

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM

8 APRIL 2014

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES

TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND 2012-13 THROUGH TO 2014-15

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of the Town and Community Forum the capital allocation for Community Projects for 2014/15 as identified in the Capital Programme.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority

- 2.1 In order for Town and Community Councils to benefit from the funding allocated, any projects approved must meet at least one of the Council's Improvement Priorities.

3. Background

- 3.1 Due to the number of bids received in 2012/13, it was approved that the £50,000 budget available for 2013/14 would be added to the 2012/13 budget, allowing a total of £78,600 to be distributed (£26,000 of the 12/13 budget was allocated against 11/12 projects). Funds underspent in previous years increased this to £88,507. No bids were therefore sought in 2013/14 with the two year full allocation being approved in 2012/13 by Cabinet.

- 3.2 The following criteria for allocation of this fund have been approved by Cabinet and reported previously to the Town and Community Council Forum:

- That an application form must be completed by each Town & Community Council that wishes to apply for this funding.
- That any projects must be linked to BCBC Improvement Priorities.
- That only one bid per Town or Community Council will be considered in each financial year.
- Projects should have a total value in excess of £5,000.
- That the County Borough Council's maximum contribution will be limited to £20,000 for each bid.
- That Town and Community Councils will need to provide details when money will be spent.
- Failure to spend the money in the allocated timescale, without a justifiable reason will result in the funding being rescinded.
- All projects to be of a capital nature – i.e. they must either create or enhance the value of an asset.
- Town and Community Councils to meet at least 50% of the project costs.
- That payment of any grant from the fund will be dependent upon receipt of evidence of costs having been incurred by the Town or Community Council.

- That any on-going revenue costs associated with the project will be met by the Town or Community Council.

3.3 The following table provides an update on all projects approved in 2012/13.

Table 1 – Projects Approved in 2012/13

Council	Project	Total Project Cost	Grant Awarded	Status
Llangynwyd Middle CC	Safe Pathways	£8,000	£4,000	Completed
Pyle CC	Heathbridge Miners Square	£20,000	£10,000	Completed
Garw Valley CC	Steps from community route to doctors surgery	£13,000	£6,500	Approved – works ongoing
Coity Higher CC	Upgrading derelict land - Litchard	£6,000	£3,000	Completed – cost £876
Coychurch Higher CC	Preparation of land for allotment/ community garden purposes	£5,000	£2,500	Approved – works ongoing
Maesteg TC	Install Puffin Crossing Bridgend Road, Maesteg	£52,000	£20,000	Completed
Pencoed TC	Pencoed Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)	£40,000	£20,000	Completed
Ynysawdre CC	Footpath drainage – Pandy Park	£5,015	£2,507	Completed
St Brides Minor CC	Memorial Garden	£60,000	£20,000	See note below
	Total to date		£88,507	

3.4 The underspend on the Coity Higher CC project was re-allocated to the increased project costs of the Garw Valley CC. This was approved by the Cabinet Member for Resources based on advice from the Corporate Property Group.

3.5 St Brides Minor Community Council subsequently submitted a revised proposal with a change of focus to a Community Garden Extension featuring a commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the commencement of the 1st World War. The funding requirement reduced to £12,011.60 on the basis of total project costs of £24,023.21. The project still links to all of BCBC's Improvement Priorities. Cabinet agreed that the revised bid was met from the resulting £20,000 slippage arising from the original submission, with the remaining £7,988 added to the available funding for 2014/15.

4. Current Situation

4.1 Bids for funding from the 2014/15 budget - £57,988 (£50,000 budget plus £7,988 slippage) were invited from all Town & Community Councils and the following projects were submitted by the 28th February 2014.

Table 2 – Bids Received 2014/15

Council	Project	Total project costs	Funding Requested	BCBC Improvement Priorities
Cefn Cribwr CC	Gateway to Mynydd Bach Common & War Memorial	£39,400	£19,400	Developing Local Economy, Educational Achievement, Supporting Children & Families, Help Vulnerable & Older People, Encouraging Healthy Lifestyles
Garw Valley CC	Darren Fawr Mountain Bike Trails signage	£12,000	£6,000	Developing Local Economy, Encouraging Healthy Lifestyles
Maesteg TC	Highway safety – paved area adjacent to Llynfi Surgery	£6,730	£3,365	Supporting Children & Families, Help Vulnerable & Older People
Porthcawl TC	Station Hill Refurbishment	£39,990	£19,990	Developing Local Economy, Educational Achievement, Supporting Children & Families, Help Vulnerable & Older People, Encouraging Healthy Lifestyles
Pyle CC	Refurbishment of Rosemount Garden	£28,000	£14,000	Developing Local Economy, Help Vulnerable & Older People, Encouraging Healthy Lifestyles
Total Bids			£62,755	

4.2 Description of Bids from Town and Community Councils:

- Cefn Cribwr CC – Gateway to Mynydd Bach Common & War Memorial to include upgraded bus shelters to complement the existing scheme. Phase 2 of the New War Memorial Scheme.
- Garw Valley CC – Brown tourism signage for the Darren Fawr Mountain Bike Trails in various locations from Bryncethin leading up to the Garw Valley and to the car park for the trails.
- Maesteg Town Council – Provision of a paved area adjacent to the Llynfi Surgery to assist and provide safe access to the town for pedestrians.
- Porthcawl TC – Station Hill refurbishment project. Proposal forms Phase 2 of the regeneration scheme for the area (Phase 1 included the refurbishment of the subway). Area proposed for refurbishment is essentially a resting area for elderly residents and others who access the Town Centre.

- Pyle CC – The refurbishment of the area known as Rosemount Gardens, Pyle. Transform a tired ‘landscaped area’ into a vibrant live garden with which the community can interact and take ‘ownership’.

4.3 The total value of bids received exceeded the amount of funding available by £4,766. The budget available represents 92% of funding requests, therefore Cabinet agreed that all applications receive 92% of their requests as detailed in Table 3. Any further slippage is also proposed to be allocated on the same basis.

4.4 Table 3 – Proposed Allocation 2014/15

Council	Project	Funding Requested	BCBC Improvement Priorities	Proposed Allocation 2014/15
Cefn Cribwr CC	Gateway to Mynydd Bach Common & War Memorial	£19,400	Developing Local Economy, Educational Achievement, Supporting Children & Families, Help Vulnerable & Older People, Encouraging Health Lifestyle	£17,926
Garw Valley CC	Darren Fawr Mountain Bike Trails signage	£6,000	Developing Local Economy, Encouraging Health Lifestyle	£5,544
Maesteg TC	Highway safety – paved area adjacent to Llyinfi Surgery	£3,365	Supporting Children & Families, Help Vulnerable & Older People	£3,109
Porthcawl TC	Station Hill Refurbishment	£19,990	Developing Local Economy, Educational Achievement, Supporting Children & Families, Help Vulnerable & Older People, Encouraging Health Lifestyle	£18,472
Pyle CC	Refurbishment of Rosemount Garden	£14,000	Developing Local Economy, Help Vulnerable & Older People, Encouraging Health Lifestyle	£12,937
Totals		£62,755		£57,988

5. Effect upon Policy Framework& Procedure Rules

5.1 There is no impact on the policy framework and procedure rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 Allocation of funds will be met from within funding allocated within the capital programme for Town and Community Council projects. The proposed allocation will utilise funds slipped from 2012/13 and for 2014/15.

8. Recommendation

The Town and Community Council Forum are asked to note the content of the report.