

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

GRANTS COMMITTEE AGENDA



Wednesday, 6th February 2008

at 10.00 am

**in Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre,
Kendal Road, Hartlepool**

MEMBERS: GRANTS COMMITTEE:

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond, Councillors Payne and Tumilty

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 3. MINUTES**
 - 3.1 To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 18th December 2007 (attached)
- 4. KEY DECISIONS**

No items
- 5. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**
 - 5.1 Community Safety Capital Grants Allocations – *Head of Community Safety and Prevention*

GRANTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

18 December 2007

Present:

Councillor Robbie Payne (In the Chair)

Councillors The Mayor and Victor Tumilty

Officers: John Mennear, Assistant Director (Community Services)
Susan Rybak, Community Resource Manager
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

16. Apologies for Absence

None

17. Declarations of interest by members

None

18. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 24th September 2007

Agreed

19. Civic Lottery Grant Applications *(Assistant Chief Executive)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To consider Civic Lottery Grant Applications.

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

The report sought the Committee's consideration of the following:-

- applications where no previous grants had been awarded.

- applications where grants had previously been awarded

Members were advised that the amount of grant applications made came to a total of £31,717.28. However the balance available for this tranche was only £8579.32. Members considered each application in turn and rejected applications from the following organisations

- Wordlab
- Manor Residents Association (Members suggested they contact Pride in Hartlepool for possible funding assistance)
- ORCEL Sea Training (Members queried the amount of funding the organisation would be providing themselves)
- Hartlepool Young People's Music Consortium
- Eldon Grove Tennis Club
- Hartlepool Camera Club
- West End Residents Association
- Walking Tall
- Hartlepool Blind Welfare Association (Members suggested this be put on hold pending consideration of alternative sources of funding)
- Headland Development Trust

Decision

The following allocation of grants was approved:-

3269	Synergy Media	500
3272	Sweet Art Group	300
3296	Grass Route Solutions	300
3298	Owton Rossmere Community Enterprise Ltd	600
3283	Owton Lodge Ladies Bowling Club	500
3292	Hartlepool & East Durham Stoma Support Group	500
3299	Hartlepool Chester Boys FC	450
3266	Belle Vue Endeavour OAP Club	182*
3242	Hartlepool Catholic Boxing and Community Police Club	1,000*
3258	The Liners	60*
3249	G.E.C. (Hartlepool) Retirement Club	100*
3278	Greatham Dance Club	100*
3284	Hartlepool Coastwatch	329*
3288	Hartlepool Special Needs Support Group	500*
3281	Hartlepool Flamingos	500*
3287	Hartlepool Male Voice Choir	500*
3300	Hartlepool and East Durham Alzheimers Trust	500*
3291	Hartlepool Snooker Centre Sunday League	1,000*
3282	High Flyers Trampoline Group	329*
3305	Preston Simpson Scholarship in Music	329*

(* Organisations that have previously received Civic Lottery Grants)

20. Community Pool 2007/2008 *(Director of Adult and Community Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To provide details of:

- i. The current financial position of the Community Pool budget for 2007/2008
- ii. Requests for revenue funding from the Community Pool from 10 voluntary/community groups for a 1 year grant and 1 request for a 3 year tapered grant
- iii. The current situation relating to the funding of the Princess Royal Lifeboat Trust

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

The Community Pool provides financial assistance to community groups and voluntary organisations with £457,109 being available during 2007/2008. At the meeting of the Grants Committee on 12th March 2007 grants had been awarded to 23 groups totalling £376,003. leaving a balance of £166,764. Included within these commitments was £4,000 for Directed Lettings.

At a further meeting on 16th July 2007 awards totalling £3,219 were approved from this Directed Lettings allocation, allowing for the balance of £781 to be added back into the main budget. Therefore the balance of funding remaining available for distribution for 2007/08 now stands at £167,545.

Applications for funding had been received from 11 groups. Details of these and the accompanying recommendations were provided in an appendix to the report. The applications were broken down into those recommended for approval and those not recommended for approval as they fell outside of the funding criteria.

