

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

27 MARCH 2018

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES

TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL CAPITAL FUND ALLOCATION 2018/2019

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. The Council has in the Capital Programme 2017 – 2028 an approved allocation of £100,000 for 2018/19 with £50,000 for the subsequent years that is intended to support applications from Town and Community Councils for capital projects.

3.2 For the past two financial years – 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 – effort has been made to support applications to the fund that directly link to the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) process, in recognition of reducing Local Authority resources and the options available to Town and Community Councils to deliver alternative services.

3.3 With the stated desire to more closely align the Town and Community Council Fund with the CAT process the approvals in 2017/2018 were:

- Cornelly Community Council – Community Centre Roof – advanced CAT proposal - £50,000
- Porthcawl Town Council – Griffin Park Toilets – advanced CAT proposal - £35,000

3.4 The information and criteria circulated to all Town and Community Councils for applications for 2018/2019 again indicated the desired link to the CAT process but did not exclude other non-CAT related proposals.

4. Current Situation / Proposal

4.1. The proposals received for the 2018/2019 allocation are outlined below:

Applicant	Total Project Value	Requested TCC Fund amount	Summary
St Brides Minor	£13,100.00	£6,550.00	Tarmac Bryncethin Memorial Hall Carpark
Brackla	£62,000.00	£31,000.00	Re-locate office and create multi-use rooms in Brackla Community Centre
Garw Valley	£10,795.09	£3,795.09	Bus shelter refurbishment in Betws
Coity Higher	£19,663.00	£9,831.50	Install 3 speedwatch signs in speeding hot spots
Pencoed	£59,000.00	£20,000.00	Provision of skateboard park
Cornelly	£150,000.00	£40,000.00	Landscaping around Cornelly Community Centre including pocket park
	£314,558.09	£111,176.59	

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

Applicant	Project	CAT link
St Brides Minor	Tarmac Bryncethin Memorial Hall Carpark	Not CAT related
Brackla	Re-locate office and create multi-use rooms in Brackla Community Centre	The property has already been transferred via a CAT
Garw Valley	Bus shelter refurbishment in Betws	Whilst not a CAT project, opportunity exists to reduce future resource requirements.
Coity Higher	Install 3 speedwatch signs in speeding hot spots	Not CAT related.
Pencoed	Provision of skateboard park	CAT process is underway
Cornelly	Landscaping around Cornelly Community Centre including pocket park	CAT EOI has been approved.

4.3 In relation to the non-CAT related projects, the following is noted:

- St Bride's Minor – the applicant highlights a proposal to respond to a safety concern in a clear way that would benefit a range of residents and community organisations.
- Brackla – the property in question has already been subject to a CAT process
- Garw Valley – The proposal offers the potential to reduce maintenance costs for the Highways service and presents a joined up use of resources, utilising Councillor funding through the Community Action Fund. Further information can be found here: <http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/49346.aspx>

- Coity Higher – Based on the information provided it would appear that further consultation may be required with the Highways department and potential may exist to utilise Councillor funding through the Community Action Fund.

4.4 With the stated desire to more closely align the Town and Community Council Fund with the CAT process and taking into account the information provided in the applications the proposed approvals are:

- St Bride's Minor – £6,500
- Garw Valley – £3,795.09
- Pencoed – £20,000
- Cornelly - £40,000
- TOTAL £70,295.09

4.5 All funding offers will be conditional on compliance with the stated terms and conditions of the Town and Community Council Fund and feedback as outlined in section 4.3 will be provided to the applicants.

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. Following the 2017/2018 allocations a balance of £135,000, based on the base budget of £100,000 and a carry forward of £35,000, is available for allocation for the financial year of 2018/2019.

7.2 From this, it is proposed that a total amount of £70,295.09 be allocated as outlined in section 4.4 and the remaining allocation of £64,704.91 is carried forward to 2019/2020. In doing so Cabinet are reminded that the base budget for the Town and Community Council Capital fund 2019/2020 is scheduled to revert back to £50,000. Therefore the total available for 2019/2020 including base budget and carry-forward will be £114,704.91 and this will further assist in efforts towards CAT processes being completed.

7.3 It is noted that whilst the base budget for the Town and Community Council Fund reverts back to £50,000 from £100,000 in 2018/2019 it is not considered, based on levels of applications in recent years, that there is a need to seek to increase to £100,000. However, when the level of demand for 2018/2019 is known this information will be used to determine whether there is a need to investigate increasing the base budget to £100,000 in 2019/2020.

7.4 The deadline for applications for 2019/2020 will be February 2019 and it is currently envisaged a decision will be made in March 2019

8. Recommendation

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

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March 2018

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Background documents:
N/A