

GRANTS COMMITTEE AGENDA



Wednesday 13 January 2010

at 2.00 pm

in Committee Room D, Civic Centre, 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 17 December 2009

4. KEY DECISIONS

No items

5. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

5.1 Community Safety Capital Grants Allocations – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

GRANTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

17 December 2009

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Robbie Payne (In the Chair)
The Mayor, Stuart Drummond
Councillor Victor Tumilty

Officers: Susan Rybak, Community Resources Manager
Pat Wormald, Senior Clerical Officer
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

13. Apologies for Absence

None.

14. Declarations of interest by members

None.

15. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2009

Agreed.

16. Civic Lottery Fund Grant Applications 2009/2010 – *Director of Child & Adult Services*

Type of Decision

Non key.

Purpose of Report

To advise and seek approval for the second round of Civic Lottery Fund Grant applications in the 2009/2010 financial year.

Issues for Consideration

The Committee were asked to consider 8 applications from local organisations, four of which had not previously been supported with funding

from the Civic Lottery. The amount available for distribution at the meeting was £5,250 plus the balance remaining from the previous funding round of £60 making the total available for distribution at this meeting £5,310. The total sum sought by the various groups was £7,650 as outlined below.

New Life Centre	To provide rehearsals for music dance and drama groups.
Hartlepool Kids Combat Club	Assistance towards the costs of a training event at Stainsacre Hall.
Hartlepool Special Needs Support Group	Assistance towards trip to Christmas Pantomime.
Stranton Eagles F.C.	Assistance with pitch, league and referees fees.
The NLA Companions	Start up costs for group including public liability insurance.
Greatham Under 13's F.C.	Assistance with pitch, league and referees fees and transport costs.
Stranton F.C.	Pitch fees and transport.
ORCEL Sea Training	Contribution to the costs of sending 14 Hartlepool residents on the 2010 Tall Ships Race.
Hartlepool Rovers Quoit F.C.	Assistance with pitch, league and referees fees.
Seaton Carew Bowling Club	Assistance with consortium and green fees

Members sought clarification on one of the applications.

Decision

The Committee approved Grant Aid as outlined below:-

Hartlepool Special Needs Support Group	£500
Stranton Eagles F.C.	£300
The NLA Companions	£300
Greatham Under 13's F.C.	£300
Stranton F.C.	£200
ORCEL Sea Training	£2,000
Hartlepool Rovers Quoit F.C.	£300
Seaton Carew Bowling Club	£300

and approved the withdrawal of the applications from the New Life Centre and the Hartlepool Kids Combat Club.

17. Community Pool 2009/2010 – Round 4 – *Director of Child & Adult Services*

Type of Decision

Non key

Purpose of Report

To advise and seek approval for the level of grant awards to Community groups and voluntary organisation from the Community Pool for 2009/2010.

Issues for Consideration

Applications to the Community Pool had been invited for the 2009/2010 financial year from community groups and voluntary organisations providing services for the benefit of Hartlepool residents.

Following distribution of funds approved at earlier meetings of the Grants Committee, the balance available for distribution at this meeting was £60,492. One application had been presented for consideration in Round 4 which was an application for crisis funding from Hartlepool Community Studio (The Studio). The Studio had requested a supplementary award of £10,257 this financial year to make up a projected shortfall in income including income generated from events, the hire of rehearsal/recording space and room hire. The report outlined the background behind the request and what action the Board of Trustees had taken in order to lower operating costs and increase earned income.

Members questioned representatives of the Hartlepool Community Studio about action taken to reduce costs and generate income. Suggestions as to the make up of Board Members were made in the interest of long term viability of the Studio.

Decision

Members approved:-

- Grant aid of £9,678 for Hartlepool Community Studio
- Any allocation of grant aid to groups known to be experiencing financial difficulties to be released in monthly/quarterly instalments as appropriate, in order to safeguard the Council's investment and minimise risk.
- The balance of the Community Pool (£50,814) to be considered for allocation against bids at future meetings within the financial year

The meeting concluded at 11.25 am.

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 23 December 2009

GRANTS COMMITTEE

13 January 2010



Report of: Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods

Subject: COMMUNITY SAFETY CAPITAL GRANTS
ALLOCATIONS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

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

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

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

<u>Project</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
Rift House Street Lighting	£ 4,550
St. Josephs School Lighting	£ 375

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 13th January 2010

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

Members of the Grants Committee are requested to consider/approve grant awards to two projects totalling £4,925

Report of: Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods

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 consideration/approval for grant awards.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council has decided that its capital budget for 2009/10 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 £5,050 from 2008/9 this has been increased to £155,050.
- 2.2 However at Cabinet meeting of 15th December 2008, a decision that the allocation of £50,000 from the annual Community Safety Capital budget to provide an investment scheme for CCTV cameras and equipment during 2009/10 to 2011/2012 was approved.
- 2.3 Consequently the net Community Safety Capital Fund allocation for 2009/10 will be £105,050. However following return of unused funding, totalling £2,245, from previous grant awards the revised sum available for 2009/10 will be £107,295.
- 2.4 The Safer Hartlepool strategy covers a 3 year period, with annual priorities agreed. Those annual priorities for the year 2009/10 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

- Reassurance and Community engagement.

2.5 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

2.6 For the 2009/10 capital allocations, matched funding of 35% minimum is requested.

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

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The revised net Community Safety Capital Grant Fund for 2009/10 has been amended to £107,295. Grants totalling £88,100 have been awarded during the current year. Recommended grant awards for consideration at this Grants Committee total £4,925, leaving £14,270 to allocate.

