

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.**  
**Officer report to Portfolio Holder**  
**County Councillor Mr W Jones**  
**26<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	<b>Community Regeneration Manager</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Community Regeneration and Development Fund Capital and Project Revenue grant applications</b>
<b>REPORT FOR:</b>	<b>Decision</b>

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

**Proposal**

On the 12<sup>th</sup> 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 £100,535 previously allocated, the recommendations detailed in the report amount to £36,752. If all recommendations are approved this will leave £92,713 for allocation.

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
<b>Cwmdauddwr Community Centre</b>	<b>£12,363</b>	<b>£12,363</b>
<b>Forden Leighton Trelystan Allotment Society</b>	<b>£13,139</b>	<b>£13,139</b>
<b>Mid Wales Entertainment Circuit</b>	<b>£20,000</b>	<b>£11,250</b>
<b>Total recommendations</b>	<b>£45,502</b>	<b>£36,752</b>

**Project Revenue awards (see appendix 2)**

There is £113,410 for allocation in the 2011/12 financial year and £89,935 was allocated previously, the recommendations detailed in the report amount to £13,010. If all recommendations are approved this will leave £575 for allocation.

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
<b>BEACONS Creative Powys</b>	<b>£10,500</b>	<b>£5,250</b>
<b>Friends of North Powys Youth Orchestra</b>	<b>£3,750</b>	<b>£3,750</b>
<b>Phoenix Community Furniture Scheme</b>	<b>£10,000</b>	<b>£10,000</b>
<b>Radnorshire Indoor Bowls Association</b>	<b>£4,000</b>	<b>£4,000</b>
<b>Total recommendations</b>	<b>£28,250</b>	<b>£23,000</b>

### **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 Appendices 1, 2 & 3

### **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 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.

<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Reason for Recommendation:</b>
<b>To approve individual awards listed Appendices 1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>In line with current criteria as outlined in the Guide to Grants for Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations (dated 2010).</b>

Relevant Policy (ies):		<b>Guide to Grants for Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations 2011.</b>	
<b>Person(s) To Action Decision:</b>	<b>Community Regeneration Manager</b>		
<b>Date By When Decision To Be Actioned:</b>			
<b>Within Policy:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Within Budget:</b>	<b>Yes</b>

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

**2011 Community Regeneration and Development Fund  
Capital Grant Applications and Assessments**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Cwmduddwr Community Centre</b>
<b>Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Aims and objectives of the project</b>	Updating the facilities will enable the charity to promote the venue for more and various activities. This will be achieved by publicity and the recommendations of the groups currently using the premises.
<b>Need for the project</b>	
The town of Rhayader has seen a marked decline in the availability of places where organisations can meet, since the closure of the old chapel halls. At present the only alternative is the Leisure Centre, however many groups such as Brownies, Rangers, Mothers Union and church meetings find it prohibitive and difficult to arrange time slots.	
<b>Links to other regeneration initiatives</b>	
By providing meeting facilities for many local groups, each group will be able to advance their own objectives, for both children and adults	
<b>Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:</b>	
<b>Adult Living</b>	
Provide facilities for such groups as: Mind; Expert Patients; Choirs; Transition Town Rhayader; W.I.; M.U. Brownies; Rangers; Children's Dance Classes.	
<b>Climate Change</b>	
Currently fitted with Photovoltaic and Solar panels to reduce our carbon footprint and to demonstration its benefits to all interested parties.	
<b>Regeneration</b>	
Bring new life to an old building that will serve the community for many years.	
<b>Learning in the Community</b>	
Classes at the centre include: Art Classes for all ages. Choral Training. Sustainable living.	
<b>Value for money:</b>	
As the first phase has been completed a greater use by many organisations has been experienced, and as the second phase is finished it is expected that a further increase will be achieved	
<b>Total Activity / Project Cost</b>	£24,725
<b>Total Grant Requested</b>	£12,363
<b>Grant Award</b>	50%
<b>Overall Assessment</b>	
<b>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 £12,363, being 50% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration.</b>	
Following completion of the capital works - the Trustees provide a detailed usage and revenue report at the end of its financial year.	



