

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No 9

meeting date: 23 JANUARY 2018
title: CONCURRENT FUNCTION GRANTS
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: TRUDY HOLDERNESS

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To consider the allocation of concurrent function grants for 2017/18.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and Priorities:

- In accordance with the corporate strategy objective "to protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area". This report will provide a means for providing a high quality environment, including safe, clean parks and open spaces.
- In accordance with the sustainable community strategy a key priority is "to maintain, protect and enhance all natural and built features that contribute to the quality of the environment", this report will provide the means for supporting Parish/Town Councils with maintaining and protecting the quality of the environment.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 In November 2017, this committee considered a revised Concurrent Function grant Scheme, which combined the previous Parish Lengthsman scheme with the concurrent function grant scheme.

2.2 We were unable to recommend any prescriptive changes without considering the funding requests against the total grant pot available.

2.3 The combined scheme continues to give grant assistance for those Parishes/Town Councils who provide services in their areas, which elsewhere are provided by the Borough Council

2.4 The Council has agreed to support Parish and Town Council net revenue expenditure on the following concurrent functions.

- Burial Grounds
- Bus Shelters
- Footpaths
- Footway Lighting
- Litter Collection
- Dog waste bins
- Parks and play areas
- Parish Lengthsman

- 2.5 Support of the previous concurrent function grant scheme set at a rate of 25% of eligible net revenue expenditure in the previous year subject to the overall cost to the Borough Council not exceeding £20,000p.a.
- 2.6 The past Parish Lengthsman scheme only supported a selection of parishes based on a historic, and now ended Lancashire County Council Lengthsman scheme.
- 2.7 The combined annual revenue budget allocation of both schemes has been approved of £31,060.

3 ALLOCATION OF 2017/18 GRANT

- 3.1 In November all Parish Councils were sent a revised concurrent function grant application form for 2017/18. It included an invitation to apply for a grant, with applications to be received by the Borough Council by 23 December 2017.
- 3.2 24 applications were received, with revenue expenditure to be supported totalling £87,128 (See Annex1).
- 3.3 Having received the applications, we are now in a position to consider options for allocating the combined grant pot.

<p><u>Option 1</u></p> <p>100% of lengthsman grant as paid in 2016/17 (or 100% of actual parish lengthsman expenditure if lower than 2016/17 grant)</p> <p style="font-size: 24px;">+</p> <p>25% of eligible concurrent function expenditure Including parish lengthsman expenditure, if not previously receiving a parish lengthsman grant</p>
<p><u>Option 2</u></p> <p>75% of lengthsman grant as paid in 2016/17 (or 75% of actual parish lengthsman expenditure if lower than 2016/17 grant)</p> <p style="font-size: 24px;">+</p> <p>25% of eligible concurrent function expenditure Including parish lengthsman expenditure, if not previously receiving a parish lengthsman grant.</p>

- 3.4 The financial implications of these two options is that they are both within the budget provision of £31,060, details of which are shown in Annex 2, summarised in the table below.

2017/18	Option 1	Option 2
Transitional Parish Lengthsman Grant	8,788	6,591
25% of Revenue Expenditure	17,962	17,962
Total Grant Allocation for 2017/18	26,750	24,553

- 3.5 To facilitate the amalgamation of the two schemes this committee is asked to consider a transitional scheme for the previous parish lengthsman scheme, dependant on the option approved at 3.3. This being a stepped reduction in the grant paid as follows:

Transitional Scheme for previous Parish Lengthsman Grant				
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/22+
Option 1	100%	75%	50%	25% thereafter
Option 2	75%	50%	25% thereafter	25%

NB All other eligible concurrent function expenditure will be supported at a rate of 25%

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – a total budget of £31,060 is available to fund the grants requested and the proposed expenditure is within this balance.
- Technical, environmental and legal – no implications identified
- Political – no implications identified
- Reputation - the matter covered links to the Council's ambitions and priorities to protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area.
- Equality and Diversity – the scheme is open to all parish and town councils.

