

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.
Officer report to Portfolio Holder
County Councillor Mr W Jones
18th January 2011

REPORT AUTHOR:	Community Regeneration Manager
SUBJECT:	Community Regeneration and Development Fund Annual Partnership and Project Revenue grant applications

REPORT FOR:	Decision
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This report details the applications that have been received for the final round of Community Regeneration and Development Fund grant support for the benefit of Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations.

Proposal

On the 12th April 2011, following a review of the grant funding the Third Sector, Board approved the establishment of the Community Regeneration and Development Fund. A summary of the requests is shown in the following tables for ease of reference to the full contents of the report:

Capital awards (see appendix 1)

There is £230,000 for allocation in the 2011/12 financial year, with £125,658 previously allocated, the recommendations detailed in the report amount £66,023. If all recommendations are approved this will leave £879 for allocation.

Organisation	Request	Recommendation
Bettws Cedewain Community Development Association	£9,600	£9,600
Brecon Cricket Club.	£5,000	£5,000
Forden Recreation Association	£6,000	£6,000
Llanbister Community Centre	£3,785	£3,785
Llandyssil Community Charitable Trust	£15,000	£15,000
Newtown Tennis Club	£15,000	£15,000
Presteigne & District War Memorial Hall Committee	£2,652	£2,652
Trefeglwys Memorial Hall	£4,986	£4,986
Total recommendations	£62,023	£62,023

Corporate Improvement Plan

Providing financial assistance is in accordance with one of the key priorities of the Corporate Improvement Plan, namely to enhance Social and Economic Development within the Authority's area.

Each application is aligned to at least one of the four main corporate aims.

Options Considered/Available

Not applicable

Preferred Choice and Reasons

As outlined in the report, the preferred choices are the recommendations detailed at Appendix 1.

Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Other Policies

Comments of Portfolio Holder

The financial support provided through the Funds to Community and Voluntary Organisations is one of the key factors in maintaining and sustaining our local communities in Powys

Comments of Local Member(s)

Not applicable

Other Consultations Undertaken

Consultation has been undertaken with Officers of the Authority with specialist knowledge.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To approve individual awards listed Appendix 1	In line with current criteria as outlined in the Guide to Grants for Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations (dated 2011).

Relevant Policy (ies): Guide to Grants for Community Groups and Voluntary				
Person(s) To Action Decision:	Community Regeneration Manager			
Date By When Decision To Be Actioned:				
Organisations				
Within Policy:	Yes	Within Budget:	Yes	

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Relevant Portfolio Member(s):	Cllr Wynne Jones
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Relevant Local Member(s):	All Powys Members where applicable
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Background Papers used to prepare Report:

**2011 Community Regeneration and Development Fund
Capital Grant Application and Assessment**

Organisation	Bettws Cedewain Community Development Association
Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?	Yes
Aims and objectives of the project	<p>Bettws Cedewain Community Development Association have responsibility for the former primary school building adjoining the Community Centre.</p> <p>Both the former school and the Community Centre are in regular use – the former school is leased by the organisation called the ‘Lifehouse’ who provide educational facilities for children with Special Needs. The car park is currently in very poor condition, uneven in many places, and deteriorating at an accelerating pace.</p>
<p>Need for the project Improve facilities for members of the public who use the former school and Community Centre – currently the car park is in very poor condition and is in danger of becoming a Health and Safety issue.</p>	
<p>Links to other regeneration initiatives The Community Centre – another charitable voluntary body which serves a wide range of the local population with assorted clubs for children and adults, as well as providing a venue for functions including weddings, funerals and family parties.</p>	
<p>Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:</p> <p>Adult Living Improvement to the facilities that encourage active and healthy life styles – the community centre providing many varied activities and functions for a wide age range.</p> <p>Climate Change</p> <p>Regeneration</p> <p>Learning in the Community The ‘Lifehouse’ project provides a centre for children with Special Educational needs who might otherwise have to travel much greater distances to access a similar establishment.</p>	
<p>Value for money:</p> <p>Both the BCCDA and the Community Centre are reliant in their rural environment on the use of private vehicles by people using the facilities they offer – without a safe usable car park the Community Centre particularly could find the number of booking jeopardized.</p>	
Total Activity / Project Cost	£19,200
Total Grant Requested	£9,600

Grant Award	£9,600 - 50% of the total project costs.
Overall Assessment	
<p>The following outcomes/outputs have been agreed in principle, subject to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Culture's delegated approval of the grant award of £9,600, being 50% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Better facilities in the community, and better uptake of these. Reduction of the risks posed to the whole community by haphazard parking throughout the village in places other than the car park.	