<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Forden Leighton Trelystan Allotment Society</b>
<b>Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Aims and objectives of the project</b>	<p>Make available 20 allotments for the residents of Forden, Leighton, and Trelystan for the production vegetables, fruit and flowers.</p> <p>Facilitate community engagement and strengthen the social well being of the rural Forden, Trelystan, Leighton communities.</p> <p>Promote biodiversity of and increase the wildlife potential of the allotment site.</p>
<p><b>Need for the project</b></p> <p>There are currently no allotments within our community, or allotments in the locality of which we are eligible to apply for.</p> <p>All but one of the potential allotments has been assigned to a member of the community, each of whom has demonstrated their support by paying a deposit to allow the committee to progress with our challenge of creating allotments in our neighbourhood.</p>	
<p><b>Links to other regeneration initiatives</b></p> <p>The development of our allotments will facilitate the sharing of gardening skills between the allotment holders (young and old), and the wider community.</p> <p>There will be courses at the allotment on subjects such as organic gardening, permaculture, and wild food foraging. These courses will be made available to the wider community further developing the knowledge economy and support local small businesses that offer the courses we require.</p> <p>As a community they wish to stand up and take responsibility for our well being and surroundings (embracing localism and the 'Big Society'). The committee and allotment holders are developing the innovative and enterprising skills required for us to progress with the project. These skills fostered in a volunteer capacity are directly transferable into the wider economy.</p>	
<p><b>Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:</b></p> <p><b>Adult Living</b> The allotments will encourage community engagement and cohesion by allowing the young to meet and engage with senior members of our community. In addition the allotment will offer a form of leisure activity for our growing elderly population</p> <p><b>Climate Change</b> By supporting our project and letting us manage a sustainable and 'community focused' asset we will help Powys County Council reduce costs by removing the need for the council to supply such an asset in the community. The project also compliments PCC Leisure Strategy that supports Powys residents to live active and healthy lives by increasing physical activity.</p> <p><b>Regeneration</b> The project to create allotments will bring about lasting improvements in the physical, economic, social and environmental nature of the area.</p> <p>Taking a co-ordinated approach in the regeneration of the area will help improve the economic wellbeing of the local community by creating a clean, green and safe.</p>	



<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Mid Wales Entertainment Circuit</b>
<b>Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Aims and objectives of the project</b>	<p>The regeneration of the communities around these venues hinges on their continued existence. Theatr Hafren works alongside Communities First officers and local schools to support regeneration work in Newtown and is also working in partnership with Arts Connection in Llanfyllin on community based outreach work.</p> <p>Theatr Brycheiniog is the centre-piece of the economic regeneration of Brecon's canal front. It also hosts community activities as well as pulling in visitors to the Tipple and Tiffin restaurant and promoting tourism through overnight visits to see shows.</p>
<p><b>Need for the project</b></p> <p>The project is an application towards the costs of capital upgrades which will assist us in bringing high quality professional theatre, music and dance performances to Powys' two largest professionally run theatres. The work supported will:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the quality of life for people in rural communities by offering them the chance to see top class work which would not otherwise be affordable to present within these rural communities</li> <li>• Encourage partnership working with community and voluntary sector groups which use the theatres for youth work, choral singing, ballet classes, U3A classes, amateur theatre productions and other arts based sessions by offering audiences and participants the chance to see a diverse and challenging range of work from both within and outside Wales.</li> <li>• Present excellent value for money to both audiences and communities across Powys. The county council's continuing support for the theatres allows us to keep technical equipment for presenting live and cinema work up to date and ensure audiences have a comfortable and relaxing experience.</li> </ul> <p>Allow us to present work to the suit the needs of all communities across Powys on an equal opportunities basis. Each of the theatres is designed to be accessible to the whole of the community and the diversity of our programming brings tastes of other cultures and ways of life to the largely white British communities in Powys.</p>	
<p><b>Links to other regeneration initiatives</b></p> <p>The objective of the project is to keep technical equipment within the theatres up to date and ensure work can be presented safely using industry standard equipment. The sound, lighting and drapes upgrade at Theatr Hafren will complement the work on the theatre's fly tower and ensure that the auditorium is looking fresh and ready to welcome a new range of shows and entertainment experiences for the people of Newtown.</p> <p>Theatr Brycheiniog is now nearly 15 years old and some systems and structures are in need of replacement and renovation to keep up with the theatre's changing roles and with modern technology. The theatre's managers and technical crew have recently identified the requirement to improve its offer in terms of staging bigger events and minimising hire charges for additional staging (e.g. risers) which are currently bought in as and when required. Theatr Brycheiniog proposes to purchase a budget system of industry-standard decking as the first stage of replacing and augmenting its staging equipment.</p>	
<p><b>Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:</b></p> <p><b>Adult Living</b> While all the venues promote children's and educational shows, the majority of our audiences are adult. Access to live theatre, music and the arts has been shown to be a key factor in why people choose to live in a specific town or area. With increasing numbers of people across Powys working from home, the theatre network provides a vital social link and meeting point for communities as well as quality entertainment close to where they live.</p> <p><b>Climate Change</b></p>	



