

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.
Officer report to Portfolio Holder
County Councillor Mr W Jones
7th September 2010

REPORT AUTHOR: Community Regeneration Manager

SUBJECT: Community Enablement Support Fund Capital and Revenue applications

REPORT FOR: Decision

This report details the applications that have been received for the third round of CESF 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 Capital Applications (See Appendix 1)

The 2010/11 budget will be fully allocated if the recommendations in this report are approved.

Organisation	Request	Recommendation
Berriew Tennis Club	£15,000	£15,000
Bwlch y Sarnau Community Centre	£3,650	£3,650
Cemmaes Jubilee Hall	£15,000	£15,000
Knighton Community Centre	£10,000	£10,000
Llanfyllin Town Council	£3,404	£3,404
Llimeys (Friends of Llanymynech Heritage Area)	£15,000	£15,000
Llanidloes Town Council	£10,000	£10,000
New Mills Village Hall	£11,500	£9,205
Wyeside Arts Centre	£14,362	£14,362
Ystradgynlais Volunteer Centre	£2,950	£2,950
Total Recommendations	£100,866	£98,571

Community Enablement Support Fund One – Off Revenue Applications (See Appendix 2)

The 2010/11 budget is £113,410 and if all the recommendations in this report are approved, there remains £2,324 for allocation.

Organisation	Request	Recommendation
Knighton Community Centre	£15,000	£15,000
Radnorshire Indoor Bowls Association	£4,500	£4,500
Red Kite Theatre	£4,000	£4,000
Take pART	£9,700	£7,200
Ystradgynlais Miners Welfare Hall & Trust	£5,000	£5,000
Total Recommendations	£38,200	£35,700

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

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.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To approve individual awards listed Appendices 1 & 2	In line with current criteria as outlined in the Guide to Grants for Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations (dated 2005).

Person(s) To Action Decision:	Community Regeneration Manager
Date By When Decision To Be Actioned:	

Relevant Policy (ies):	Guide to Grants for Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations Powys Arts and Culture Strategy Powys Community Strategy		
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:

Appendix 1 – Capital applications

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p>CG3717</p> <p>Berriew Tennis Club</p> <p>Pavilion</p>	<p>£32,962</p>	<p>£15,000</p>	<p>A grant of £15,000 is recommended, being 50% of the shortfall after all other lottery, European and government funding has been secured.</p>

Reason for recommendation

Berriew Tennis Club has seen significant developments over the last three years, with a substantial increase in its membership. The Club offers the community of Berriew and the surrounding area an opportunity to participate on a social and competitive level, developing skills and fitness.

The Club has four teams competing in the Montgomeryshire Tennis League and also holds coaching sessions for all ages, from 4 to 60+. At the recent summer sessions there have been 50 people attending on a regular basis. The Club were awarded Montgomeryshire 2009 Club of the Year.

The application received is for funding towards a Pavilion, to include changing facilities and meeting space. The application has the support of the Berriew Recreation Association and has planning approved in principle, the detailed planning is due early September.

A grant of £15,000 is recommended on this occasion, being 50% of the shortfall after all other lottery, European and government funding has been secured.

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p style="text-align: center;">CG4612</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bwlch y Sarnau Community Centre</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Phase 4 of the refurbishment at the village hall</p>	£11,829	£3,650	<p style="text-align: center;">A grant of £3,650 is recommended.</p>

Reason for Recommendation

Bwlch y Sarnau is a very small Radnorshire village approx 7 miles from Rhayader. There is no shop and the school was closed in 1992. The Community Centre situated in the former school building, which was built in 1870, next to the Chapel.

Powys County Council are the owners of the Old School and lease the building to the Bwlch y Sarnau Community Centre Committee on a 25-year repair and maintenance lease for nominal annual sum. The applicants have gained charitable status with the Charity Commissioners. The Community Regeneration Manager is currently discussing issues surrounding the possibility of transferring the Hall into Community ownership under Asset Transfer.

During recent years the Hall Committee have successfully raised funds towards the refurbishment of the centre including a new roof and other external works.

The application now received is for the final stage of the refurbishment, including the demolition of the kitchen annexe and completing repairs to the external fabric of the building.

