

BRECKLAND COUNCIL

Report of Adrian Stasiak Executive Member of Community Services and Benefits to the CABINET: 31 May 2011

(Author: Cat Lang, Community Development Officer)

Breckland Council Grant Funding: Funding Round 1 2011/12

1. Purpose of Report

This report summarises the funding recommendations that were made by the Grant Panel for funding round 1 which was held on Wednesday 23rd March 2011 and makes recommendations to Cabinet on the allocation of Match Funding.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

2.1 Note the following match funding applications which have been approved by delegated decision:

- Sporle Village Community Centre (£2,250 capital)
- Gressenhall children's play area (£3,000 capital)
- Scarning Primary School (£2000 or maximum of 16% of the total project costs)

2.2 Note for information the grants awarded under the Activity, Access Arts and Gifted & Talented Grant schemes

Note: In preparing this report, due regard has been had to equality of opportunity, human rights, prevention of crime and disorder, environmental and risk management considerations as appropriate. Relevant officers have been consulted in relation to any legal, financial or human resources implications and comments received are reflected in the report.

3. Information, Issues and Options

3.1 Background

3.1.1 As detailed in an earlier Cabinet report 4th August 2009 all funding applications for Breckland Council Match Funding, Pride in Breckland grants, Activity grants, Green grants and Gifted and Talented grants are now reviewed by a Grant Funding Panel prior to consideration by Cabinet.

3.1.2 This approach ensures that: -

- a) A strategic and joined-up approach is taken to grant giving
- b) Maximum funding opportunities are available to applicants
- c) A clear audit trail aligned to the Authority's priorities is maintained
- d) A consistent approach is taken to grant giving across the Authority

3.1.2 The first meeting of the grant panel for the 2011/12 financial year has taken place and all applications received prior to this date have been considered

3.2 Issues

Match Funding

3.2.1 6 Applications for Match Funding have been submitted to Breckland Council prior to the Grant Funding Panel meeting on the 23rd March 2011. Three applications have been successful through delegated decision.

1) Sporle Village Community Centre

Sporle Village Community Centre have been awarded £2250 of capital match funding through a delegated decision for their new short mat bowls club. They have recently borrowed a set of short mat bowls equipment from Active Norfolk to see if there would be enough interest in the activity to start up their own club. Since borrowing the equipment they have had a regular turn out of up to thirty 60year old residents, participating on a regular basis and have developed a thriving healthy and social activity for the village. As they have to return the equipment to Active Norfolk by the end of April, the Community Centre has applied to Breckland Match Funding grant scheme to secure funding towards the purchase of the necessary equipment for this activity to continue. The community centre has also been developing a relationship with the local school to encourage community members of all ages to participate and benefit from the equipment.

2) Gressenhall children's play area

Gressenhall Parish Council has been successful with a match funding grant of £3,000 towards the regeneration and additional equipment to the existing play area in their local community. With approximately 60 children living in Gressenhall this new facility will be a vital source for socialising and meeting people in the community. After two consultations within the community, the parish council have already made significant improvements to the area and maintenance of the play area and this final stage will complete the need which has been identified by the residents.

3) Scarning Primary School

Scarning Primary School has been awarded £2,000 of capital match funding towards their new Thistle Field Outdoor School and Community Project through a delegated decision. The project aims to protect and develop an unused pasture space as an educational and recreational resource for the local community of Scarning and Dereham. The land was gifted to the school for that purpose and intends to create the following:

- An enclosed nature area containing a pond and scrape
- An amphitheatre to seat 60+ people
- Raised walkways that offer level access to different natural areas that area proposed without damaging the eco-systems.

As part of the first phase of this project, a purpose built hide has already been installed which has been funded by Scarning Parish Council. This project will bring the school and wider community together creating a vibrant resource for community use. The whole development will be available to use outside of school hours and the amphitheatre will provide a wonderful outdoor drama experience to art groups, school groups and other community functions.