4. APPLICATIONS

4.1 Rift House Street Lighting

4.1.1 Improving street lighting in certain locations has been identified as a priority within the Rift House Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Forum over a number of years. In this regard a number of locations within the Rift House area have been identified as vulnerable to crime and anti-social behaviour, including consumption of alcohol, due to the levels of street lighting.

4.1.2 As a result of a number of complaints to the Forum and HBC Neighbourhood Manager (Central) in relation to unlit and poorly lit locations, an assessment of lighting provision was undertaken by HBC Public Lighting Manager. That assessment concludes that new or upgraded lighting would be justifiable although the locations would not be a priority within HBC's overall street lighting programme.

4.1.3 The proposal recommended to and supported by Rift House NAP Forum is that 4 small street lighting schemes are progressed as a priority. These would be to install 2 new lighting columns to the footpath between Browning and Chaucer Avenues; install 1 new lighting column to the rear of Masfield Road; install 1 new lighting column to Swinburne Road footpath; upgrade existing street lighting at the bottom of Masfield Road.

- 4.1.4 The project will address the lack or poor level of lighting and concerns of local residents in respect of the fear of, and potential for, crime and ASB. Those fears can deter some residents from using these areas, especially during dark winter evenings. An Ipsos MORI poll in 2008 identified that over half - 56% - of Rift House/Burn Valley residents felt very or fairly safe walking alone in their area during hours of darkness. However that reflects a reduction from a statistic of 71% from a similar poll in 2006.
- 4.1.5 The proposals carry the full support of Cleveland Police who have indicated that improved lighting within the identified areas will assist them in more effective policing.
- 4.1.6 This project complements a range of Rift House Forum community safety initiatives in the neighbourhood, many supporting Neighbourhood Policing reassurance priorities. Operation Pledge has recently commenced in the area. Issues relating to street lighting have been persistently raised by local residents, over a period of several years, through local representation groups.
- 4.1.7 The project will contribute to the following Community Safety strategic objectives within the grants scheme:
- Criminal damage and anti-social behaviour, including deliberate fire setting
 - Preventing and reducing offending, re-offending and the risk of offending
 - Reassurance and Community engagement
 - Supporting delivery of the alcohol harm reduction strategy by deterring on street consumption of alcohol in unlit or poorly lit locations

4.1.8 Financial Implications

Overall project cost	£ 7,050
Rift House NAP Forum	£ 2,500– capital contribution
Grant requested	£ 4,550

The grant request fulfils the 35% contribution requirement.

HBC Public Lighting service have agreed responsibility for maintenance and operating costs.

It is anticipated that works should be able to commence in late January 2010 for completion by end of March 2010.

4.1.9 Recommendation

Members are asked to approve a grant of £4,550 towards this project.

The application has the full support and recommendation of the Section 17 Officer Group.

Any grant approval will be subject to review and appraisal post completion within the Community Safety Capital Grant scheme and will compliment evaluation surveys undertaken within Rift House Neighbourhood Action Plan Forum programme delivery.

4.2 St. Josephs Primary School Security Lighting.

4.2.1 St. Josephs Primary School is located within the Burbank area which, over recent years, has seen the delivery of a number of initiatives to address previous high levels of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour. Resident groups have been extremely active in implementation and continuation of these initiatives. Reported levels of crime and ASB have reduced significantly.

4.2.2 In November 2008 HBC Grants Committee supported the installation of a CCTV system to afford coverage of the exterior of the School buildings and play areas, including site fields, by a grant award of £3,350. This was to complement the erection of 2.4 metre fencing around the site periphery.

4.2.3 Whilst high levels of crime and ASB were not evident within the School site, there had been a number of incidents which impacted on day to day management and safety. These included an incident of verbal assault, deposit of drug related items on the School fields and periodic trespass on the flat school roofs.

The installation of the CCTV system, along with other security and safety measures implemented, has proven an effective deterrent to unauthorised site entry both during and outside of School opening hours.

4.2.4 As part of the HBC Community Safety Grant review process, the Police Crime Prevention Officer undertook a subsequent site overview. Whilst, in the main, satisfied with the revised security arrangements, it was suggested that the rear of the School could benefit from increased lighting which would assist with general neighbourhood surveillance of the site. In addition it has been proven that activation triggered lighting is a powerful deterrent.

4.2.5 The proposal is to install white light units to the rear of the School which will be activated through passive infra red detectors. These will further add to existing initiatives to reduce the opportunity for incidents of crime and ASB. Detector activation is recognised as a cost and environmentally effective means of managing security lighting in respect of intrusion potential to buildings and grounds.

4.2.6 The project, which has the support of Police and respective School Parent and Pupil groups, will contribute to the following Community Safety strategic objectives within the grants scheme:-

- Acquisitive crime
- Criminal damage and anti-social behaviour, including deliberate fire setting
- Reassurance and Community engagement

- Preventing and reducing offending, re-offending and the risk of offending offending.

4.2.7 Financial Implications

Project Cost	£ 1,150
St. Josephs Primary School	£ 375 -capital contribution
Burbank Forum	£ 400 -capital contribution
Grant requested	£ 375

The grant request fulfils the 35% contribution criteria.

All maintenance and operating costs will be met from St. Josephs Primary School revenue budget .

It is anticipated that works will be able to be completed in February 2010.

4.2.8 Recommendations

Members are asked to approve a grant of £375 towards the project.

The application has the full support of Section 17 Officer Group.

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

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Members are requested to consider and/or approve grant awards to two projects totalling no more than £4,925.

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Individual grant application papers.