

FBC – Revenue Growth Bid 2017/18

Prepared by/Bid Originator – Tracy Morrison



Scheme Title: Community Projects Fund

Description of Scheme: Background

In March 2013, the former Local Strategic Partnership wound up. In doing so, it allocated an amount of £66,000 for 2013/14 and 2014/15 and a further £32,338 was allocated for 2015/16 to allow the Community Projects Fund, and associated Discretionary Fund, to continue into the future.

£50,000 was allocated for 2013/14 and 2014/15 and £24,000 for 2015/16 for the larger Community Projects Fund, which awards grants of between £500 and £2,000. £16,163 was allocated for the smaller discretionary bids for 2013/14 and 2015/16 and £8338 for 2015/16. Projects can only be supported for local Fylde groups who are of a voluntary or community based nature. The project must support one of the following objectives:

- To Promote the Enhancement of the Natural and Built Environment
- To Encourage Cohesive Communities
- To Promote a Thriving Economy

The Council supported the continuation of the Community Projects Fund, and its smaller Discretionary Fund. The Discretionary Fund supports bids up to £500, and bids can be made at any time. The larger Community Projects Fund supports bids between £500 and £2,000 and applications are invited through bidding rounds, three times per annum.

Applications for larger Community Projects Fund are considered by a Panel comprising the Council's Director of Resources, the Mayor of Fylde, the Chairman of the Community Safety Partnership and Voluntary Sector, Police, Public Health representatives. Applications for the smaller Discretionary Fund can be made at any time, and are considered at time of application, again by the Panel, by e-mail discussion and agreement. Applications for both funds are made in writing, and are subject of post bid evaluation. If the bid is supported it is also suggested that the Leader of the Council joins the Panel.

A number of projects have been supported through both funds. A flavour of some of the schemes is set out below. This is by no means an exhaustive list; it simply seeks to give a flavour of some of the bids which have been supported.

- Singleton (Fylde) Village Hall – Installation of a sustainable heating system
- Lytham St Annes & Fylde Sea Cadet Corp – Replacement of two boilers
- Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Centre – Installation of a low-energy LED lighting system
- AFC Fylde – Equipment and marketing materials for girls football team
- Food Bank – Purchase of equipment and balance towards final payment to Trussell Trust for software package
- St Annes Kite Festival – Equipment and advertising banners
- Ormerod Trust – Equipment for gardening project
- Fylde Together – Continuation of Fylde Together
- Wesham Community Pride Trust – Funding for solar lighting at dog walking area
- Ansdell Business Development Partnership – Purchase of Christmas illuminations
- St Annes Football Club – Purchase of 2 sets of football goals
- Face to Face YMCA – Continuation of the drop in centre for homelessness
- Lytham St Annes Road Runners Club – To establish Parkrun
- Fylde Bike It – Storage container for equipment
- Lytham Town Trust – Purchase of equipment for volunteers to use

- AFC Fylde – Community garden at Lower Lane

However, the fund has now run its course and members are invited to consider if they would wish to allocate future funding.

Proposal

It is recommended that £25,000 revenue funding is allocated to the Community Projects fund in 2017/18. It is proposed that three bidding rounds are held throughout the financial year with £20,000 allocated to the larger Community Project Fund and the remaining £5,000 allocated to the smaller Discretionary Fund with a ceiling of £300 set for this fund, as opposed to the previous £500, to allow the smaller fund to be dispersed amongst a wider number of community groups. Any funds available at the conclusion of the financial year, will be made available through slippage into the next financial year. In addition, an evaluation of the effectiveness of the fund would take place at the conclusion of 2017/18.