

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

31 OCTOBER 2017

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES

TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL CAPITAL FUND ALLOCATION 2017/2018

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to seek Cabinet approval to allocate funds from the Town and Community Council Capital Fund in line with the recommendations contained within the report.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

2.1. This report supports the following corporate priorities:

- Supporting a successful local economy
- Smarter use of resources

3. Background

3.1 Historically, the Town and Community Council capital fund has been used to support a range of different projects proposed by Town and Community Councils and the total available within the whole fund was capped at £50,000. However in 2016/2017 the fund value was increased to £100,000 for each financial year up to 2018/19, and it was made clear that, in future, Town and Community Councils would be encouraged to link their future applications to the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) process. Support to do this has been provided by the Community Asset Transfer Officer.

3.2 Whilst this change was in recognition of the impact of reducing Local Authority resources and the potential for Town and Community Councils to deliver more services, proposals in 2016/2017 were still supported for non-CAT as well as CAT related schemes due to a delay in sending out the new criteria to the Town and Community Councils.

3.3 Following discussions at Town and Community Council Forum meetings during 2017 and correspondence with all Town and Community Councils the criteria for 2017/2018 were again linked to the CAT process.

3.4 The Council has an approved allocation of £100,000 in its capital programme for 2017/18 to support applications from Town and Community Councils for capital projects. In addition, for 2017/18 there is an unspent balance of £20,000 which was allocated to Porthcawl Town Council in 2016/2017 and earmarked for a road hump replacement scheme, which is now not going forward as the final costings were prohibitive. This amount has been brought forward into 2017/18 to bring the total amount available for new schemes to £120,000.

4. Current Situation / Proposal

4.1. The proposals received for the 2017/2018 allocation are outlined below:

No.	Name	Summary	Total Project Cost	Amount applied for
1	Cornelly Community Council	Community Centre Roof	£100,000.00	£50,000.00
2	Cornelly Community Council	Green Area/Playground	£150,000.00	£40,000.00
3	Maesteg Town Council	Puffin Crossing	£52,000.00	£20,000.00
4	Porthcawl Town Council	Griffin Park Toilets	£70,000.00	£35,000.00
5	Pyle Community Council	Ffald Road Gateway Crossing	£22,000.00	£11,000.00
6	Pyle Community Council	Roadside Parking/Trees	£120,000.00	£60,000.00
			£514,000.00	£216,000.00

4.2 It should be noted that the 2017/18 scheme allows for bids in excess of £20,000 for the first time and consideration was given to projects where the Council's contribution is greater than £20,000 dependent on the nature of the project. Applicants will still have to provide at least 50% of the match funding and if projects go over budget then the applicant is liable for the excess amount.

4.3 In considering proposals and their connection with the CAT process the following is noted:

- Cornelly Community Council – Community Centre Roof – advanced CAT proposal
- Cornelly Community Council – Green Area/Playground – early stage CAT proposal
- Maesteg Town Council – Puffin Crossing – not directly CAT related
- Porthcawl Town Council – Griffin Park Toilets – advanced CAT proposal
- Pyle Community Council – Ffald Road Gateway Crossing – not directly CAT related
- Pyle Community Council – Roadside parking/Tress – not directly CAT related

4.4 With the stated desire to more closely align the Town and Community Council Fund with the CAT process the proposed approvals are:

- Cornelly Community Council – Community Centre Roof
- Porthcawl Town Council – Griffin Park Toilets

4.5 The Community Asset Transfer Officer will undertake further work with Cornelly Community Council in relation to their Green Area/Playground proposal as well as advising other Town and Community Councils on the potential links of any future proposals to the CAT process.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules

5.1. None

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1. No equalities impact assessment is necessary as part of the grant allocation process, although individual schemes that have been proposed may have a positive impact in some instances.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. Of the total allocation of £120,000 available for new schemes in 2017/2018 it is proposed that £50,000 be allocated to Cornelly Community Council – Community Centre Roof - and £35,000 to Porthcawl Town Council – Griffin Park Toilets, totalling £85,000.

Allocation 17/18	£ 100,000.00
Carry Forward	£ 20,000.00
Total Allocation	£ 120,000.00
Cornelly Community Council	£ 50,000.00
Porthcawl Town Council	£ 35,000.00
Total in Applications	£ 85,000.00
Remaining from Total Allocation	£ 35,000.00

- 7.2 It is proposed that the remaining allocation of £35,000 is carried forward to 2018/2019 and that the financial allocation for that year be £135,000.
- 7.3 The deadline for applications for 2018/2019 is 21st February 2018 and it is currently envisaged a decision will be made on 27th March 2018.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1. It is recommended that Cabinet approve funding for the projects named in section 4.4 for the values detailed in section 7.1.

Mark Shephard
CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES
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Contact Officer: Sue Whittaker
Manager, Skills and Sustainable Development

Telephone: (01656) 815324

E-mail: Sue.Whittaker@bridgend.gov.uk

Postal Address: Bridgend County Borough Council, Communities Directorate, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

Background documents:

Cabinet Report 14 July 2015 - Community Asset Transfer

Town and Community Council Forum Report 21st September 2015 - Community Asset Transfer

Town and Community Council Fund Report 11 January 2016 - Community Asset Transfer Update

Cabinet Report 7 June 2016 - Town and Community Council Capital Fund Allocations 2016/17

Town and Community Council Fund Report 12 September 2016 - Community Asset Transfer Update

Town and Community Council Fund Report 10 July 2017 - Community Asset Transfer Update