Officers recommended the approval of a one year revenue grant to the following organisations as a contribution towards the core costs of the organisation, including salary costs of key staff, rent and utilities for the period December 2007-March 2008. Some of the groups had already benefited from a grant from the Community Pool for 2007/08. However they were now seeking additional support as they had budget shortfalls and all but one has no reserves to contribute towards their shortfalls:

- Hartlepool Access Group £5,000

- Owton Fens Community Association £5,000
- The Wharton Trust £5,000
- Hartlepool Families First £10,000

In addition 3 groups which had not previously received financial support from the Community Pool had also requested a 1 year revenue grant and were recommended for funding as follows

Hartlepool Catholic Boxing Club

Hartlepool Catholic Boxing Club had been established more than 50 years and has over 100 members, many who live in disadvantaged areas of Hartlepool. Until recently they were based at the Bridge Community Centre but have been forced to find alternative accommodation because of the closure of the Centre. They had successfully secured accommodation to meet their needs within a refurbished building in Cromwell Street that had been suitably fitted out. However the rental costs were proving challenging in comparison to what they paid previously at the Bridge. Membership charges had been increased but as most of their members were young people this had to be gradual so as not to exclude some who could not afford the increases. They had applied to other funders but it had become apparent that funding for equipment could be secured more readily than funding for core costs. Therefore they were applying to the Community Pool for grant aid to help toward the rental costs of their new premises for December 2007-March 2008. This would enable the group to concentrate their efforts on fundraising for the new financial year. Officers recommended a grant of £5,000.

RESPECT

RESPECT (Reach Every Social Personal Effect Concerning Teenagers) is a local organisation offering social emotional and personal support to young people by providing a mentoring and befriending service with counselling support. They applied to the Community Pool for funding in the first round of applications for 2007/08 but this was rejected as they were benefiting from funding from New Deal for Communities at the time. Also it was felt there were more appropriate sources of funding such as the Children's Services Department. However Children's Services had not been forthcoming with an offer of financial support and consequently the group had found itself in financial difficulties without sufficient funding to sustain their services until the new financial year. Children's Services officers and representative from other voluntary sector groups had been working with RESPECT to secure funding for 2008/09 onwards to secure the long-term viability of the group but unless core costs could be funded to March 2008 RESPECT would cease to operate. Officers recommended a grant of £8,000 which would include the salary costs of a Counselling Clinical Supervisor and a Support Worker.

Hart Gables

Hart Gables provides services for the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual and Trans-

Gendered (LGBT) community in Hartlepool. They provide a safe meeting environment and offer support, information and assistance, including awareness raising and health promotion. They applied to the Community Pool after an application to Hartlepool PCT Core Costs fund was rejected. Funding would allow them to maintain the number of hours that the Manager currently works to the end of the financial year and to employ a Finance Officer for 7 hours per month. Otherwise the Manager's hours would have to be reduced and the provision of services could be affected. Officers recommended a grant of £5,000 which would include the salary costs of the Manager and Finance Officers posts.

Four applications for funding from the following organisations were not recommended for approval:

- Adventure Youth Sea Training Trust
- West View Advice and Resource Centre
- Hartlepool Community Studio

The Assistant Director advised Members that a further application from the Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency, recommended for rejection by officers, had been withdrawn prior to this meeting.

Should all the applications recommended for approval be approved the remaining balance of the Community Pool available for 2007/08 would be £124,045. It was recommended that any remaining balance of the Community Pool following this meeting and any further additional meetings in this financial year be carried forward to the 2008/9 budget.

The Princess Royal Lifeboat Trust

At the Grants Committee meeting on 16th July 2007 Members deferred an application for funding from the Princess Royal Lifeboat Trust for a 3-year tapered grant of £6,683 for berthing and insurance costs, health and safety certificates, training and fuel and oil expenses of the Princess Royal Lifeboat. Officers recommended rejection of the application but Members requested that the application be deferred to enable a review of the financial status of the Trust to identify any match funding that they may have successfully secured. Officers reported that the trust had secured financial support to keep the boat moored in the Marina until such a time that it could be moved onto dry land. Officers from Culture and Heritage were also supporting the Trust by establishing a plan for the future of the vessel. Therefore officers continued to recommend rejection of the Trust's application to the Community Pool.

Decision

1. That the current Financial Position in relation to the 2007/2008 Community Pool budget as detailed in the report be noted

2. That grant aid to those organisations detailed in the report be approved
3. That applications from West View Advice and Resource Centre, Adventure Youth Sea Training Trust and Hartlepool Community Studio, as detailed in the report be rejected
4. That information provided in relation to The Princess Royal Lifeboat Trust and rejection of the application presented to a previous meeting of the Grants Committee in light of current circumstances be noted
5. That the remaining Community Pool balance at the 31st March 2008 be accrued from 2007/2008 to the 2008/2009 financial year.

