

Agenda Item No.3 (a)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC POLICY, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND BUDGET

11 October 2016

Report of the Chief Executive

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES PROGRAMME

1. Purpose of the Report

To update the Cabinet Member for Strategic Policy, Economic Development and Budget on the projects supported by the Community Priorities Programme.

2. Information and Analysis

At Cabinet on 24 May 2016, Members agreed to establish a £2.271 million Community Priorities Programme using one off resources identified from General Reserves. The new Programme which will run for two years, will target and support activity in designated geographical areas. Devolving funds to a local level to support community activities, particularly activity which helps communities help themselves, supports the Council's priorities and sits alongside current work on Thriving Communities.

Tackling inequalities, particularly in the most deprived areas within the county is still an issue. The Indices of Multiple Deprivation was used to identify the 50% most deprived Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in Derbyshire which were designated as eligible areas for the Community Priorities Programme.

Councillors representing the designated areas were tasked with bringing forward projects from the local community that meet the agreed selection criteria and support activity principally benefiting the designated LSOA. As a minimum all projects are required to:

- Support activity principally benefiting the designated LSOA
- Support the aims and objectives of the Thriving Communities programme
- Link into Thriving Communities activity in areas where work is currently being piloted where possible
- Be time limited and not require ongoing funding from the Council

- Complement, not duplicate other funding sources such as the Public Health Locality Fund, the members Community Leadership Scheme etc.
- Show how activity can be sustained beyond the life of the funding
- Meet an identified need which can be evidenced through for example, English Indices of Deprivation, the Derbyshire Quilt etc.
- Be delivered within agreed timescales
- Show how local people have helped in the design of identified activity or have been consulted/engaged
- Show what difference is being made.

Strategic Director Thriving Community Leads with responsibility for district areas were delegated responsibility to approve projects requiring funding below £20,000. It was agreed that these approvals would be reported to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Policy, Economic Development and Budget on a quarterly basis. The projects that have been approved up until 21 September 2016 are listed in Appendix A. Projects requiring funding of £20,000 or above will be approved by the Cabinet Member for Strategic Policy, Economic Development and Budget, or Cabinet if £100,000 or above.

Strategic Director leads will also continue to offer support to Elected Members throughout the process and more practical advice will be available from Policy and Research staff designated to a district area. To ensure that the Programme continues to be fit for purpose, monitoring will take place on a regular basis with an evaluation of progress taking place annually.

3. Financial Considerations

The projects approved total £67,057 and this can be met from the Community Priorities Programme budget. To ensure that there is compliance with the Council's Financial Regulations, all approved projects will be issued with standard conditions of grant and will be subject to monitoring and evaluation.

4. Equality and Diversity Considerations

The Community Priorities Programme will ensure that the funding set aside will be targeted to the most deprived and disadvantaged areas of the county.

5. Social Value Considerations

The Community Priorities Programme will support the development of projects in the 50% most deprived LSOAs in the county, engaging with local people and supporting the improvement of the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the communities concerned. Any procurement or commissioning activities undertaken in relation to the Programme will consider the economic, environmental and social benefits of activity, seeking to maximise social value where appropriate.

6. Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered; legal, prevention of crime and disorder, environmental, human resources, health, property and transport considerations.

7. Background Papers

Reserves Position report to Cabinet - 26 January 2016

The English Indices of Deprivation - Report to Cabinet - 3 November 2015

Community Priorities Programme report to Cabinet – 24 May 2016

8. Key Decision

No

9. Call-in

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report? **No**

10. Officer's Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. To note the 15 projects totalling £67,057 that have been approved by the Strategic Director Thriving Communities Leads who have delegated responsibility for approving projects requiring funding below £20,000.
2. Further reports on projects approved be brought to the Cabinet Member for Strategic Policy, Economic Development and Budget on a quarterly basis.
3. Projects requiring funding of £20,000 or above will be brought to the Cabinet Member for approval.