**2011 Community Regeneration and Development Fund  
Revenue Project Grant Applications and Assessments.**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>BEACONS Creative Powys</b>
<b>Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?</b>	Yes
<b>Aims and objectives of the project</b>	The Organisation is a Social Enterprise, that has a business model to provide work experience and training and provide paid employment for people furthest from the labour market (to include people with learning difficulties or mental health issues and other disadvantaged groups) To manufacture goods to sell on the open market. To diversify the lines of manufacture that are suitable tasks for the service users with disabilities to perform.
<b>Need for the project</b> The purpose is to Develop a New Range of Products – Cosmetics, to sell on the open market alongside trading in Candles. This project is the first stage development work on prototypes, testing, production planning etc. Beacons Creative will be able to research new markets and the service users will benefit from additional training and paid work or volunteering opportunities. Beacons Creative needs to diversify to increase its market share and the tasks involved in Cosmetic Production are similar to Candle Production, so suitable for people with disabilities perform.	
<b>Links to other regeneration initiatives</b> Beacons creative have extensive links with various regeneration initiatives supported by Powys County Council. It is envisaged that new links may be made with Universities and other charities that expertise in product development work as well as organisations such as Mid Wales Manufacturing Group and various Social Enterprises where they will share knowledge and practical assistance gained from the project.	
<b>Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:</b> <b>Adult Living</b> Increase the benefits of work placements for Adults with Learning Difficulties in an Organisation that strives to protect and conserve the environment in everything it does which in turn enhances “Diversity and inclusion” <b>Climate Change</b> This project takes into consideration the effects of the work on the environment and will create high ethical standards. <b>Regeneration</b> The project is part of the company program of work and training for people who are furthest from the labour market. <b>Learning in the Community</b> The ethos of environmental protection is part of the Company training programme.	
<b>Value for money:</b>	
<b>Total Activity / Project Cost</b>	£10,500
<b>Total Grant Requested</b>	£10,500 – 100% of project costs
<b>Grant Award</b>	£5,250
<b>Overall Assessment</b>  <b>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 £5,250 being 50% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration.</b>  A detailed development plan will be produce, which will enable the Organisation to apply other funding sources for large capital equipment and then be in a position to launch the new Cosmetic products alongside the Candles.	



<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Friends of North Powys Youth Orchestra</b>
<b>Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Aims and objectives of the project</b>	The charity provides support to young musicians who play in the North Powys Youth Orchestra, promoting and aiding the teaching of orchestral instruments in large and small ensembles to children in North Powys, many of whom are rurally isolated.
<b>Need for the project</b> The work of the Friends of North Powys Youth Orchestra is crucial in sustaining the orchestra and the opportunities it offers young musicians in North Powys. Without the charity there would be no other orchestral provision, access to instruments, professional musical direction, or opportunity for classical young musicians to access the experience of working in a large group, opportunities for children to experience orchestral instruments through the Primary School workshops, addressing 'deep rural' isolation? Instrumental lessons and ensemble playing have been greatly reduced in Powys Schools (primary and secondary) and so this provision is even more important now than before.	
<b>Links to other regeneration initiatives</b> The project aims to sustain existing provision and interest and promote new interest in orchestral music by giving children the opportunity to develop interest and talent in a safe, structured and professionally led environment. Children and young people have the opportunity to take part in music in large groups developing not only musically but also in terms of working within a team. Children and young people also take part in fundraising activities during the year to contribute to the costs of running the orchestra, concerts, residential courses and transport. The concerts are held in various North Powys theatres and schools and are well attended by parents and members of the communities they serve.	
<b>Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:</b> <b>Adult Living</b> The project contributes to cultural diversity. It provides opportunities for adult to access arts via the concerts and to be involved with the running of a cultural project via the committee <b>Climate Change</b> N/A <b>Regeneration</b> The project will improve the economic wellbeing of the citizens of Powys – venue and hall hire, paying for musical direction and transport. The project will influence and stimulate regeneration activity through spending in county and providing services and access to arts that enhances well being and encourages families to stay in the area. <b>Learning in the Community</b> People in Powys have the skills to pursue their ambition' It is important to provide access to orchestral music and instruments and nurture and develop talent, ability to work in large groups and self discipline. The development of such skills contributes to achieving ambition.	
<b>Value for money:</b> The Organisation believe that the voluntary work of the Friends in fundraising and time spent organising, administrating and ensuring the continuation of NPYO for the benefit of children and young people in Powys represents value for money for the council's potential contribution in terms of the level of activity provided and also how the work of FNPYO fits council priorities especially access to arts and the issues of rural isolation.	
<b>Total Activity / Project Cost</b>	£18,413
<b>Total Grant Requested</b>	£3,750
<b>Grant Award</b>	20.5%

