

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: TUESDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2012
title: VILLAGE AMENITIES GRANT FUND
submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: PARTNERSHIP OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To approve the allocation of grants totalling £98,734 to enhance village amenities throughout Ribble Valley.
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:
 - Community Objectives – To protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At your meeting on 12 June 2012 you agreed the conditions, procedures and timescales for the allocation of the second round of village amenity grants. The total funding allocated was £100,000 from Council Tax Income on Second Homes/Performance Reward Grant monies.
- 2.2 Whilst it was originally envisaged that a panel of officers and members should consider all applications and be responsible for approving grant offers the Director of Resources reported to your August meeting that this Committee would formally approve all applications after considering the recommendations of the Corporate Management Team (CMT) and officers.

3 GRANT APPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The invitation to bid was widely circulated and 49 organisations applied for a grant before the deadline of 31 July 2012, the total amount requested being £306,884.
- 3.2 CMT together with the Council's Partnership Officer and Regeneration Officer met on 22 August 2012 and considered each application on the criteria approved. 19 applications totalling £98,734 were recommended to receive a grant. A summary of the recommended projects are attached in Appendix 1.
- 3.3 All other grant applications are summarised in Appendix 2.

4 TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE GRANT OFFERS

- 4.1 The Grant Offer letters will be sent out and signed acceptance of the terms laid out in the letter will be requested.

- 4.2 Letters will be sent to unsuccessful applicants offering encouragement to keep working on the project, ongoing support and an explanation of why their application was unsuccessful on this occasion.
- 4.3 The scheme must be completed to the satisfaction of the council and grants will only be released on demonstration that the contractors/suppliers have been paid.
- 4.4 The projects' progress and evidence of matched funding will be monitored on a regular basis and reported back to this committee every three months.

5 RISK ASSESSMENT

5.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – The budget provision for these village amenity grants is £100,000. This amount has been allocated from the Council Tax Income on Second Homes/ Performance Reward Grant Monies.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – None.
- Political – None.
- Reputation – The grants will be an important contribution to the well-being of the communities.
- Equality & Diversity – None .

6 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

6.1 Approve the recommended grant allocations as set out in Appendix 1.

DAVID INGHAM
PARTNERSHIP OFFICER

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1 Recommended Village Amenities Grant Projects

For further information please ask for David Ingham, extension 4549.

REF: DI/POLICY & FINANCE/250912

APPENDIX 1

Ribble Valley Village Amenities Grant – 2012

RECOMMENDED PROJECTS SUMMARY

Project	Location	Description	Funding Requested	Total Project Cost	Recommended Funding
New Entrance	Bashall Eaves	Install a new entrance and doorway at Bashall Eaves Hall to improve access for community	£5,600	£6,600	£5,600
Car Park	Balderstone	Provision of a community car park at St Leonards Church, Balderstone	£10,000	£90,000	£2,500
Jubilee Wood	Dinckley	Planting of a wood and providing benches by Dinckley Bridge	£2,000	£3,000	£1,000
Audio Visual System	Knowle Green	Upgrade the facilities of Knowle Green village hall to encourage increased use by community	£2,000	£2,470	£500
Pavilion	Grindleton	Development of second phase of building on first floor of Grindleton pavilion	£10,000	£39,900	£10,000
Kitchen	Dunsop Bridge	Replace existing kitchen in Dunsop Village Hall	£7,234	£7,234	£7,234
Projector	Slaidburn	Purchase of projector for use in Slaidburn village hall	£949	£949	£500
Replacement Lighting	Read	The lights at Read United Reformed Church, used for many community activities, are no longer manufactured so replacement lighting is required	£1,900	£2,500	£1,900
Insulation of Roof Space	Wilpshire	Provide insulation for roof space and secondary double glazing for Wilpshire Methodist Church Hall which will increase community activities and reduce heating costs	£10,000	£10,000	£5,000
Restoration of Retaining Wall	Bolton by Bowland	Restoration of Kirk Beck retaining wall adjoining Bolton by Bowland Village Hall which otherwise is in danger of being imminently flooded by the river	£10,000	£16,700	£7,500
Feasibility Study	Salesbury	Update of report undertaken in 2010 on feasibility to refurbish or rebuild Salesbury Memorial Hall	£500	£600	£500
Insulation and Refurbishment of Hall	Gisburn	Reduce energy usage at Gisburn Festival Hall by improving insulation of the building and thereby encouraging more community activities	£10,000	£12,100	£10,000
Improved Insulation	Newton in Bowland	Reduce energy usage at Newton in Bowland Village Hall and making the hall a more acceptable venue	£10,000	£18,000	£10,000

