

# GRANTS COMMITTEE AGENDA



**Thursday, 9 October 2008**

**at 2.00 pm**

**in Committee Room D**

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 15 August 2008

**4. KEY DECISIONS**

4.1 None

**5. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

5.1 Community Safety Capital Grants Allocations - *Head of Community Safety and Prevention*

# **GRANTS COMMITTEE**

## **MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

15 August 2008

The meeting commenced at 11.30am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

**Present:**

Councillor Robbie Payne (In the Chair)

Councillor: Victor Tumilty

Officers: Susan Rybak, Community Resources Manager  
Pat Wormald, Senior Clerical Officer  
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer  
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were submitted by The Mayor.

### **2. Declarations of interest by members**

Councillor Tumilty declared an interest in the Friends of the North Cemetery. The Chair requested that consideration of their application be deferred until the next meeting of the Grants Committee.

### **3. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2008**

Agreed

### **4. 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:-

- The general approach to the allocation of the available balance for 2008/9

- The approach to the award of grants for citizens' summer outings and Christmas parties and delegating authority to officers to approve these grants
- Applications where no previous grants have been awarded
- Applications where grants have previously been awarded

Members were advised that the balance available for distribution at the beginning of the financial year was £17,312.00. However they were reminded that on 21st April 2008 they had awarded £9,115.52 from the 2008/9 budget to fund grant applications submitted at that meeting therefore the balance remaining was now £8,196.48. Previously Members had also agreed to ringfence £1,500.00 for senior citizens' summer outings and Christmas parties each year but in 2007/08 the value of the applications exceeded this amount resulting in an overspend of £1,640.00. Should Members wish to continue to allocate £1,500.00 for this purpose the balance remaining for the year would be £6,696.48. In previous years it had been agreed to distribute the balance available proportionately over three tranches. In this case each of the three tranches would be allocated £2,232.16.

Members considered each of the applications in turn.

### Decision

- i. That the available balance for 2008/09 be allocated proportionately over three tranches.
- ii. That £1,500 be set aside for applications for senior citizens' summer outings and Christmas parties
- iii. That authority be delegated to the Assistant Chief Executive to award grants for senior citizens' summer outings and Christmas parties in accordance with the approved criteria
- iv. That the following grant applications be approved:

3320	Hartlepool Shotokan Karate Club	£300
3326	Middleton and Raby Road Community Action Group	£300
3328	Footprints Group	£300
3318	Hartlepool Youth Choir Parents' Association	£156.25
3319	Hartlepool Royal British Legion	£150

3321	Old Boys' Field Sheltered Bungalows	£50
3329	Hartlepool Church and District Football League (Saturdays)	£175
3331	Friends of Tees and Hartlepool Yacht Club Sailing Cadets	£200

v. That the following grant applications be refused

3330 – Tees Valley Aces  
 3322 – Hartlepool Model Rail Group  
 3327 – Headland Development Trust

vi. That the following grant application be deferred

3332 – Friends of the North Cemetery

The meeting concluded at 12 noon

**P DEVLIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

**PUBLICATION DATE: 21<sup>st</sup> August 2008**

## GRANTS COMMITTEE

9 October 2008



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

**Subject:** COMMUNITY SAFETY CAPITAL GRANTS  
ALLOCATIONS

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

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**

Proposed awards for the Community Safety Capital Fund are as follows:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
Throston Allotment	£8373
Ward Jackson Park	£12850
Grayfields	£4790

**3. RELEVANCE TO THE GRANTS COMMITTEE**

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

**4. TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-key

**5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Grants Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

**6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

Members of the Grants Committee are requested to approve grant awards to three projects totalling £26,013

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

**Subject:** COMMUNITY SAFETY CAPITAL GRANTS  
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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

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**

The Council has decided that its capital budget for 2008/09 would include an allocation of £150,000 to implement community safety projects, which are associated with and contribute to Safer Hartlepool Partnership's strategy covering crime, disorder and substance misuse. Following an agreement to carry forward an under-spend of £3,717 from 2007/8 this has been increased to £153,717.