J A BROWN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 3rd January 2008

GRANTS COMMITTEE

6th February 2008



Report of: **Head of Community Safety and Prevention**

Subject: **COMMUNITY SAFETY CAPITAL GRANTS
ALLOCATIONS**

SUMMARY

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of applications to the Community Safety Capital Fund and seek approval for recommended grant awards.

2. **SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

- 2.1 Proposed awards for the Community Safety Capital fund are as follows:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
Riverston Close Fencing	£2,500
Headland Town Square Toilet Block CCTV	£3,500
NDC.Commercial Areas Business Security Grant	£4,000

This leaves a total of £3,717

3. **RELEVANCE TO THE GRANTS COMMITTEE**

- 3.1 Grants Committee has responsibility for determining the levels of grant awarded.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

4.1 Non - Key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

5.1 Grants Committee on 6th February 2008

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED:

6.1 Approval of grant awards to three projects totalling £10,000

Report of: Head of Community Safety and Prevention

**Subject: COMMUNITY SAFETY CAPITAL GRANTS
ALLOCATIONS**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of applications to the Community Safety Capital Fund and seek approval for recommended grant awards.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council has decided that its capital budget for 2007/08 would include an allocation £150,000 to implement community safety projects which are associated with and contribute to Safer Hartlepool Partnership's strategy covering crime, disorder and drugs. Following an underspend of £3,542 in 2006/07, and a further contribution of £12,175 from HBC, this has been increased by £15,717 to £165,717.

- 2.2 The Safer Hartlepool strategy comprises seven primary objectives based on:

- Drugs treatment
- Acquisitive crime (covering burglary, theft and vehicle crime)
- Domestic Violence
- Violence in the Town Centre associated with alcohol
- Anti Social Behaviour
- Reassurance (fear of crime)
- Prevention of offending

- 2.3 The Community Services and Safety Board at its meeting in August 2000, approved criteria against which to judge project proposals as follows:

1. Clearly identify the link to Action Plans for each objective
2. Outline the problem and proposals to remedy it
3. Identify the cost and contribution from the Department budget
4. Include an approximate timescale for implementation
5. Include further information which is appropriate for officers/members to know about

- 2.4 Matched funding of between 20% and 50% is generally requested. All projects are considered first by the Community Safety Officer Group – which comprises senior officer representatives from all Council Departments.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Community Safety Capital Fund in total for 2007/2008 is £165,717. Grants Committee have so far awarded grants to the total of £152,000 to six projects from the Community Safety Capital Fund. This leaves a total of £13,717

4. APPLICATIONS

4.1 Domestic Fencing – Riverston Close

For some time now, residents have experienced anti social behaviour to the rear of their properties in Riverston Close. They back on to a public footpath, a right of way, farm land and waste woodland. Frequent fires in the woodland have been reported to the Fire Brigade, responding to which, in itself, causes additional problems due to the logistics and topography.

The Council has agreed to transfer some land to residents to remove congregation and access points. A new resident has moved into one property to be advised he will inherit some green space and has been asked to take ownership of some land, which his neighbour does not want. The new owner is not co-operating with the fencing costs, placing arrangements progressed over a considerable period in jeopardy. The Council is insisting the land be fenced within one month of the transfer at a cost to the resident. Police, Fire Brigade and residents have been consulted over the years regarding the problem of anti social behaviour.

The proposal is to build to a 6ft high fence to the rear of the property concerned.

Financial Implications

The total cost of the project is £3,240.

A contribution of £740 to the cost of this project, has been agreed by the Central Neighbourhood Forum.

Recommendation

Members are asked to consider approving a grant of £2,500 to the project.

4.2 Headland Town Square Toilet Block – CCTV Scheme

The NRF Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) funding has been allocated to all areas, including the Headland NAP Residents' Forum. This Forum meets once a month to discuss priority areas for works/action relating to the allocated NAP funding and how this funding should be spent in line with the Forum's chosen theme of 'Strengthening Communities'.

Residents have raised concerns about anti-social behaviour and criminal damage relating to the new toilet block at the Headland Town Square (Middlegate) and the local community police officer confirms that when the gates are unlocked young people congregate in the alcove drinking and deterring access to the public. In the year since the toilet block has been open there have been incidents of toilets broken; nappy changing facility broken/snapped and cans/bottles stuffed in toilets causing back flush. It seems particularly the case for such behaviour in the summer months when longer opening times (dusk/9pm) are in operation, than in the winter months when the block is closed at around 3.00pm.