5 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 Approve Option 1 or Option 2 for allocation of 2017/18 concurrent function grants as proposed in Annex 2.
- 5.2 Approve the transitional scheme for parish lengthsman grants as set out at 3.5.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

PF10-18/TH/AC
12 JANUARY 2018

CONCURRENT FUNCTION GRANT APPLICATIONS – 2017/18

Nos	Parish / Town Council	Burial Grounds	Footpaths	Footway Lighting	Litter Collection	Dog Waste Bins	Parks and Play Areas	Parish Lengthsman	Sub-Total	Less Other Funding	Net Expenditure
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
	<i>Applications</i>										
1	Aighton Bailey/Chaigley						775	483	1,258		1,258
2	Barrow	145			178		824	2,910	4,057	-1,651	2,406
3	Billington & Langho	1,536					6,622	2,805	10,963		10,963
4	Bolton By Bowland						1,000	3,427	4,427		4,427
5	Bowland Forest(Higher)						1,819	598	2,417	-600	1,817
6	Chatburn				700		1,921		2,621		2,621
7	Chipping						2,453		2,453		2,453
8	Clitheroe		888		1,452		336	3,324	6,000		6,000
9	Gisburn						311	1,684	1,995		1,995
10	Grindleton		128					928	1,056		1,056
11	Longridge				7,525		295		7,820		7,820
12	Mellor	600			1,479		3,641		5,720		5,720
13	Newton in Bowland						439	1,288	1,727		1,727
14	Pendleton							300	300		300
15	Read				178	1,066	754	1,000	2,998		2,998
16	Ribchester						364	2,204	2,568		2,568
17	Rimington & Middop						1,250		1,250		1,250
18	Sabden	350	50			139	1,040	4,566	6,145		6,145
19	Simonstone				321			820	1,141		1,141
20	Waddington						2,866		2,866		2,866
21	West Bradford							1,376	1,376		1,376
22	Whalley	4,842					2,893	2,951	10,686		10,686
23	Wilpshire		2,679				595	3,795	7,069	-250	6,819
24	Wiswell	74	50				92	500	716		716
	Sub-Total	7,547	3,795	0	11,833	1,205	30,290	34,959	89,629	-2,501	87,128

OPTIONS FOR ALLOCATION CONCURRENT FUNCTION GRANT – 2017/18

Nos	Parish / Town Council	Option 1			Option 2			Grants paid 2016/17		
		Lengthsman Grant 100% £	Concurrent Function Grant £	Total £	Lengthsman Grant 75% £	Concurrent Function Grant £	Total £	Lengthsman Grant £	Concurrent Function Grant £	Total £
1	Aighton Bailey/Chaigley	0	315	315	0	315	315	0	565	565
2	Barrow	0	602	602	0	602	602	0	411	411
3	Billington & Langho	0	2,741	2,741	0	2,741	2,741	0	1,035	1,035
4	Bolton By Bowland	2,000	250	2,250	1,500	250	1,750	2,000	326	2,326
5	Bowland Forest(Higher)	0	454	454	0	454	454	0	499	499
6	Chatburn	0	655	655	0	655	655	0	589	589
7	Chipping	0	613	613	0	613	613	0	543	543
8	Clitheroe	0	1,500	1,500	0	1,500	1,500	0	750	750
9	Gisburn	1,000	78	1,078	750	78	828	1,000	277	1,277
10	Grindleton	0	264	264	0	264	264	0	284	284
11	Longridge	0	1,955	1,955	0	1,955	1,955	0	3,181	3,181
12	Mellor	0	1,430	1,430	0	1,430	1,430	0	919	919
13	Newton in Bowland	1,288	110	1,398	966	110	1,076	2,000	113	2,113
14	Pendleton	0	75	75	0	75	75	0	75	75
15	Read	0	750	750	0	750	750	0	747	747
16	Ribchester	0	642	642	0	642	642	0	379	379
17	Rimington & Middop	0	313	313	0	313	313	0	0	0
18	Sabden	2,000	395	2,395	1,500	395	1,895	2,000	1,249	3,249
19	Simonstone	0	285	285	0	285	285	0	78	78
20	Waddington	0	717	717	0	717	717	0	501	501
21	West Bradford	500	0	500	375	0	375	500	0	500
22	Whalley	2,000	1,934	3,934	1,500	1,934	3,434	2,000	1,524	3,524
23	Wilpshire	0	1,705	1,705	0	1,705	1,705	0	2,284	2,284
24	Wiswell	0	179	179	0	179	179	0	179	179
	Total	8,788	17,962	26,750	6,591	17,962	24,553	9,500	16,508	26,008