The Safer Hartlepool strategy covers a 3 year period, with annual priorities agreed. Those annual priorities for the year 2008/9 are:

- Drug dealing and supply
- Violent crime, including domestic violence
- Acquisitive crime
- Criminal damage and anti-social behaviour, including deliberate fire setting
- Preventing and reducing offending, re-offending and the risk of offending
- Delivery of the alcohol harm reduction strategy 2006-2009 including the introduction of an effective local alcohol treatment service

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

1. Clearly identifying the link to Action Plans for each relevant 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

For the 2008/9 capital allocations, matched funding of 35% minimum is requested.

All projects are considered first by the Section 17 Officer Group which comprises senior officer representatives from all Council Departments.

### 3. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Community Safety Capital Grant Fund in total for 2008/9 is £153,717. No grants have been awarded during the current year. The full balance of £153,717 remains.

### 4. **APPLICATIONS**

#### 4.1 Throston Allotments

The Throston Allotments site, which is owned and managed by HBC, is bordered on two sides by Wiltshire Way and Elmwood Road and greenfield to the other. It comprises of 83 plots, of which only a few are currently vacant. The site is secured to all sides by wood solid lathe fencing of variable height and condition but does not provide a meaningful deterrent to unauthorised access.

For a number of years the general area in and around the allotments has experienced problems of anti-social behaviour, theft, vandalism and fly-tipping. The site has also gained notoriety for attracting large gangs of youths who engage in under-age consumption of alcohol. Such activities do have a negative impact on allotment holders.

The allotment holders have been encouraged to establish an Allotment Association, finalised earlier this year, to be involved in site management and general improvements. Site security has been identified as a priority action.

The overall proposal is to replace the full exterior fencing with 2.4 metre height palisade fence which is the standard specification and height recommended. The open nature of this type of fencing enables site visibility, acting as a deterrent to unauthorised behaviour and activity. However the Association recognises that the overall cost of £44,500 is somewhat prohibitive were the project to be undertaken as a single exercise. Consequently the plan is to fence the Wiltshire Way side as phase 1 of the project, with phase 2 and 3 following when funds are available.

The project will contribute to the following Community Safety strategic objectives within the grant scheme.

- Criminal damage and anti-social behaviour
- Preventing and reducing offending, re-offending and the risk of offending.

In addition it is felt that the project will afford reassurance against fear of crime and reduce intimidation of allotment holders.

HBC Parks & Countryside Department is totally supportive of the proposal and has led in the formation of the Allotment Association. Cleveland Police Crime Prevention Officer has undertaken a full site survey and supports the fencing specification. The Neighbourhood Policing Team has also been involved in parallel initiatives to underpin the objective of reducing crime and local impact. Addressing the impact of graffiti and anti-social behaviour in and around the allotments is a key priority within their ongoing Neighbourhood Priority Plans.

### **Financial Implications**

Project Cost	£18373	
HBC Minor Works Budget	£7000	capital contribution
Housing Hartlepool	<u>£3000</u>	capital contribution

Grant requested **£8373**

The grant request fulfils the 35% contribution criteria now sought for applications. Project spend will be undertaken through HBC Parks & Countryside Department.

In addition to this project HBC Parks & Countryside is to spend £3,000 on pathways and other internal works.

HBC Parks & Countryside will meet all future revenue costs of maintaining the fencing.

### **Recommendations**

Members are asked to approve a grant of £8373 towards the project. No commitment is given to future support for phases 2 and 3 of site fencing. Any grant approval will be subject to post completion review and appraisal.

## **4.2 Ward Jackson Park**

The Park, which dates back to 1883 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Parks & Gardens for its collection of Victorian and Edwardian features, was recently restored and developed to its original splendour.

The Park is extremely well used by residents of Hartlepool and in the main, does not suffer from damage or vandalism. Nevertheless over the past few



years there have been a number of incidents of criminal damage within the park, particularly in relation to the bowling green and buildings, including the 'Place in the Park' area. The majority of these incidents occur during the hours of darkness when the park is locked. These are principally alcohol consumption related, resulting in heavy littering from cans and bottles as well as occasional incidents of vandalism. Local residents report periodic occasions of noise late in the evening, associated with this entry.