Organisation	Brecon Cricket Club.
Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?	Yes
Aims and objectives of the project	<p>Brecon Cricket Club was founded in 1898 and has been the leading cricket team in the region since that time. The club fields 3 senior sides and 4 junior sides. Each team plays in the top division of their respective leagues with the juniors receiving a special mention in the previous season due to their outstanding successes.</p> <p>The aim of the club is to continue fielding strong senior sides by focusing on the junior development programme and ensuring all members (senior and juniors) have top class cricket facilities available to them across mid-Wales.</p>
<p>Need for the project</p> <p>Brecon Cricket Club supports 45 junior members (from U9 teams through to U15) and 30 senior members and needs to develop coaching, equipment and facilities at its new ground to continue to support an increasing number of junior and senior players.</p> <p>Specifically, the project needs to install a new artificial wicket and cricket nets at the new Brecon Cricket Club ground (BSA Fields, nr Brecon Theatre). The artificial wicket will sit along side the existing grass wickets and provide a training surface for all junior and senior sides. Without this project and the move to the new ground, and due to increasing demands at the current ground at Penlan, the club will not be able to continue at its present level.</p> <p>Brecon Cricket Clubs previous home was at Penlan, Brecon. Increasing pressures to use the site for other purposes (e.g. athletics) saw 8 games (40% of the season) cancelled or moved last year and a number of junior games cancelled. In addition, training facilities (e.g. nets) are not available at either Brecon Leisure Centre or Christ College and senior and junior sides now need to travel to Ebbw Vale to train in the winter and spring.</p> <p>The new ground offers facilities specifically for the cricket club and has allowed us to build additional wickets for both senior and junior sides. The site also allows us to develop nets and training wickets and reduces – currently players have to travel to Ebbw Vale in to train as no facilities exist in Brecon.</p> <p>□</p>	
<p>Links to other regeneration initiatives</p> <p>The Junior Development Project is part of a larger programme being developed by Brecon Sports Association Charitable Trust. Brecon Cricket Club is a founder member of the BSA along with Brecon Football and Rugby clubs (with additional members including Brecon Tennis Club and Brecon Boxing Club).</p> <p>The BSA development programme is currently underway at the new ground. The first phase has focused on securing the site, fencing and maintenance to allow each of the clubs to start playing immediately. The second phase is about to start and includes capital works from Brecon Cricket Club and development of the pavilion (with</p>	

involvement from local businesses and sponsorship).

This project forms a central part of the second phase and will allow the site to be used as a training facility along with the league matches played by each of the 3 senior and 4 junior sides.

Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:

Adult Living

Provides facilities, equipment and coaching for all members of the community to play cricket at all levels (from 1sts through to Sunday league matches).

Climate Change

Regeneration

The previously owned MOD site that has recently been targeted by vandalism.

Learning in the Community

Value for money:

Investment in a new artificial wicket will allow Brecon Cricket club to continue its strong development of 45 junior and 30 senior members. The capital project will ensure facilities at the new ground meet county standard for the next 15 years and that Brecon Cricket Club are able to expand in response to strong local interest (particularly for a new ladies team and additional junior team).

Total Activity / Project Cost

£10,400

Total Grant Requested

£5,000

Grant Award

£5,000 – 48% of project costs

Overall Assessment

The following outcomes/outputs have been agreed in principle, subject to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Culture's delegated approval of the grant award of £5,000, being 48% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration.

- Continue to support the 45 junior and 30 senior members at the club. Without this project, and due to pressures at the clubs current ground, there is a danger that the club will not be able to support these numbers.
- Allows the club to increase the number of teams (particularly in the junior and ladies groups where there has been strong local interest). Without this project the club would not be able to add a ladies team and an additional junior team (10-15 new ladies members, 15-20 new junior members).

□

Organisation	Forden Recreation Association
Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?	Yes
Aims and objectives of the project	Forden Recreation Association provide a welcoming and hospitable community centre for individuals and organisations both within and outside of Forden district.
Need for the project	
Refurbishment of existing WC's and addition of separate disabled facility that will also act as baby changing facilities. All present and potential users of the facility will benefit but especially those that are disabled as at present they cannot use the centre, due to toilet facilities being inadequate.	
Links to other regeneration initiatives	
The committee has set itself several goals, and has therefore raised money accordingly in order that all funds raised are directed towards a specific purpose. Their next target is the refurbishment of the existing toilet facilities in the process adding a disabled facility to the existing provision. Very little money has been spent on the WC's since the building was first opened in 1976.	
Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:	
Adult Living	
In order to achieve compliance for DDA and ensure that the facility reaches certain standards expected of a 21 st century community centre.	
Climate Change	
Regeneration	
Learning in the Community	
To ensure that the community centre remains as the heart of the community, heavily used by existing groups and the school.	
Value for money:	
The building specification will be given to three local builders who will be asked to tender for the work. The lowest quote will be awarded the work.	
Total Activity / Project Cost	£ 12,000
Total Grant Requested	£ 6,000
Grant Award	£6,000 - 50 % of project costs.