The Headland NAP Residents' Forum requested information from the Community Safety Manager regarding the possibility of having CCTV inside the entrance of the toilet block and the immediate external area not covered by existing CCTV cameras. Cabling is already fitted to enable CCTV cameras to be fitted adjacent to the toilets and looking at the entrance area. The cameras would not be monitored live or act as frontline protection, but would provide recorded images and act as a deterrent to combat the anti-social behaviour in the toilet block specifically. There are two external CCTV cameras, which already monitor part of exterior of the toilet block.

The Headland NAP works with a variety of partners including residents, Community Police, Housing Hartlepool, Community Network and a number of voluntary sector organisations in and around the area. The Headland NAP Residents' Forum has funded a wide range of schemes targeted at providing a number of initiatives for youngsters to combat anti-social behaviour. These have included: a 'Summer Fun Package' of activities across the summer holidays aimed at entertaining and involving youngsters in activities they would not otherwise have got the chance to do; Football league/referee fees for a local youth football club; sports changing facilities and showers to the Bowls Club and Horsley Building to name a few. It has also given £1,500 to a 'Youth Forum' for youngsters to decide what they would like to see happen in the area, in an effort to get them involved with local improvements, and to empower them so they can take an ownership and pride in their own neighbourhood.

The main consultation on the CCTV for the toilets has been carried out through the Headland NAP Residents' Forum, the majority of which is made up of residents who live in the Headland area. The Community Safety Team and the local Community Police Officer, have been consulted and have offered information and advice around the anti-social behaviour in the vicinity and on how the scheme could be implemented. The Police have also agreed to be pro-active in identifying and tackling young people who continue to congregate within the toilet block entrance.

Financial Implications

Total cost of the project is £7,000.

A contribution of £3,500 to the cost of this project has been agreed by The Headland NAP Residents Forum.

Recommendation

Members are asked to consider approval of a grant of £3,500 to the project

4.3 NDC Commercial Areas Business Security Grant

The Business Security Grant scheme has been running for a number of years and has been successful in assisting small businesses vulnerable to crime to secure their individual premises.

Racially motivated crime is a particular problem that a number of Hartlepool businesses face and if the appropriate measures are not taken to address the problem it can have detrimental effects such as physical/verbal assault and vandalism leading to businesses closing down or moving out of Hartlepool, taking with them much needed jobs and investment.

This is especially the case for smaller businesses, either new start or existing, that have tight financial margins and cannot raise sufficient resources to protect their premises by fitting the required security equipment. Without the assistance provided by the grant they are left vulnerable to crime and have to face the financial consequences if their premises are hit.

The project will involve the provision of grant assistance to retail businesses undertaking security improvements to their premises. The project will concentrate on businesses that can provide police evidence of racially motivated incidents adjacent to and within Business and Commercial Areas.

Businesses will be able to apply for up to 75% of the cost of security installations to a maximum of £2,000. The Crime Prevention Officer from Hartlepool Police will visit the businesses and advise on the type and quality of equipment needed.

Types of crime prevention measures include:

- CCTV systems – monitored
- Alarm systems – monitored
- Security Fencing
- Roller Shutters
- Security Doors
- Window Grilles
- Security Lighting

The project will impact on the following:

- Acquisitive Crime – to reduce acquisitive crime in Hartlepool
- Anti-Social Behaviour – to reduce the level of anti-social behaviour which causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to communities.
- Reassurance – to promote reassurance in all sections of the community

The scheme has been running for a number of years and has always received a great deal of demand from local businesses. In recent years the budget available has not been enough to satisfy the demand. In addition this is the final year of NDC funding and the present budget is fully committed. Additional funding would enable further demand to be addressed.

Evaluation surveys are undertaken with the businesses which have received grant and in general after undertaking crime prevention measures to their premises they are less likely to be a victim of crime.

There are strong working links with Hartlepool Police especially the Crime Prevention Officer and also the NDC Community Safety Officer in tackling racially motivated vandalism and burglary targeted at businesses. In the majority of cases where businesses have been hit the level of security has been poor or non existent, the CPO then refers the business to the grant for assistance.

The grant is a one off and will enable the businesses to install the various security measures to their premises. The ongoing maintenance and any repairs including upgrades and further security measures will be undertaken by the businesses themselves.

Financial Implications

Total minimum value of the project is £5,330 inclusive of Private sector contribution of 25% per application.

Recommendation

Members are asked to consider approving a grant of £4,000 to the project

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Members are requested to approve grant awards to three projects totalling £10,000

CONTACT OFFICER: **Brian Neale, Acting Crime and Disorder Coordinator**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Applications to Section 17 Officer Group