

REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER FOR DECISION

Open		Would any decisions proposed :		
Any especially affected Wards	Discretionary	(a) Be entirely within cabinet's powers to decide YES		
		(b) Need to be recommendations to Council NO		
		(c) Be partly for recommendations to Council NO and partly within Cabinets powers –		
Lead Member: Cllr Alistair Beales E-mail: cldr.alistair.beales@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Cabinet Members consulted: Cllr Elizabeth Nockolds		
Lead Officer: David Thomason E-mail: david.thomason@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial: 01553 616246		Other Officers consulted: Victoria Jackson Sarah Dennis Chris Bamfield Les Miller		
Financial Implications YES	Policy/Personnel Implications NO	Statutory Implications (incl S.17) NO	Equal Opportunities Implications NO	Risk Management Implications YES
Date meeting advertised: 13 April 2011		Date of meeting decision to be taken: 20 April 2011		
Deadline for Call-In: 3 May 2011				

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE COMMUNITY CAPITAL GRANTS

Summary

This report details the decisions made in relation to the first round of Financial Assistance Community Capital Grants for 2011/12.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the following grant decisions are approved:

- 1st Terrington Scout Group – Award £1,278
- Gayton Parish Council – Award £15,000
- London Road Methodist Church – Award £1,576 (conditional)
- Terrington St John Pre-school – Award £342
- West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled – Award £13,700 (conditional)
- Wootton Scouts & Guide Hall Management Committee – Award £1,800
- South West Norfolk Youth Opportunities Project - Refuse

Reason for Decision

Determination of applications under the Financial Assistance scheme.

A grants panel meeting was held on 11 April 2011 to assess applications for capital grants which fall within the Community Portfolio. This report details the recommendations made at this meeting by the Portfolio Holder.

The recommendations featured in this report are subject to the 'call-in' procedure. When the grant decision becomes official the applicants will be notified in writing by Norfolk Community Foundation on behalf of the Borough Council. All terms and conditions of the grants will be stated in the official offer letter.

Grants of £2,500 or less

Organisation	Project	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded	Reason why refused or full amount not awarded/comments
1 st Terrington Scout Group	Replacement of doors, windows and fascias	£2,000	£1,278	More than one third of capital costs requested. Partial award offered.
London Road Methodist Church	To install secondary double glazing	£2,730	£1,576	More than one third of capital costs requested. Partial award offered on the condition that listed buildings permission is granted, if required.
Terrington St John Pre-school	To purchase toys and equipment	£1,027	£342	More than one third of capital costs requested. Partial award offered.
Wootton Scouts & Guide Hall Management Committee	To replace guttering and a set of doors at fire exit, plus new flooring	£5,401	£1,800	More than one third of capital costs requested. Partial award offered.
South West Norfolk Youth Opportunities Project	A range of equipment to support the set up of the Youth Hub	£9,500	£0	A grant was declined at this stage. The panel expressed concerns about the long term operational costs of this venture, and how it would work alongside existing infrastructure in Downham Market. This application may be reviewed at a future panel when the group is better established and further information is known.
		Total:	£4,996.00	

Grants over £2,500

Gayton Parish Council – Following extensive consultation with local residents, plans have been developed to transform Gayton Park into a social and play area for the community, comprising space for sports (football, basketball), plus a range of play equipment (climbing combination, zip wire, ropes). Seating will also be provided to encourage social and recreational use of the area for all ages. The project particularly aims to benefit the 8-12, and over 12s, age groups as local provision is recognised as limited.

Plans will cost £50,000 in total (excluding VAT, which is recoverable), of which the majority will be covered by a £30,000 grant awarded by WREN. The Parish Council has contributed £5,000 from its own reserves, and has also covered the third party funding requirement. The Parish Council is committed to the long term maintenance of the site, and will set aside funds to enable regular independent inspections and repairs/ improvements. £15,000 is requested from the Borough, which represents just under one third of total capital costs.

Request: £15,000

Recommendation: Award £15,000

West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled – Funds are requested towards the repair and development of the centre, including replacing the toilet cabin block with portakabins for new toilets, store area and kitchen. The stables area will also be extended to create 2 new stables, a rug room, tack room and staff room. A space for teaching/ training will also be created, enabling formal accredited learning opportunities to be offered. This extensive development is needed as the organisation has doubled in size, and now offers riding opportunities to over 100 people per week, with over 70 volunteers.

The total cost of these works is £41,228 including VAT which is non-recoverable. £13,500 of this sum has been donated by the owner of Wallington Hall, who hosts the centre on the estate. A further £10,000 grant has been secured, and a decision is awaited on a bid for £4,000 from a local trust. £13,700 (a third of costs) is requested from the Borough. A grant award should be offered on the condition that evidence is provided of full planning permissions.

Request: £13,700

Recommendation: Award £13,700 (conditional)

Total of grants over £2,500: £28,700

Financial Implications

The total Financial Assistance Capital Grants budget for 2010/11 is summarised as follows:

	£
Financial Assistance Capital Grants budget 2011/12	74,500
Commitments	
This report	33,696
Culture Capital Grants also approved at meeting on 11 April 2011	2,746
Community and Culture capital Grants already approved in 2011/12	0
Total Commitments	36,442
Balance Of Funds Available 2011/12	38,058

Therefore there is sufficient budget provision to cover all recommendations in this report.

Policy Implications

The applications are in line with the Corporate Strategic Objectives.

Statutory Implications

None.

Risk Implications

Failure to assist local, voluntary organisations in helping meet the Borough Council's corporate objectives.

Access to Information

Completed grant application forms for each funding request.

Signed:

Cabinet Member for

Date