Overall Assessment

The following outcomes/outputs have been agreed in principle, subject to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Culture's delegated approval of the grant award of £6,000, being 50% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration.

- Enhancement of community facilities in line with DDA compliance.

Organisation	Llanbister Community Centre
Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?	Yes
Aims and objectives of the project	Llanbister Community Centre provide a welcoming and hospitable community centre for individuals and organisations both within and outside of Llanbister district.
Need for the project	
Refurbishment of existing WC's and addition of separate disabled facility that will also act as baby changing facilities. All present and potential users of the facility will benefit but especially those that are disabled as at present they cannot use the centre, due to toilet facilities being inadequate.	
Links to other regeneration initiatives	
The committee has set itself several goals, and has therefore raised money accordingly in order that all funds raised are directed towards a specific purpose. Their next target is the refurbishment of the existing toilet facilities in the process adding a disabled facility to the existing provision. Very little money has been spent on the WC's since the building was first opened in 1992.	
Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:	
Adult Living	
In order to achieve compliance for DDA and ensure that the facility reaches certain standards expected of a 21 st century community centre.	
Climate Change	
Regeneration	
Learning in the Community	
To ensure that the community centre remains as the heart of the community, heavily used by existing groups and the school.	
Value for money:	
The building specification will be given to three local builders who will be asked to tender for the work. The lowest quote will be awarded the work.	
Total Activity / Project Cost	£7,589
Total Grant Requested	£3,785
Grant Award	£3,785 - 50% of the project costs

Overall Assessment

The following outcomes/outputs have been agreed in principle, subject to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Culture's delegated approval of the grant award of £3,785, being 50% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration.

- Enhancement of community facilities in line with DDA compliance.

Organisation	Llandyssil Community Charitable Trust
Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?	Yes
Aims and objectives of the project	<p>The main aim of the Llandyssil Community Charitable Trust is to support the Llandyssil Old School Hall, the only community facility in the village of Llandyssil. It acquired a 25 year, fully repairing, lease on the Hall in 2008 with a view to providing a venue for community activities – Youth Club, Llandyssil Ladies, Gardening Club etc. The objective is to ensure the Hall is fit for purpose so as to serve the village of Llandyssil well for the foreseeable future. Funds were raised in 2009/10 to renovate the main building but were not sufficient to complete the project</p>
<p>Need for the project</p> <p>The ultimate aim of the proposed action is to attract more hirers/users to the Old School Hall increasing long term viability. It will do this by removing an eyesore – the old garages - which detract from the visual appeal of the Hall to users/hirers, at the same time as providing a dry and secure storage area for Hall equipment and the equipment of those that use the Hall. It will also enable Hall equipment to be maintained in better condition thus reducing costs. It will help the Trust to increase usage – with all the benefits that brings.</p> <p>The project is needed as there is no safe and dry area for the storage of hall chairs and tables and for the equipment of those that use the Hall. This presents problems both in terms of maintaining the standard of current equipment and in presenting the Hall as a good venue for activities, events etc. The garages, where equipment is currently stored, have no effective doors, let in the weather, are damp and have asbestos roofing. They also detract from the visual appeal of the Hall as a venue for events – parties, wedding receptions etc – as well as for regular users. The building of the new storage area will make a marked difference to the appeal of the Old School Hall, solve the storage problem and help ensure the Hall’s viability in the future. These needs were identified following comments by current users – and by those that considered the Hall for possible activities and events and then decided to go elsewhere.</p>	
<p>Links to other regeneration initiatives</p> <p>Llandyssil is a small village. Although it has a bakery and pub, it lost its shop and post office some years ago. Along with many other villages, for while its viability as a community could be seen as uncertain. Llandyssil however is vibrant village and the Hall is at the heart of its regeneration.</p> <p>From securing a lease in 2008, the Hall is already ‘booked’ for 175 events – including regular bookings – in 2012. The Hall’s viability is vital the village’s future growth, regeneration and success. This project will contribute to this by attracting people to the village.</p>	

Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:

Adult Living

The project will enable better services to be provided to adults in the village by encouraging more classes and special interest groups to complement those already being undertaken. The Hall already provides full facilities for the disabled.

