

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

16 APRIL 2019

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES

TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY PROJECTS FUND ALLOCATION 2019/2020

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to seek Cabinet approval to allocate funds from the Town and Community Council Community Projects Fund for 2019/2020 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 economy – taking steps to make the county a good place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions of all people in the county.
- Helping people to be more self-reliant – taking early steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services.
- Smarter use of resources – ensuring that all its resources (financial, physical, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the development of resources throughout the community that can help deliver the Council's priorities.

3. Background

3.1. The Council has in the Medium Term Financial Strategy Capital Programme 2018/19 to 2028/29 an approved annual allocation for Community Projects of £50,000 for 2019/20 and subsequent years that is intended to support applications from Town and Community Councils for capital projects. Should the annual allocation not be fully allocated then it is possible to roll forward to subsequent years as was the case in 2018/2019 which enabled the allocations outlined in 3.3 below.

3.2 Since 2016 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 Community Projects Fund with the CAT process the approvals in 2018/2019 were:

Applicant	Total Project Value	Approved BCBC Fund amount	Summary
St Brides Minor	£13,100.00	£6,550.00	Tarmac Bryncethin Memorial Hall Carpark
Garw Valley	£10,795.09	£3,795.09	Bus shelter refurbishment in Betws
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
	£232,895.09	£70,345.09	

- 3.4 The information and criteria circulated to all Town and Community Councils for applications for 2019/2020 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 2019/2020 allocation are outlined below:

Applicant	Total Project Value	Requested BCBC Fund amount	Summary
Pencoed Town Council	£40,000.00	£20,000.00	Pavilion renovation
Bridgend Town Council	£78,822.20	£20,000.00	Renew Athletic Track and Newbridge Fields
Cornelly Community Council	£20,000.00	£10,000.00	Refurbish Community Centre toilets
Cefn Cribbwr Community Council	£11,181.15	£5,910.00	New Tarmac surface for Bedford Park car park
Coity Higher Community Council	£29,999.93	£14,999.97	Refurbish Pendre Fields play area
Coity Higher Community Council	£30,832.54	£15,416.27	Refurbish Coity Castle play area
	£210,835.82	£86,326.24	

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

Applicant	Project	CAT Link
Pencoed Town Council	Pavilion renovation	<p>The expression of interest for the transfer of Pencoed Recreation Ground Pavilion on a long-term lease and the pitches under a 3 year management agreement with a 12 month termination clause was approved by the CAT Steering Group on 15 February 2019.</p> <p>The pavilion has been closed since March 2018 following storm damage and is considered to be uneconomical to be repaired by the Corporate Landlord due to the limited funds available to the Council. The Town Council wish to refurbish the pavilion so that it can be re-opened for the benefit of sports clubs, the playgroup and the wider community.</p>
Bridgend Town Council	Renew Athletic Track and Newbridge Fields	<p>Bridgend Athletic Club (BAC) had their expression of interest for the transfer of the athletic site including the track at Newbridge Fields approved by the CAT Steering Group on 22/08/18</p> <p>A key priority for BAC is to replace the running track which is estimated to cost £78,822. Going forward the Club are also looking to re-develop their clubhouse and are open to working in partnership with other sports users of Newbridge Fields.</p>
Cornelly Community Council	Refurbish Community Centre toilets	<p>The Community Council's expression of interest for the transfer of North Cornelly Community Council was approved on 26/09/17 by the CAT Steering Group and a long-term lease is in the process of been finalised.</p> <p>The Community Council are</p>

		seeking match-funding to refurbish the toilets in the Centre that are used by members of the public.
Coity Higher Community Council	Refurbish Pendre Fields play area	<p>The Community Council's expression of interest for the transfer of Pendre Fields (Great Western Avenue) was approved by the CAT Steering Group on 16/05/18 and a long-term lease is presently being finalised.</p> <p>The Community Council are seeking funding to replace the existing play equipment.</p>
Coity Higher Community Council	Refurbish Coity Castle play area	<p>The Community Council's expression of interest for the transfer of the remaining play areas in Coity Higher was approved by the CAT Steering Group on 06/03/19.</p> <p>The Council's Green Spaces and Bereavement Services is responsible for maintaining the play area at Coity Castle but presently the Council does not own the land. The Corporate Landlord is in the process of determining ownership of the site and the feasibility of requesting a transfer to the Council.</p> <p>The Community Council are seeking funding to replace the existing play equipment and this could be allowed, subject to the agreement of the landowner, whether or not the land is transferred to the Council.</p>

- 4.3 The proposal of Cefn Cribbwr Community Council for the new Tarmac surface at Bedford Park car park is not directly linked to CAT but will continue to provide parking on land leased from BCBC by the Community Council, which forms a gateway to Bedford Park, as well as servicing local amenities.
- 4.4 With the stated desire to more closely align the Community Projects Fund with the CAT process and to meet the corporate priorities of the Council, taking into account the information provided in the applications the proposed approvals are:

Applicant	Proposed award
Pencoed Town Council	£20,000.00
Bridgend Town Council	£20,000.00
Cornelly Community Council	£10,000.00
Cefn Cribbwr Community Council	£5,910.00
Coity Higher Community Council	£14,999.97
Coity Higher Community Council	£15,416.27
Total	£86,326.24

4.5 All funding offers will be conditional on compliance with the stated terms and conditions of the Community Projects Fund and feedback will be available 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. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications

7.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Assessment Template has been completed and a summary of the implications from the assessment relating to the five ways of working is below:

- Long-term: The projects proposed for support are those that have been identified by Town and Community Councils themselves in response to current need and therefore propose to implement action that meets the needs of current generations. A process of local needs identification followed by local led delivery in response to it will enhance the capacity of local organisations to take forward further schemes in the future.
- Prevention: The projects that are proposed for support if left undelivered will create a worsening of conditions currently being experienced by local residents. In addition if the schemes were to be delivered in future years any further deterioration may result in increased costs.
- Integration: The Community Projects Capital Fund will achieve this way of working by recognising the projects that are proposed for support are those that have been identified by the Town and Community Councils themselves as best placed to utilise available funding to meet local needs in a holistic way.

- Collaboration: The proposals have been developed and will be delivered through a strong partnership between BCBC and those Town and Community Councils that have applied for funding.
- Involvement: The Community Project Fund is delivered in close partnership with a range of local stakeholders. Discussions and development with the Town and Community Councils has taken place through BCBC's Community Asset Transfer Officer and information about the funding opportunity was provided to all Town and Community Councils in the County Borough.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. A budget of £119,073.91 is available for allocation for the financial year of 2019/2020, which comprises the 2019/20 base budget plus a balance carried forward from 2018/19 of £69,073.91.
- 8.2 From this, it is proposed that a total amount of £86,326.24 be allocated as outlined in section 4.4 and the remaining allocation of £32,747.67 is carried forward to 2020/2021. Therefore the total available for 2020/2021 including base budget and carry-forward will be £82,747.67 and this will further assist in efforts towards CAT processes being completed.
- 8.3 The deadline for applications for 2020/2021 will be February 2020 and it is currently envisaged a decision will be made in March 2020.

9. Recommendation

- 9.1. It is recommended that Cabinet approve the proposals for the allocation of funds from the Community Council Community Projects Fund for 2019/2020 in accordance with the projects named in section 4.4 for the values detailed.

Zak Shell
HEAD OF OPERATIONS – COMMUNITY SERVICES
12th March 2019

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Background documents:
N/A