meeting is held for the Portfolio Holder to make decisions on the community grant applications received.
- 4.3 Following the decision making meeting, a Portfolio Holders report is circulated to all elected members by Democratic Services, allowing for a 5 day call in period.
- 4.4 Should any objections be made during the 5 day call in period a further Portfolio Holders meeting is held to discuss the objection(s) and adjust as necessary.
- 4.5 If there are no objections (or after the follow up meeting), the applicants are notified to inform them of whether they have been successful or not.

#### **5.0 MONITORING AND RECORD KEEPING**

- 5.1 Following a successful application and in order to ensure that monies are used in an appropriate manner as set out in the conditions for funding, a monitoring process will take place throughout the financial year.
- 5.2 The Council reserves the right to monitor the use of the grant and ask for evidence to support an application. The organisation will allow reasonable access to premises/accounts upon request from the Council.
- 5.3 Organisations need to retain records relating to the grant for an appropriate period (to be advised depending on the grant).
- 5.4 Organisations will be required to submit a report along with details of expenditure against the activity or project.
- 5.5 If organisations do not supply the required reports within the set time scale they will not be eligible to apply to the scheme again.
- 5.6 The Community Grant applications will be considered at quarterly intervals with notification sent to organisations following the Portfolio Holder's decision.

#### **POLICY APPROVED:**

Portfolio Holder Signature:.....

Date:.....

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## CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

### Cabinet Member for Strategic Communities

**Date of meeting:** 30 July 2012.

**Report of:** Partnerships Manager

**Title:** Community Grants

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor David Brown

#### 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 2012/13, and makes recommendations totalling £22,868 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:

##### **Events Grant**

Cheshire Scouts	Declined
Congleton Harriers	Declined
Sandbach Today	Awarded £178
Macclesfield Music Society	Awarded £250
Congleton Musical Theatre	Awarded £250
New Life Pre-school Nursery	Declined
Alsager Gardens Association	Declined
Guy Harvey Youth Club	Declined
Macclesfield Art Group	Awarded £250
Valley Green/Beech Drive Project	Awarded £250

### **Activities Grant**

East Cheshire Mental Health Forum	Declined
Crewe Alexandra Ladies FC	Awarded £250
Sandbach Cricket Club	Declined
Sandbach United FC	Declined
Macclesfield & District Canoe Club	Awarded £240
Parkrun Congleton	Awarded £250
Crewe Central Table Tennis Club	Awarded £500
Brereton Parish Community Interest Group	Awarded £500
Haslington Methodist Church	Awarded £500
Congleton Shop Mobility	Awarded £200
Tommy Thumbs Pre-School	Declined
Middlewich Clean Team	Awarded £250
Cheshire Hornets Basketball Club	Declined
The Debt Advice Network	Declined
Nantwich Town FC	Awarded £250
The Georges Mums & Tots Group	Awarded £500

### **Facilities Grant**

Ettiley Heath Recreation Fund	Deferred
Wrenbury Village Hall Trust	Awarded £1,500
St John's Methodist Church, Willaston	Awarded £1,250
Sandbach Almshouse Charity	Awarded £1,000
The Wingate Special Children's Trust	Awarded £3,000
Alderley Edge Scout & Guide Council	Awarded £1,500
Rainow Pre-School	Declined
Middlewich Community Pride	Awarded £2,500
Silk Heritage Trust	Awarded £2,750
Nantwich Museum	Awarded £1,500
Viadance	Awarded £1,750
Matrix Cheer Squad	Awarded £1,500

## **3.0 Reasons for Recommendations (Details of Grants)**

### **3.1 Events (up to £250)**

#### **Cheshire Scouts -**

#### **Total Cost of Project - £20,500 Amount Requested - £250**

Event takes place before decisions meeting. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Congleton Harriers -**

**Total Cost of Project - £7,597 Amount Requested - £250**

Repeat funding request. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Sandbach Today -**

**Total Cost of Project - £628 Amount Requested - £178**

It is recommended they be awarded £178.

**Macclesfield Music Society -**

**Total Cost of Project - £8,510 Amount Requested - £250**

It is recommended they be awarded £250.

**Congleton Musical Theatre -**

**Total Cost of Project - £17,111 Amount Requested - £250**

It is recommended they be awarded £250.

**New Life Pre-School Nursery -**

**Total Cost of Project - £1,000 Amount Requested - £250**

New Life Church received grant in April. It is recommended the application be declined.

**Alsager Gardens Association -**

**Total Cost of Project - £450 Amount Requested - £250**

Grant received in April 11, report not received due to an extension. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Guy Harvey Youth Club -**

**Total Cost of Project - £160 Amount Requested - £160**

Event takes place during call-in. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Macclesfield Art Group -**

**Total Cost of Project - £545 Amount Requested - £250**

It is recommended they be awarded £250.

**Valley Green/Beech Drive Project -**

**Total Cost of Project - £3,800 Amount Requested - £250**

It is recommended they be awarded £250.