Climate Change

The Hall, which is an excellent size and environment for learning, will be a better place for classes to be presented as it will be able to acquire and store securely equipment needed, such as computers and for visual presentation.

Regeneration

The improved facilities of the Hall will enable more activities and events to be mounted keeping the village alive and bringing new people into the village

Learning in the Community

The project will be built with the most environmentally friendly materials and with window, wall and roof insulation to the highest standards. In the future solar panels may be installed on the south facing roof

Value for money:

The project will help secure the future viability and success of the Old School Hall, Llandyssil. The addition of the storage room will complete the renovation of this Hall, which is in a conservation area – and lead to the removal of the current garages which do not meet current standards. It will mean the Hall will need little renovation or maintenance over the remaining 20 years of the current lease and the Hall will be able to keep its current users happy and generate increased use – which will increase income.

Total Activity / Project Cost

£36,000

Total Grant Requested

£15,000

Grant Award

£15,000 - 41% of project

Overall Assessment

The following outcomes/outputs have been agreed in principle, subject to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Culture's delegated approval of the grant award of £15,000, being 41% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration.

- a) retaining the support of current users of the Old School Hall, Llandyssil
- b) attracting new users to the Hall
- c) broadening the range of activities and classes held in the Hall
- d) helping keep Llandyssil as a strong local community.

Organisation	Newtown Tennis Club
Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?	Yes
Aims and objectives of the project	<p>As a Tennis club the mission is to be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide intergenerational facilities for all people in the community • Providing tennis opportunities to all regardless of age, ability and background • Provide safe and secure facilities to all who use it • Be a vibrant community engagement sporting facility • Support young players to improve and progress to higher levels • Comply with all LTA regulations and safety legislation • Offer competitive tennis opportunities all year round • Offer our facilities to non-members to maximise use and encourage healthy lifestyles • Promote stronger links with local schools and community groups and support their use of the facilities • To provide a strong social hub for all who play or support the club • To fundraise accordingly to enable above activity
<p>Need for the project</p> <p>This project is needed because if the surface is not renewed in the next few months the existing competitive and coaching play will not be possible. This will mean that not only will Newtown lose its profile as a tennis venue, but also the chance to learn / play tennis will be denied to local residents and in particular the youth of the area.</p> <p>A valuable sporting resource will no longer be available to local schools, such as the Pathway Centre</p> <p>Tennis as a social activity will be restricted. This is particularly important for senior players who currently meet on several “slots” each week.</p> <p>The above are all integral to the Powys Change plan, particularly around issues such as self reliance, ability to pursue personal ambition, health and independence, safety and ease of access to services.</p>	
<p>Links to other regeneration initiatives</p> <p>This project links to the County Councils improvement objectives, namely:</p> <p>Care and Wellbeing :- Provision of high quality sporting services which support independence and resilience in both the individual and the community.</p> <p>Learning and Community :- Enabling access to a life long learning opportunity to community members, groups and schools.</p>	

Regeneration :-

Promoting community ownership in an accessible top quality sporting resource

Council engagement :-

Demonstrating partnership between voluntary and statutory sectors to provide sporting provision for local people

Sustainable development:-

Ensuring long term access to low cost sports provision - promoting economic and social engagement, and environmental low impact activities

Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:

Adult Living

It will bring partners on board through engaging with local industry and community groups

It promotes resilience through greater access to energetic recreation and competition

Provides a family access sporting opportunity (the family which play together, stay together)

Supports a sustainable community through local access to leisure, as opposed to possible sporting fragmentation

Climate Change

Contribution to the redevelopment programme, in partnership with the leasee can demonstrate a major fiscal saving to the local authority.

It maintains schools access to a fit for purpose sports and education resource

Regeneration

Sports, leisure and culture are acknowledged means of addressing regeneration.

Within this context it can be seen that a 21st Century tennis facility is appropriate to the needs of the largest conurbation in Powys, and will provide a degree of pride in its ability to deal with current economic and identity uncertainty

Learning in the Community

The project will be undertaken with local contractors, thereby minimising transport.

It promotes cycle use as a means of access, thereby encouraging low impact transport.

In the longer term it considers incorporating Photo-Voltaic panels as a contribution to the regions electricity needs, should use of flood lights become a consideration.

Value for money:

Four playable tennis courts is a huge community resource.