Ian Stephenson
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Appendix A

Councillor	Project description	Amount	Total project cost	Approved by	Date approved
Cllr Andy Botham	Friends of Hurst Farm launched their newly renovated community centre which will reinvigorate community activity. The funding will provide replacement windows at the centre, a contribution towards the launch, set up equipment for the new centre and future events/activities.	£2,700	£2,700	Mags Young	03/06/2016
Cllr Roland Hosker	Long Eaton Rugby Club is seeking to extend and refurbish their clubhouse as the present social area cannot cope and sustain the growth in members and community use that the club has seen in recent years. This will provide a larger indoor area that can be used for other activities for example indoor fitness classes. The funding will also support the installation of a full pitch of floodlights on the training pitch which will enable the players to utilise the facilities in the darker winter months.	£10,000	£65,718	Jane Parfremment	21/07/2016
Cllr Ron Mihaly	The funding will enable Inspire Community Garden to involve more local people in the gardens and make them accessible to people with limited mobility. This includes the purchasing of more tools for use by the increasing number of volunteers, materials and equipment to install raised beds and potting tables, a site hut for storage, materials to construct a composting toilet and the establishment of a soft fruit area/orchard.	£4,950	£10,000	Peter Handford	11/08/2016

Cllr Ron Mihaly	The funding will be used to demolish the chapel at the back of the currently closed community St Francis Community Centre on Boythorpe Estate in Chesterfield. The hall has been closed since May 2016 due to the condition of the chapel, but a recent report from a structural engineer states that once the chapel is demolished the hall can re-open and continue to provide a range of activities to meet the needs of the local community.	£7,500	£13,700	Peter Handford	11/08/2016
Cllr Dave Wilcox	To continue of a variety of vital community activities in Gamesley predominantly run from the Geoffrey Allen Centre. This space provides an informal 'hub' for members of the community seeking help and advice and a base for G52 (a local volunteer group) to organise community activities. G52 are involved in a Thriving Communities programme pilot in the Gamesley area and through this work it is the hope that activities will be strengthened and expanded. Funding will enable G52 to develop capacity and establish more sustainable forms of support and income.	£6,000	£7,500	Judith Greenhalgh	11/08/2016
Cllr Duncan McGregor	To support Creswell Model Village Neighbourhood and Friends to increase community activity and involvement in the Creswell Model Village Community Garden in line with their resident led action plan. It will include awareness raising, purchase of tools, resources and equipment to build a sustainable garden, construction of an outdoor classroom and growing fruit and vegetables.	£2,283	£2,283	Ian Stephenson	24/08/2016

Cllr Paul Smith	To support newly established community group OSCARI to extend its current allotment project and offer more activities and opportunities for local residents in Riddings and Ironville. The funding will be used to purchase and construct a 10 x 20 foot workshop, a polytunnel and tools. The organisation has set up several groups and activities based at the community room within the Church of the Christ. They are looking to promote the activities to more residents and due to the lack of places to display this information they wish to purchase two notice boards for Riddings.	£2,944	£2,944	Mike Ashworth	12/09/2016
Cllr David Williams	The funding will be used to allow Heage Village Hall to undertake essential maintenance to the wooden floor in the main hall. This will ensure that it meets health and safety standards and will enable the venue to remain open for community use. The village hall currently provides a central facility within the village for community members and groups to meet to take part in a wide range of locally based activities, including a play group, children's club and youth club.	£1,592	£1,592	Mike Ashworth	12/09/2016
Cllr Michelle Booth	This would support Friends of Kirk Hallam Lake and Meadows to purchase a large lawnmower that is capable of cutting around the edges of the lake where the footpaths exist. Volunteers at the group have taken on more maintenance responsibilities, which requires them to expand their resources. The purchase of this particular grass cutter is vital to retain the high standard of	£600	£600	Jane Parfremment	16/09/2016