**3.2 Activities (up to £500)**

**East Cheshire Mental Health Forum -**

**Total Cost of Project - £500 Amount Requested - £500**

Group applying for running/administration costs to keep the group going. This cannot be funded - as stated in Community Grant guidelines. It is recommended that the application is declined.

**Crewe Alexandra Ladies FC –**

**Total Cost of Project - £500 Amount Requested - £500**

Group applying to deliver sessions within local schools, aimed at teenage girls to gain interest in women's football. Already contributing £200 themselves. Had

a grant in January for promotion and marketing women's games. It is recommended they be awarded the £250.

**Sandbach Cricket Club –**

**Total Cost of Project - £400 Amount Requested - £400**

This group intends to run afterschool Quick Cricket sessions. They are not contributing themselves or applied elsewhere, but are running at a loss. Deferred from April pending receipt of constitution – which still has not been received. It is recommended the application be declined.

**Sandbach United FC –**

**Total Cost of Project - £800 Amount Requested - £500**

Group wish to attend relevant training courses for managers and coaches. This group has a very healthy bank account and have not applied elsewhere although they have made a small contribution themselves. Deferred from April pending receipt of constitution – which has still not been received. It is recommended the application be declined.

**Macclesfield & District Canoe Club –**

**Total Cost of Project - £480 Amount Requested - £480**

This group wish to purchase new paddles for the club to replace old, damaged paddles that are not suitable for use in teaching modern techniques. The group are not contributing themselves, despite reserves in the bank and have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they be awarded £240.

**Parkrun Congleton –**

**Total Cost of Project - £3,100 Amount Requested - £500**

New group wishing to purchase equipment & training for weekly running events in Congleton. They have a small donation, but have not applied elsewhere & not contributing themselves. It is recommended that they are awarded £250.

**Crewe Central Tennis Club –**

**Total Cost of Project - £2,100 Amount Requested - £500**

New group looking for assistance with room hire costs to help them establish and gain more members. It is recommended that they are awarded £500.

**Brereton Parish Community Interest Group –**

**Total Cost of Project - £1,595 Amount Requested - £500**

Group require funding to assist with the printing of their quarterly newsletter that goes to each household in the Parish. Applied in January 12 for the same purpose and were declined due to budget pressures. They now have contributions from the parish council and are contributing themselves. It is recommended they are awarded £500.

**Haslington Methodist Church**

**Total Cost of Project - £3,500 Amount Requested - £500**

This group runs an Open Door project that provides help and advice to those in the community that struggle to access information. They now require training in benefits, money advice and employment law for their volunteers. It is recommended that they are awarded £500.

**Congleton Shop Mobility –**

**Total Cost of Project - £500 Amount Requested - £500**

This group wish to purchase stickers to cover other companies logo's on their scooters. They also require a gazebo to replace their existing damaged one for events that are held and a heavy duty printer in order to produce their own promotional materials. They have not applied elsewhere and are not contributing themselves. It is recommended they are awarded £200 towards the cost of the gazebo and apply to the Town Council for the remainder of funds.

**Tommy Thumbs Pre School -**

**Total Cost of Project - £1,994 Amount Requested - £500**

Pre-school is due to increase in size and they require new equipment to accommodate the extra children. Equipment will only benefit those attending the pre-school, which cannot be funded as stated in the guidelines. It is recommended that the application is declined.

**Middlewich Clean Team –**

**Total Cost of Project - £937 Amount Requested - £500**

This group are applying to purchase anti-dog fouling kits, a pull up banner, badge making equipment, safety jackets and litter pickers. They are contributing themselves, have £200 from the Town council and a donation. It is recommended that they are awarded £250.

**Cheshire Hornets Basketball Club –**

**Total Cost of Project - £500 Amount Requested - £500**

Group applying to cover court hire costs for 10 weeks. We cannot fund room/facility hire, as stated in the guidelines. It is recommended that they application is declined.

**The Debt Advice Network –**

**Total Cost of Project - £900 Amount Requested - £500**

Group wishes to purchase 2 laptops. They have £400 in other funds but are not contributing themselves. Application was deferred from April pending further information on their operating area and how they receive referrals. It is recommended that the application is declined as the organisations listed in the accompanying letter do not receive referrals as stated.

**Nantwich Town FC–**

**Total Cost of Project - £500 Amount Requested - £500**

Club wish to purchase new set of Samba goals for the introduction of 9 v 9 football. They are not contributing themselves or applying else where. It is recommended that they are awarded £250.

**The Georges Mums & Tots Group –**

**Total Cost of Project - £1,299 Amount Requested - £500**

New group wishing to purchase equipment to help establishment, tables & chairs, toys etc. Deferred from April pending bank account details, this is now set up. They are not contributing themselves or applying elsewhere but to assist with set-up it is recommended they are awarded £500.