Project	Location	Description	Funding Requested	Total Project Cost	Recommended Funding
Little Green Bus	Ribble Valley	Purchase a new(er) minibus for the Ribble Valley community and save on maintenance costs	£10,000	£25,000	£2,500
Multi Use Games Area & Shelter	Whalley	Create a floodlit MUGA surface and Youth Shelter on the Queen Elizabeth 2 Playing Fields as a resource for young people	£10,000	£132,900	£10,000
Kitchen & Toilets	Ribchester	Provide new toilet facilities and kitchen in the Ribchester Village Hall to improve facilities and encourage more community events	£10,000	£27,000	£10,000
Civic Hall	Longridge	Improvements to the Longridge Civic Hall including modernising toilets, making the hall safer and more attractive to new community users	£10,000	£10,000	£2,500
Roof and Lighting	Pendleton	Repair and insulate roof and replace lighting to make Pendleton Village Hall a more energy efficient and warmer community space and thereby encourage more use of the hall	£10,000	£12,900	£10,000
Community Access to Defibrillator	Chipping	Pilot of rural scheme to put a defibrillator in a secure cabinet in community areas throughout Ribble Valley, the first being outside Chipping Hall and available to the villagers and those on the adjacent playing fields and recreational area	£1,500	£1,500	£1,500
		TOTAL RECOMMENDED	£131,683	£418,453	£98,734

APPENDIX 2

Ribble Valley Village Amenities Grant – 2012

SUMMARY OF OTHER PROJECTS SUBMITTED

Project	Location	Description	Funding Requested	Total Project Cost
Urban Art	Ribble Valley	Production of quality art work by young people in urban art spaces	£6,550	£6,550
Damp Treatment	Downham	Eradication of damp to inside wall in corner of Downham village hall	£10,000	£14,700
Score Box	Chatburn	Replacement of scorebox at Chatburn cricket club	£2,362	£2,362
Festival	Read	Upgrade the St John's Church with a public address and audio visual system and run a community festival in December 2012	£4,990	£9,980
Goal Posts & Nets	Gisburn	Provision of goals and nets for Gisburn Recreation Ground	£500	£700
Mower, Roller and Liner	Read	Purchase of mower, roller and white liner for Read United Football Club	£2,500	£3,000
Draining Playing Field	Waddington	Improve the drainage of Waddington playing field to allow increased use by community	£10,000	£37,600
Bench	Chatburn	Replacement of a bench on Chatburn playing field	£300	£400
Plaques	Chipping	Provision of two plaques to give information on John Brabins Almshouses and Towns Hall in Chipping	£500	£670
Dance	Ribble Valley	Provide an opportunity for a block of eight week dance sessions in Chipping, Sabden, Slaidburn, Langho and Longridge	£1,500	£1,500
Outdoor Recreation	Sawley	Provide new equipment and facilities at Sawley Play Area	£5,691	£5,691
Changing Room	Longridge	Provision of new changing rooms for Longridge Cricket Club and toilets for public use	£10,000	£250,000
Art Project	Ribble Valley	Introduce a programme of art and craft based workshops and events in accessible locations with assisted transport	£8,200	£9,000
Chairs & Tables	Mellor Brook	Provide stackable chairs and tables for Mellor Brook Hall to create more community space	£5,125	£6,100
Improvement of Playing Fields	Chipping	Improvement of the playing fields around Chipping Village Hall specifically to level ground and improve drainage on football pitches	£10,000	£160,000

Project	Location	Description	Funding Requested	Total Project Cost
Meeting Place for Vulnerable People	Ribble Valley	Provide a weekly meeting place to support a specific group of Ribble Valley vulnerable people for two years	£1,500	£1,500
Seating Area	Barrow	Provide a seating area on the soon to be refurbished Barrow playing field adjoining the new housing development resulting in the provision of a focal point for village residents and visitors.	£10,000	£78,000
Improve Toilet Facilities	West Bradford	Improve and increase toilet facilities at West Bradford Village Hall to enhance opportunities for larger functions	£10,000	£15,200
Access for Disabled	Rimington	Build a ramp to allow access for Disabled Christian Fellowship meetings at Salem Congregational Chapel, Rimington	£3,000	£3,200
Wall around Village Green	Chipping	Repair and renovate wall around Chipping Village Green	£1,518	£1,518
New Footpath	Read	Create a footpath around Read playground to improve access and maintenance	£585	£585
Showfield Improvement	Longridge	Level areas, improve drainage and road ways on Goosnargh & Longridge Showfield to allow more frequent and efficient usage of the site	£10,000	£20,000
Main Roof	Clitheroe	Repair to the main hall roof of St Mary's Centre, Clitheroe to prevent further damage and allow continued use as community hub	£10,000	£24,700
Play Area	Ribchester	Refurbishment of supporting timber stanchions, safety surface and swing seats on Ribchester Play Area to maintain safety of equipment	£9,680	£9,680
Seating	Ribchester	Provide seats within Ribchester Millenium Sculpture Garden	£5,500	£5,500
Fire Alarm	Clitheroe	Install a fire alarm system to make United Reformed Church, Clitheroe a safer place for wider community use	£10,000	£15,000
Community Function Room	Read	Remodelling of existing clubhouse at Read Cricket Club to allow more use by the community	£10,000	£100,000
Community Centre	Whalley	Provide resources for a community centre to be located in the Stable Trading Whalley Centre	£8,000	£8,000
Disabled Persons' Toilet Facilities	Waddington	Provide toilet facilities for disabled persons in the community hall attached to Waddington Methodist Church	£3,500	£9,000
Bus Shelter	Sawley	Provide a bus shelter on the A59 to allow Sawley residents to take shelter	£3,700	£3,700
		Total (Others)	£175,201	£803,837