Activity Grant:

Dereham Runners

Dereham Runners in partnership with Breckland Council Sports Development Officer are staging a 5k road race through the town centre of Dereham, and a family fun run on Dereham recreation ground in celebration of the London 2012 Open Weekend on Sunday 24th July 2011. A £500 Activity grant has been awarded to Dereham Runners in order to enable them to work with local primary schools to enter a t-shirt design competition with the theme of running and friendship in order to promote the race and gain public interest in the race. All children taking part will receive a t-shirt as memorabilia and funding will assist with these costs as well as the delivery of the competitive run itself.

St Johns Ambulance

St Johns Ambulance Thetford has been awarded £250 to assist with the purchase of new radio's, hi-visibility clothing and torches. This will enable them to provide First response services to outdoor and indoor activities within Norfolk. St Johns Ambulance provide young people of the Thetford area an opportunity to learn new skills, help build self-esteem and confidence and discipline.

Little Yoof Art Club – Thetford Community Association

Thetford Community Association has been awarded £250 towards the purchase of new art materials, venue costs and sessional staff wages to run Little Yoof Club at Redcastle Furze Community Centre in Thetford. This will provide a weekly art session for 12 weeks for young people of the Thetford community.

Access Arts Grant:

Thetford Voices

Thetford Voices would like to host a Summer singing workshop and to help them with the costs involved in this project; £485 has been awarded through Access Arts Grant scheme. The workshop would be for children aged 6-16 years old with professional song leaders for a two day period. The group has a string reputation of involving children in singing and music workshops, with this activity providing good value for money and a positive activity for young people in the summer months.

Danielle Haylett

Danielle has been successful in securing a place at the Saturday School for the Junior Guildhall School of Music at the Barbican in London for her first study, Voice. She is currently working towards a grade 8 in singing and flute. The £300 grant will help pay for travel costs for the rest of this academic year. It will support her continued development, participation in singing, increased involvement in her practice and a new experience with staff drawn from London's orchestras.

Gifted and Talented Grant:

Ben Bradshaw

Ben, a member of Norwich Canoe Club and resident of Harling has been awarded a £500 Gifted and Talented grant towards the costs of representing the United Kingdom at the World Championships. Ben has represented the UK at International level over the past three years and required new paddles and club membership to train to pursue his dream of competing in the Olympics 2012 which according to his references is a realistic goal.

Caitlin Baker

Caitlin, a member of Norfolk Academy of Gymnastics, has been awarded £500 towards the costs of travel, accommodation and entry fees incurred with regional and national training camps and competitions. Caitlin, aged 9, has continued developing and is now training with the elite squad and after winning numerous titles across her first competitive year has a national ranking of 17th in her age group out of hundreds of prospective gymnasts.

Emma Dowlan

Emma, a member of Attleborough Amateur Boxing Club has recently been invited to attend to train with the Eastern Counties squad and has also been identified by Norfolk ABA as a potential Team GB representative. She has recently fought the national champion for her weight and age category and won, and is now struggling to

develop due to limited opponents. She has been awarded a grant of £500 towards the cost of travel and accommodation for an international tournament in Finland.

4. Risk and Financial Implications

4.1 Risk

4.1.2 No risk identified.

4.2 Financial

4.2.1 Please see the following Proforma B's for the match funding projects:
Appendix 1 – Summary of match funding financial status

6. Other Implications

- a) Equalities: Assessments have been completed for the entire match funding projects.
- b) Section 17, Crime & Disorder Act 1998: None
- c) Section 40, Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006: None
- d) Human Resources: None
- e) Human Rights: None
- f) Other: [e.g. Children's Act 2004] None

7. Alignment to Council Priorities

- 1. Building Safer and Stronger Communities:
 - Promote the sense of community belonging and pride
 - Contribute to improving the health of our district
- 2. Prosperous Communities:
 - Develop flourishing rural communities
 - Protect and enhance our town centres

8. Ward/Community Affected

8.1.1 Nar Valley and Springvale and Scarning wards are affected by the Match Funding projects.

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Key Decision Status (Executive Decisions only): not a key decision

Appendices attached to this report:

Appendix 1: Summary of match funding financial status