### **3.3 Facilities (up to £3,000)**

#### **Ettiley Heath Recreation Fund–**

**Total Cost of Project - £12,038 Amount Requested - £3,000**

This group wish to install 'play crete' to part of their field that is currently hard surfaced. Teenagers gather and smash bottles. It is hoped that the softer surface will discourage this and make the area more attractive for children. The group are contributing a small amount themselves and have another small contribution. They have not yet applied elsewhere but have a large amount to raise. It is recommended that the application is deferred until September pending further information upon how the rest of the project money will be obtained.

#### **Wrenbury Village Hall Trust –**

**Total Cost of Project - £2,189 Amount Requested - £2,000**

This group wish to purchase new chairs for the village hall to replace poor quality, uncomfortable chairs they have at present. They are contributing a small amount themselves but have not applied to the Parish Council. It is recommended that they are awarded £1,500 and apply to the Parish Council.

#### **St John's Methodist Church, Willaston –**

**Total Cost of Project - £2,500 Amount Requested - £1,250**

This group wish to decorate the village hall to improve the premises quality and to make it more attractive for potential users. They are contributing themselves and have funding from elsewhere. It is recommended they are awarded £1,250

#### **Sandbach Almshouse Charity–**

**Total Cost of Project - £73,350 Amount Requested - £3,000**

This group wish to construct an annex to provide a day room/meeting room and communal area for the residents of the Almshouses. It is recommended that they are awarded £1000 to match Town Council funding. Report must show how this has benefitted wider community.

#### **The Wingate Special Children's Trust–**

**Total Cost of Project - £42,000 Amount Requested - £3,000**

This group is wishing to replace the current heating system due to old system being in-efficient and in poor condition. They are making a large contribution themselves. It is recommended they are awarded £3,000

#### **Alderley Edge Scout & Guide Council –**

**Total Cost of Project - £2,500 Amount Requested - £2,000**

This group wishes to improve their Scout hall by creating a tent drying area to maximise space. Deferred from April pending receipt of constitution, this has now been received. They are contributing themselves but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they be awarded £1,500 and apply to the Parish Council.



**Rainow Pre-school –**

**Total Cost of Project - £1,985 Amount Requested - £1,585**

Pre-school wish to purchase new equipment to ensure the school is fit for purpose and attracts surrounding community. Equipment would be for the sole benefit of pupils of the pre-school. It is recommended the application is declined.

**Middlewich Community Pride –**

**Total Cost of Project - £22,598 Amount Requested - £2,898**

The group project is forming part of a much larger £2m project to regenerate Middlewich Town Wharf. Significant funding being sourced via the town council. This part of the project involves the regeneration of an unused, derelict building. £2000 is coming from the Town Council, S106 CEC have given £8000 and further applications have been made. It is recommended they are awarded £2,500.

**Silk Heritage Trust –**

**Total Cost of Project - £13,975 Amount Requested - £2,975**

Organisation wish to improve disabled access to the ground floor, to make the access more clear and reduce confusion. Six community rooms will be upgraded to extend community use and they wish to carry out an arts project to showcase a selection of silk pattern books. They are contributing themselves and have applied to awards for all. It is recommended that they are awarded £2,750

**Nantwich Museum -**

**Total Cost of Project - £2,648 Amount Requested - £2,368**

The Museum wish to develop a new exhibition on Nantwich Food & Drink and wish to purchase pull up and wall mounted panels. They are making a small contribution themselves despite considerable reserves and plan to approach the Town Council and local printers. It is recommended that they are awarded £1,500.

**Viadance -**

**Total Cost of Project - £2,926 Amount Requested - £1,750**

Dance group wishing to refurbish dance studio for extra space to accommodate increasing numbers. They are contributing £1000 themselves, but not applied elsewhere. It is recommended that they are awarded £1,750.

**Matrix Cheer Squad -**

**Total Cost of Project - £3,990 Amount Requested - £1,500**

This group wish to refurbish their gym and provide better facilities for its users. Looking to install mirrors and renovate reception area. They are contributing themselves £1000 but have not applied elsewhere. It is recommended they are awarded £1500.

**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 All of the applications contained in this report have been considered in the light of the Council's Policy for the Allocation of Grants, and the recommendations on each one conform to that Policy.

**7.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)**

- 7.1 None

**8.0 Financial Implications 2012/13 and beyond (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)**

- 8.1 All of the proposed grants can be funded from within existing budgets approved as part of the Council's Budget for 2012/13

**9.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)**

- 9.1 In awarding grants, the Council must ensure that in each case it has the legal power to fund the proposed scheme. In all cases there is a condition requiring a report back to the Council on the expenditure of the grant. Consideration should also be given in each case to the imposition of other appropriate conditions.
- 9.2 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 should ensure that there is a transparent process and policy in respect of determining the level of grant subsidy to any community group.

**10.0 Risk Management**

- 10.1 None

**11.0 Background and Options**

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

## **12.0 Access to Information**

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

Name: Lynsey Cooper

Designation: Cheshire East Council, Partnerships Team, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, CW11 1HZ

Tel. No: 01270 685809

Email: [lynsey.cooper@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:lynsey.cooper@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

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