	environment enjoyed by the community. The public use this site daily, and it is often used to host local community activities and events which are well attended and add to local community spirit.				
Cllr Ron Mihaly	Local community and peer support groups have already started to meet in the Monkey Park Community Interest Company community hub, drawn by the informality and the relaxed atmosphere of a community cafe. There are already groups that support carers, parents of disabled children etc. The organisation is keen to facilitate more groups such as dementia befriending, disability support groups and more carer support etc. However, the conversations that they are having are often sensitive. The solution is to screen off an area of the community hub with a sliding door, so there is an area that feels like it is part of the cafe but which provides a bit more privacy. They would also like some better meeting room furniture for this area, a carpet and a slide screen/projector. The room will also be available to support new start-up businesses charities working upstairs in the community co-work space.	£2,220	£2,220	Peter Handford	19/09/2016
Cllr Ron Mihaly / Cllr Stuart Britain	Monkey Park Community Interest Company will provide self-confidence workshops and a pathway to self-employment for people in south Chesterfield, including Brampton, Boythorpe, St Augustines & Grangewood. They would like to help local people who are unemployed, underemployed or stuck in life to realise that	£8,600	£8,600	Peter Handford	19/09/2016

	they have great skills and could potentially run their own business or community organisation. Interested people will then be assessed and if appropriate will undertake a four week long volunteer-run Equipped to Succeed course.				
Cllr Duncan McGregor	Hodthorpe allotments are well used by many members of the community and have recently been relocated to a new site as part of a section 106 agreement from Welbeck Estates who are developing the previous site. The new site has approximately 71 plots which gives many more members of the community the opportunity to grow their own food. They are planning to have a community building on site (from section 106 funding) in the form of a large summerhouse. This will be used on a daily basis by the allotment holders and be open to all the community when they organise and run community events and fund raising days. There are currently no toilet facilities close to the site or on site, so the association is looking to install two compostable toilets. The toilets will be based on a 6m x 3m slabbed area. They would also like to purchase a mobile fire point trolley.	£3,418	£3,418	Ian Stephenson	21/09/2016
Cllr Duncan McGregor	Hodthorpe Woodland Walk is a one hectare area of semi-natural green space which has been created by Welbeck Estates. This walk is within the southern part of the new allotment site and is accessible via a pathway, of tiered mown grass that will be open 364 days per year. The woodland walk has been planted with saplings and seeded with wild flowers.	£3,662	£3,662	Ian Stephenson	21/09/2016

	Hodthorpe and Belph Community Association wish to enhance the site by providing seating in the form of a 15 foot long carved chestnut log bench. They also wish to purchase a five limbed green oak signpost and a calved sign in keeping with a woodland theme, along with some more trees.				
Cllr Duncan McGregor	Shuttlewood Link is a newly formed community group supporting Shuttlewood and the wider community. They plan to run a parent/grandparent and toddler group two mornings a week at the Oxcroft miners' welfare. The grant will secure the room rental for an initial 12 months and ensure that the room is completely child friendly and secure. The room can cater for over 40 people. The funding will also provide play equipment for the children. Local residents will receive volunteer training which will enable them to facilitate the group. They are looking to recruit two lead volunteers who will need to be DBS checked and complete the DCC passport to volunteering training.	£2,200	£2,200	Ian Stephenson	21/09/2016
Cllr Joan Dixon	Rhubarb Farm wishes to set up a Men in Sheds project, to provide support for older, isolated men. This will take the form of using a portakabin to run practical activities such as woodwork, mechanical or welding activities or model-making run by and for men. Items made by the project would then be sold to generate income which will support future sustainability. The project will engage socially-isolated men in an informal adult learning activity where they	£8,388	£8,388	Ian Stephenson	21/09/2016

	can keep mind and body active, whilst also being able to learn and understand about health and wellbeing in their changing lives. The project which will take place once a week will provides a safe, supportive and friendly setting where men can socialise, learn new skills and hone existing skills.				
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