

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.**  
**Officer report to Portfolio Holder**  
**County Councillor Mr W Jones**  
**13<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Projects and Programmes Officer

**SUBJECT:** Community Enablement Support Fund & Welsh Church Act Fund grant applications

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**REPORT FOR:** Decision

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This report details the applications that have been received for the final round of Community Enablement Support Fund & Welsh Church Act Fund grant support for the benefit of Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations.

### **Proposal**

Applications have been assessed in accordance with the criteria set out in the Guide to Grants for Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations revised in 2005/06. Where the recommendation suggests supporting organisations, the purpose of an organisation's application meets the objectives of one, if not more, of the Authority's strategies or plans.

A summary of the requests is shown in the following tables for ease of reference to the full contents of the report:

#### **Community Enablement Support Fund On going Revenue Applications (See Appendix 1)**

If recommendations in this report are approved, there will be £453 available in the budget for the current financial year.

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
<b>Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations (PAVO)</b>	£30,000	£30,000
	£30,000	£30,000

#### **Community Enablement Support Fund On going Revenue Applications (See Appendix 2)**

If recommendations in this report are approved, there will be £1,430 available in the budget for the current financial year.

Organisation	Requested	Recommendation
Radnor Indoor Bowling Association	£4,500	£4,500
	<b>£4,500</b>	<b>£4,500</b>

**Community Enablement Support Fund Capital Applications  
(See Appendix 3)**

Organisation	Requested	Recommendation
Llanbister Community Council	£1,323	£1,323
	<b>£1,323</b>	<b>£1,323</b>

If recommendations in this report are approved, there will be £867 available in the budget for the current financial year.

**Welsh Church Act Fund Capital Applications  
(See Appendix 4)**

If recommendations in this report are approved, there will be £259 available in the budget for the current financial year.

Organisation	Requested	Recommendation
Llanbister Community Council	£290	£290
	<b>£290</b>	<b>£290</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

**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 & 4

**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>
To approve individual awards listed Appendices 1, 2.3 & 4	In line with current criteria as outlined in the Guide to Grants for Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations (dated 2005).

<b>Person(s) To Action Decision:</b>	Projects and Programmes Officer
<b>Date By When Decision To Be Actioned:</b>	

<b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b>	Guide to Grants for Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations Powys Arts and Culture Strategy Powys Community Strategy		
<b>Within Policy:</b>	Yes	<b>Within Budget:</b>	Yes

<b>Contact Officer Name:</b>	<b>Tel:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
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<b>Relevant Portfolio Member(s):</b>	Cllr Wynne Jones
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<b>Relevant Local Member(s):</b>	All Powys Members where applicable
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## **Appendix 1 – On-going revenue applications**

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p><b>CG1009</b></p> <p><b>Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations</b></p> <p><b>Annual revenue funding</b></p>	<b>£284,763</b>	<b>£50,000</b>	<b>To administer a grant of £30,000 for the current financial year but to liaise with other Officers to ensure clear defined targets for all funding in 2010/11</b>

### **Reason for recommendation**

Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations (PAVO) is the County local voluntary council covering the local authority area. PAVO states that it works to minimum standards and performance criteria as follows:

1. Providing support services for voluntary organisations (information, funding advice, training, and advice on legal and efficient operation);
2. Identifying the view of a broad range of local voluntary groups and representing those views to decision makers in ways which lead to effective outcomes and partnerships;
3. Assisting the development of locally determined and agreed voluntary sector initiatives, which meet unmet need and enhance community participation;
4. Assisting in the provision or development of an effective volunteering service (PAVO do not directly provide a volunteering service however they support a network of Volunteer Bureaux and Community Support Groups across Powys);
5. Fulfilling recognised organisational standards, which include maximising membership from all parts of the voluntary sector, and making themselves accountable to the local voluntary sector within the local authority area.

Powys County Council has awarded revenue funding over a number of years and for the past three years a sum of £30,000 from the Community Enablement Support Fund and PAVO's request is for continued revenue grant support.

As the intermediary organisation for Powys, PAVO also receives a contribution towards its core funding from the Welsh Assembly Government administered through the Wales Council for Voluntary Action. PAVO works closely with Powys County Council on a range of partnership initiatives and supports the voluntary sector in engagement in joint working, ensuring the sector's engagement is informed and enabled to provide appropriate services to communities in Powys. PAVO also has various contracts and agreements with other Powys County Council services for projects which include: Community Development Workers Health and Social Care, Communities First, Community Link, Older Peoples Strategy, Cymorth CYP Facilitator, Powys Agency for Mental Health and Community Transport.

PAVO wishes to support the development of the Village Halls Network/Forum and also works with village halls at both local and strategic levels to ensure village halls are able to look forward to a sustainable future. PAVO act as joint secretariat to the Powys County Council Voluntary Sector Liaison Group (VSLG).

The recommendation is to award a grant of £30,000 on this occasion, taking into consideration the other agreements/contracts with Powys County Council, Officers are satisfied that the Authority is not duplicating funding for services it already has already contracted.

