

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 12 NOVEMBER 2013
title: MONITORING REPORT ON VILLAGE AMENITY GRANTS
submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: MELISSA THORPE, REGENERATION PROJECTS OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

1.1 This report provides committee with a progress report on the projects approved through the village amenities grant schemes to allow further consideration of any under spend that may occur.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives - The grant programme supports a broad range of community objectives set out in the community strategy.
- Corporate Priorities - This grant programme supports the Council's priorities to sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley, to help make peoples lives safer and healthier and to protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of the area.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 A report was taken to committee on 25 September 2012 to provide information on the allocation of village amenities grants made available through the Council Tax income on Second Homes/Performance Reward Grant Monies. 21 applications were approved which totalled £108,724.

2.2 On 26 March 2013 members received an update on the progress of these projects and agreed that where projects were making progress but were likely to complete beyond April 2013, an additional 6-month period in which to claim their grant funding would be applied. A new deadline of 31 October 2013 was therefore applied to all projects and all projects received confirmation of this new deadline date.

3 ISSUES

3.1 Details of progress of individual projects are contained in Appendix 1. To date of the £108,724 offered to projects through this grant scheme, £97,622 has been claimed leaving an under spend of £11,102.

3.2 Issues have arisen with one of the large capital projects at Queen Elizabeth II playing Fields.

3.3 Queen Elizabeth II playing field charitable trust was approved a grant of £10,000 towards the cost of a new MUGA, Youth Shelter & Green Gym at Queen Elizabeth II playing fields in Whalley.

- 3.4 The trust are currently in the process of completing an application to become Entrust registered which will enable them to draw down the necessary match funding to enable the project to proceed. This has delayed the project start date.
- 3.5 Underspend has also occurred in projects at Dinckley and at Bolton by Bowland Village Hall. Bolton by Bowland Village Hall completed their works for less than anticipated so we expect no further claims from this project.
- 3.6 Dinckley Parish Meeting have submitted an invoice for part of their project and despite several requests for further information we have been unable to obtain further information on whether this is the total amount being claimed or if there is a further claim to be submitted. All projects were informed of the deadline of the 31 October and were asked to write to us before this to request an extension if required.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:
- Resources – Funding for the award of the grants is in place. There is an ongoing staff resource needed to ensure proper use of the grant scheme.
 - Technical, Environmental and Legal – Issues depend on the particular nature of the grant.
 - Political – No implications identified.
 - Reputation – No implications identified.
 - Equality & Diversity – No implications identified.

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

- 5.1 Confirm that the large capital project of Queen Elizabeth II playing fields charitable trust be given an additional 5 month period beyond October 2013 in which to claim their grant funding due to the size of the project and its significance to Whalley.
- 5.2 Apart from the project referred to in 5.1 above agree that any funding unclaimed by 31 October 2013 will no longer be eligible for payment.

MELISSA THORPE
REGENERATION PROJECTS OFFICER

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Melissa Thorpe, extension 4424.

REF:MT/121113/P/7F/EL

Village Amenities Grant

APPENDIX 1

Applicant Number	Name of Group/Project	Description of Project	Anticipated end date	Amount originally offered	Final grant received to date/Part payment made	Underspend	Reason for project delay
1	Bashall Eaves Village Hall	Installation of a new door, storage cupboard and internal works to the hall	COMPLETE	£5,600	£5,600.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
2	Balderstone Church and Primary School	Provision of a community car park at St Leonards Church, Balderstone	COMPLETE	£2,500	£2,500.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
3	Dinckley Parish Meeting	Planting of a wood and provision of benches at Dinckley Bridge	COMPLETE	£1,000	£600.00	£400.00	COMPLETE
4	Knowle Green Village Hall	Upgrade of the sound system at Knowle Green Village Hall	COMPLETE	£500	£498.00	£2.00	COMPLETE
5	Grindleton Pavilion	Development of second phase of the Grindleton Pavilion project	COMPLETE	£10,000	£10,000.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
6	Dunsop Bridge Village Hall	Replacement of Kitchen at Dunsop Bridge Village Hall	COMPLETE	£7,234	£7,234.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
7	Slaidburn Village Hall	Purchase of new projector	COMPLETE	£500	£500.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
8	Read United Reformed Church	Replacement Lighting	COMPLETE	£1,900	£1,900.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
9	Wilpshire Methodist Church	Replacement Insulation	COMPLETE	£5,000	£5,000.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
10	Salesbury Memorial Hall	Feasibility Study/structural and condition survey	COMPLETE	£500	£500.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
11	Bolton by Bowland Village Hall	Restoration of Kirk Beck Wall	COMPLETE	£7,500	£6,800.00	£700.00	COMPLETE

12	Gisburn Festival Hall	Insulation and refurbishment of the hall	COMPLETE	£10,000	£10,000.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
13	Newton in Bowland Village Hall	Energy improvements to the village hall	COMPLETE	£10,000	£10,000.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
14	Little Green Bus Company	Purchase of a new bus	COMPLETE	£2,500	£2,500.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
15	Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields	Provision of MUGA, youth Shelter & Green Gym	Oct-13	£10,000	£0.00	£10,000.00	Complex project awaiting details of match funding.
16	Ribchester Playing Fields Trust	Replacement of timber stanchions to support the children play area	COMPLETE	£5,000	£5,000.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
17	St Johns Church Read	Purchase and fitting of a new sound system	COMPLETE	£4,990	£4,990.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
18	Ribchester Village Hall	New toilet facilities and kitchen in Ribchester Parochial Hall	Jul-13	£10,000	£10,000.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
19	Longridge Social Enterprise Company	Refurbishment of toilets	COMPLETE	£2,500	£2,500.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
20	Chipping First Responders	Purchase of community defibrillator	COMPLETE	£1,500	£1,500.00	£0.00	COMPLETE
21	Pendleton Village Hall	Roofing Project	COMPLETE	£10,000	£10,000.00	£0.00	COMPLETE

Total

£108,724

£97,622.00

£11,102.00

Payment complete