Security arrangements include full fencing of the exterior of the park with gates locked every evening at dusk. Whilst fencing is secure there are occasions where individuals will climb over. There is no overnight lighting. Place in the Park does have a basic CCTV camera system but only affords limited coverage.

The project will contribute to the following Community Safety strategic objectives within the grantscheme:

- Criminal damage and anti-social behaviour.
- Preventing and reducing offending, re-offending and the risk of offending.

The proposal is aimed to:

- Install three static CCTV cameras, with related motion sensors, and white light fittings, to cover the bowling green area. Cameras and lights will operate upon motion activation. The camera recording will be on-site in a secure location and not linked to the Council's CCTV Control Room. This is regarded as a better option to full fencing of the bowling green.
- Upgrade the existing Place in the Park CCTV system and install white light fittings, again as a protection to unauthorised activity in the area once the park is locked. There have been two forced entry attempts over the past two years. Again cameras will record on-site.
- Install five decorative lighting columns and lanterns from the main entrance at Park Avenue/Elwick Road junction on the footpath leading to Place in the Park. This will encourage use by Community and other groups of the Place in the Park facilities on evenings by providing a safe and secure access. It has been agreed that the Council's contracted security provider will afford main entrance security to ensure no unauthorised access during such events.

The objective is to deter unauthorised access and associated problems but also provide Police with camera images of trespassers. Police have committed to investigate incidents.

#### Financial Implications

Project cost	£20850	
HBC Minor Works budget	£5000	capital contribution
HBC Parks & Countryside	£3,000	capital contribution
Grant requested	<b><u>£12850</u></b>	

The grant request fulfils the 35% contribution now sought for applications.

Friends of Ward Jackson Park have been consulted and fully support not only the security measures, but the initiative to expand community opportunities to use available facilities.

All future associated revenue costs will be met by HBC Parks & Countryside Department.

### **Recommendations**

Members are asked to approve a grant of £12,850 towards this project.

Any grant approval will be subject to review and appraisal after completion.

#### **4.3 Grayfields**

Grayfields Recreation Ground was redeveloped two years ago at a cost of approx. £1.2m. The site, which is extensive, is surrounded by 2.4 metre high palisade fencing which, in the main, deters unauthorised access.

The redevelopment new build incorporates a number of security measures including CCTV cameras and passive infra-red detector alarms. These measures are linked to HBC CCTV Control Centre for activation response. This followed an upgrade of security post completion of the building when it was identified that specification variation had created vulnerable areas.

Whilst the buildings are secured, there have been a number of site intrusions, particularly to the area surrounding the all weather sports pitch. In addition a small group is accessing the site and using this pitch. Attempts to establish evening use of the pitch on a managed basis have been unsuccessful. Attempts to identify and detain the intruders have been hindered by the site size.

The proposal is to install an additional dome camera to provide views of the new sports and fencing areas which are the identified areas of unauthorised access. The camera will be complemented by five additional external motion sensors which will cover these areas and the pathway surrounding the all weather sports pitch. These additions will be linked into the existing CCTV system. Police Crime Prevention Officer has viewed the site and supports the installation. The Neighbourhood Policing Team has committed to utilising any images to identify and act against unauthorised intrusion.

The project will contribute to the following Community Safety strategic objectives within the grant scheme:

- Criminal damage and anti-social behaviour, including deliberate fire-setting.
- Preventing and reducing offending, re-offending and the risk of offending.
- Acquisitive crime.

The Friends and user groups are both in favour of these additional security measures.

Financial Implications

Project Cost	£7370
Adult & Community Services	£ <u>2580</u> capital contribution
Grant requested	£ <u>4790</u>

The grant request fulfils the 35% contribution criteria now sought for applications.

Adult and Community Services meet current security and maintenance revenue costs for Grayfields. Revenue costs relating to this grant request will also be covered.

Recommendations

Members are asked to approve a grant of £4790 towards the project.

Any grant approval will be subject to post completion review and appraisal.

**5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are requested to approve grant awards to three projects totalling no more than £26,013

**CONTACT OFFICER: Brian Neale, Crime & Disorder Co-ordinator**