### 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 £3,750, being 20.5% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into



<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Phoenix Community Furniture Scheme</b>
<b>Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?</b>	Yes
<b>Aims and objectives of the project</b>	The Organisation's sole purpose is to provide a collection service of unwanted furniture and whites goods throughout North Powys.
<b>Need for the project</b>	As part of the daily activities of Phoenix Furniture, it has become apparent that there is a growing need for good quality second hand furniture within Powys. There has been an increase in jobless and family crisis referrals to Phoenix Furniture and the Organisation now wish to pilot a six month project providing a service to the community.
<b>Links to other regeneration initiatives</b>	<p>The Organisation is linked to various regeneration initiatives both locally and nationally, the project would work strongly with Powys County Council Social Care and Homelessness teams to ensure the success of the project.</p> <p>The Organisation have received business advice from TGAL and now have a firm business plan in place, which includes the introduction of a collection fee and other measures to ensure the long term sustainability of the Organisation.</p>
<b>Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:</b>	<p><b>Adult Living</b> The project will improve the quality of living for all those within Powys, including the socially excluded groups.</p> <p><b>Climate Change</b> By recycling all unwanted furniture and white goods locally, this significantly reduces landfill and gives people the opportunity of affordable good quality goods.</p> <p><b>Regeneration</b> Throughout the work of Phoenix, it support individuals to access skills/training and employment, giving people the opportunity to gain NVQ qualifications.</p> <p><b>Learning in the Community</b> As above.</p>
<b>Value for money:</b>	The project will provide good quality, much needed items for those, who can not afford them,
<b>Total Activity / Project Cost</b>	£30,893
<b>Total Grant Requested</b>	£10,000 – 31% of project costs
<b>Grant Award</b>	£10,000
<b>Overall Assessment</b>	<p><b>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 £10,000, being 31% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To assist between 60 – 100 families within a six month period.</li> <li>• To implement measures to ensure the future sustainability of the project.</li> </ul>



<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Radnorshire Indoor Bowls Association</b>	
<b>Project meets Capital grant selection criteria?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Aims and objectives of the project</b>	<p>To enable a wider cross section of the community to enjoy the game of indoor bowls.</p> <p>This will be achieved by enhancing the number of taster sessions available, increasing if possible the number of disabled bowlers and reviewing the availability of leagues and adjusting times of leagues if demand requires.</p>	
<b>Need for the project</b>	<p>To further encourage sporting activity that can be carried out in most weather conditions and in a sociable atmosphere.</p> <p>To maintain the facilities there needs to be an overall coordinator and point of contact with regular hours that is not possible with volunteers alone.</p>	
<b>Links to other regeneration initiatives</b>	<p>Overall the object is to continue to offer first class facilities for all members of the community.</p> <p>The position enables this to be achieved by, promoting the forward plans, organising initiatives, leading the push for new members, overseeing the maintenance of the premises, health &amp; safety, overall organisation of leagues, organising trophies etc for competitions.</p> <p>Without a point of contact with regular hours it would be difficult to maintain the facilities and activities. To encourage more members and visitors to the premises the premises need to be maintained to a high standard which is difficult with volunteers alone.</p>	
<b>Project / activity fit in with the Powys County Council One Change Plan:</b>	<p><b>Adult Living</b> Providing sport and leisure activities for the community regardless of age or ability</p> <p><b>Climate Change</b> None</p> <p><b>Regeneration</b> None</p> <p><b>Learning in the Community</b> Learning a new skill and participating with others of varying skills</p> <p><b>Climate Change</b> None</p>	
<b>Value for money:</b>	<p>A relatively modest investment would enable RIBA to extend the use of the facilities by extending membership and possibly new leagues. Recent initiatives have been successful with a new veterans league and increased interest in disabled bowls</p>	
<b>Total Activity / Project Cost</b>		£8,000
<b>Total Grant Requested</b>		£4,000
<b>Grant Award</b>		50 %

### Overall Assessment

**Subject to the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Culture's delegated approval of the grant award of £4,000, being 50% of the project costs after other government funding has been taken into consideration, it is also felt that the funding to this particular Organisation should be reduced by 25% per year, over the next three years as similar applications are received year on year.**

**Overall the object of the Organisation is to continue to offer first class facilities for all members of the community and long term this would be seen as an**