The Organisation has looked into various options of surfaces and it was decided to go for good 'park courts', meeting minimum Tennis Wales standards (rather than for a higher level of resurfacing

Total Activity / Project Cost

£30,189.12

Total Grant Requested

£15,000

Grant Award

£15,000 - 49% of the project

Overall Assessment

The following outcomes/outputs have been agreed in principle, subject to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Culture's delegated approval of the grant award of £15,000, being 49% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration.

- A community sporting resource will remain available for the community of Newtown.
- Schools will access the courts for sporting provision.
- Community groups will be encouraged to signpost members to the facilities.
- The tennis club is a key community asset, which will be maintained following a successful application. If unsuccessful, play will continue to deteriorate, the areas identity as a sporting centre will be reduced.

- Young players will engage with the sport. This will provide an active resource, as a counter to an over reliance on flat screen activities.
- Teams will play in the Montgomeryshire leagues, thereby promoting Newtown as a sporting centre.
- Further bids will be put in to continue the regeneration plan, to the Welsh Government, the town council, and the Lottery, thereby demonstrating very good value for money on the initial contribution of this bid.

Organisation	Presteigne & District War Memorial Hall Committee
Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?	Yes
Aims and objectives of the project	To provide and maintain the Memorial Hall in Presteigne for the benefit of the community in Presteigne and Norton and the surrounding local areas, and protect and expand a wide range of community services facilities and activities that will enhance the lives of the residents in those areas
Need for the project The contamination survey will examine the condition of the site where the new Hall is to be built and clarify the financial liability that may arise from remediation. The contamination survey is needed to strengthen funding applications and will improve the chances of a successful outcome. The Big Lottery have requested the survey as part of their final assessment of a £2,400,000 application to their People and Places fund.	
Links to other regeneration initiatives This project is directly in support of the major project to redevelop the Memorial Hall and will contribute to the objectives of that project by making it more likely to succeed.	
Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan: Adult Living This project supports the redevelopment of the Memorial Hall which will provide 14 existing user groups and 28 new user groups, with adult living experiences. Climate Change This project supports the redevelopment of the Hall - which will replace a very inefficient building with one that will achieve BREEAM "excellent" standards of energy conservation, thus responding fully to Climate Change. Regeneration This project supports the redevelopment of the Memorial Hall will contribute directly to regeneration of the area by dramatically increasing the wide range of facilities, activities and services available. Learning in the Community This project supports the redevelopment of the Memorial Hall where a range of learning and volunteering opportunities will be provided.	
Value for money: Several estimates have been received and the one chosen is considered to be the best value based on the experience that the project architect has had in commissioning these surveys. The information gained as a result of the survey will be immensely useful in supporting the redevelopment of the Memorial Hall.	
Total Activity / Project Cost	£5,304
Total Grant Requested	£2,652
Grant Award	£2,652 - 50% of the project costs
Overall Assessment The following outcomes/outputs have been agreed in principle, subject to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Culture's delegated approval of the grant	

award of £2,652, being 50% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration.

- The outcome of this project will be the achievement of the contamination survey in support of the project to redevelop Presteigne Memorial Hall with all its ensuing benefits to the community of Presteigne and Norton and the surrounding area.

Organisation	Trefeglwys Memorial Hall
Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?	Yes
Aims and objectives of the project	Trefeglwys is a community hall, servicing the needs of the rural community.
Need for the project The project is to install a small lighting system that will benefit all local groups who use the hall ie: YFC, local school, Concerts, Weddings and social events. The system will compliment the existing stage and sound system, therefore enhancing theatrical and cultural productions that take place in the hall.	
Links to other regeneration initiatives After the lighting system is installed, the hall will a better facility which will reach out area and promote the arts in the community.	
Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan: Adult Living The new lighting system will improve the quality of performances for both audiences and participants. It will also increase accessibility for the visually impaired. Climate Change A more efficient electrical system will support climate change initiatives Regeneration .After the lighting system is installed the Hall will promote it's facilities to the local and wider community. Learning in the Community The project will provide improved facilities for drama and music	
Value for money: The Amateur Dramatic Society is the highest value user of the hall, if they move to another base, then the income of the Community Centre will fall significantly	
Total Activity / Project Cost	£9,986
Total Grant Requested	£4,986
Grant Award	£4,986 - 50% of the project costs
Overall Assessment The following outcomes/outputs have been agreed in principle, subject to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Culture's delegated approval of the grant award of £4,986, being 50% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project will maintain a key community asset. • Approximately 800 will attend stage events during the next year • Ticket numbers will be recorded and submitted to the Authority. 	