## Appendix 2 - One – off Revenue Funding

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendatio
<p data-bbox="177 338 480 483"><b>CG4032</b> <b>Radnorshire Indoor</b> <b>Bowls Association</b></p> <p data-bbox="317 555 512 734"><b>Developmen</b> <b>t officer and</b> <b>other</b> <b>revenue</b> <b>costs</b></p>	<p data-bbox="635 338 735 376"><b>£9,000</b></p>	<p data-bbox="935 338 1038 376"><b>£4,500</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1139 338 1457 629"><b>A grant of £4,500 is recommended on this occasion, however detailed in the report are recommendations for the 2010/11 financial year</b></p>

## **Reason for Recommendation**

The Radnorshire Indoor Bowls Association is based in Llandrindod Wells, within a property leased from Powys County Council. The facilities have been used for a number of national and international bowling events. A Development Officer has been employed on a part time basis in recent years and has ensured that a strong junior player involvement in the Association has evolved.

At the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2009, the application was deferred for additional information and the Applicant was asked (1) to supply statistical information to show the actual impact the role of Sports Development Officer has within the Organisation and the future development work that the role will undertake and (2) also verify the financial information submitted in support of the grant application which showed a significant surplus of funds.

The Applicant responded on the 30<sup>th</sup> December and stated that over the last five years there have been three post holders within the role of Sports Development Officer, the role faces continual challenges such as an aging membership resulting in members leaving the Association and young members of the Association leaving the area to attend University.

The Applicant states that "there is a need for the retention and employment of a Sports Development Officer to meet the demands detailed above otherwise there is the danger that the Association will implode and the Centre be returned to the local Authority as a failed enterprise.

With regard to the significant surplus of funds, the applicant states that:

- a) Joint deposit account - (30<sup>th</sup> April 2009 - £34,089.51)

As part of the rental agreement the Association has with Powys County Council it is required to set aside a sum of £4,000 and any interest accrued to ensure that there is sufficient funds available for the Association to honour its 50/50 obligation with the Authority to maintain the building and facilities.

- b) Deposit account (30<sup>th</sup> April 2009 - £35,263.02)

Although this is the Association's own unrestricted funds, members feel that conversations with other departments within the Authority will result in these resources being used to support the maintenance of the facilities.

c) Current account (30<sup>th</sup> April 2009 – £13,042.58)

This is the residual balance from which the expenditure of the centre and retaining it open during the period – 1<sup>st</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> September each year is funded. By September each year the balance is depleted until the renewal of members' subscriptions.

The applicant also states "that in light of the above and in the absence of receiving positive confirmation that the support requested is available, it will be necessary for the Association to consider suspending operations and closing the Indoor Bowling Centre during the Summer period to restrict their outgoings and conserve resources.

#### **Officer recommendations**

- 1) Due to the issues regarding the staffing issues of the role of Sports Development Officer within the Radnor Indoor Bowling Association, a grant of £4,500 is recommended.**

**However the Association appears to view this funding as part of the Authority's contribution to the Indoor Bowling Centre. Therefore the Projects and Programmes Officer wishes to discuss this issue further with the Radnorshire Indoor Bowling Association and Officers within the Authority's Sports Development and Asset Management Units to ensure any further application to the Community Enablement Support Fund has clearly defined specific targets.**

- 2) As part of the overall review of the Community Enablement Support Fund, (A report is being prepared to present to the Portfolio Member on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2010) bowling clubs and associations throughout Powys independently apply the one-off revenue fund for annual events and activities.**

**However when looking generically throughout the Authority, all other major sporting activities such as hockey, football, netball and rugby, have an on-going agreement between the specific lead body and Powys County Council to provide a county wide development programme.**

**The Projects and Programmes Officer has had an initial discussion with the Welsh Bowling Association to agree a programme of activities through out Powys, possibly funded as an on-going revenue applicant.**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>Requesting</b>	<b>Reason for recommendation</b>
<b>CG3037</b>  <b>Llanbister Community Council</b>  <b>Childrens play equipment</b>	<b>£2,646</b>	<b>£1,323</b>	<b>A grant of £1,323 is recommended subject to satisfactory health and safety requirements being in place.</b>

### **Reason for Recommendation**

Llanbister Community Council provide playground services for the children of Llanbister and the surrounding area. There is currently a shortfall in the amenities available on the area near to the school. The current equipment caters for toddlers and children up to 11 years old.

The application received is for funding towards replacing the currently ageing and unsafe equipment and a safe surface that complies with the current Health and Safety regulations.

It is understood that no planning permission is required. The applicant also shows evidence that they meet statutory obligations with insurance, ROSPA Inspections, playground maintenance and repairs.

The Community Council have also made application to the Welsh Church Act Fund. An award of £1,323 is recommended on this occasion, subject to satisfactory health and safety requirements being in place.

### **Appendix 3 – Capital applications**

## Appendix 4– Welsh Church Act Fund

Organisation	Requested	Recommendation	Reason for recommendation
<b>CG3037</b>  <b>Llanbister Community Council</b>  <b>Childrens play equipment</b>	<b>£2,646</b>	<b>£1,323</b>	<b>A grant of £290 is recommended subject to satisfactory health and safety requirements being in place.</b>

### Reason for Recommendation

Llanbister Community Council provide playground services for the children of Llanbister and the surrounding area. There is currently a shortfall in the amenities available on the area near to the school. The current equipment caters for toddlers and children up to 11 years old.

The application received is for funding towards replacing the currently ageing and unsafe equipment and a safe surface that complies with the current Health and Safety regulations.

It is understood that no planning permission is required. The applicant also shows evidence that they meet statutory obligations with insurance, ROSPA Inspections, playground maintenance and repairs.

The Community Council have also made application to the Community Enablement Support Fund. An award of £290 is recommended on this occasion, subject to satisfactory health and safety requirements being in place.