The project has received £4,500 from PAVO Can Do Communities funding and **an award of £3,650, being 50% of the shortfall, is recommended on this occasion.**

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p style="text-align: center;">CG3714</p> <p>Cemmaes Jubilee Hall</p> <p>Improvements to roof and windows</p>	£32,832	£15,400	<p>A grant of £15,000 is recommended, being 50% of the shortfall after all other lottery, European and government funding has been secured.</p>

Reason for recommendation

Cemmaes Jubilee Village/Hall Trust has the responsibility of maintaining the hall at Cemmaes Road, Machynlleth. It is in a Communities First Area and in 2004 received funding from the Communities First Trust Fund for a survey to determine the extent of renovations and repairs required at the Hall.

Since that time, the Committee have been concentrating on fund raising to make the improvements required. An successful application has been made to PAVO's Community Building grant scheme for a "George Borrow Experience" - George Henry Borrow was an English author who wrote novels and travelogues based on his own experiences around Europe. His experiences are followed on the walk/cycle ride as described in the book "Wild Wales" from Llanymawddwy to Machynlleth and there is an exhibition and café at Cemmaes Road.

An application has been received under the Community Enablement Support Fund towards the necessary refurbishment required to the main hall, which includes replacing the current windows and alterations to the roof and internal ceiling to improve the acoustics within the hall.

A grant of £15,000 is recommended on this occasion, being 50% of the shortfall after all other lottery, European and government funding has been secured.

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p style="text-align: center;">CG4075</p> <p>Knighton Community Centre</p> <p>Refurbishment of Committee Room</p>	£22,175	£10,000	A grant of £10,000 is recommended

Reasons for recommendation

The Knighton Community Centre Management Committee have a 30-year lease with Powys County Council and has responsibility for managing and maintaining the facility. He Committee also organise events and activities on behalf of the Community. The current Committee took over in November 2009, when the previous Committee resigned enbloc being unprepared to accept the precarious position of the Centre. The Centre currently has running costs of £2,000 per month.

Knighton Community Centre has a full sized stage, with up-to-date lighting and sound equipment, sports facilities in the main hall, a Community room, Bar, and a snooker room. As part of its sustainability programme, Knighton Community Support Office have relocated from the Library to the Community Centre. The Community Centre has seen little investment in the fabric of the building and the new Committee wishes to increase the usage of the Centre

The application submitted is towards the essential works and new equipment to the Committee room, damage has occurred to the room through roof damage, that is due to be repaired shortly and the Committee wish to undertake these works whilst the builder is on site.

The Community Regeneration Manager has visited the Centre and discussed the proposals in more detail and is satisfied that the application meets the criteria of the fund. **A grant of £10,000 is recommended on this occasion**

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p style="text-align: center;">CG3257</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Llanfyllin Town Council</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Afon Cain Access Scheme</p>	£78,175	£3,404	A grant of £3,404 is recommended

Reasons for recommendation

The Afon Cain Access project is one of six projects supported by the Environment Agency throughout Wales, to raise awareness and reduce the effects of diffuse pollution.

The Afon Cain and its tributaries are important for all sorts of wildlife ranging from bugs and insects to the Atlantic salmon and otter, but environmental monitoring studies have shown that the water quality and ecology are not as good as they should be. The project will have environmental benefits through the creation of areas of open water, wetland zones and planting of reed beds and trees.

Both the Environmental Agency and the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust are both enthusiastic about the scheme and local schools and organisations have been actively involved in the project.

The application received is to improve the public access to the area, for both the local community and visitors. The works will include paths, boardwalks and a picnic area.

An award of £3,404 is recommended, on this occasion.

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p>CG3712</p> <p>Llimeys (Friends of Llanymynech Heritage Area)</p> <p>Welsh Drum House, Interpretation and Toposcope Project</p>	£103,250	£15,000	A grant of £15,000 is recommended

Reasons for recommendation

The Llimeys (Friends of Llanymynech Heritage Area) work to conserve and protect the buildings and tramways leading from Llanymynech Hill to the Montgomery Canal and regularly conduct walks around the quarry and the heritage kiln site. They are the lead organisation liaising with Shropshire Council, Powys County Council, Shropshire Wildlife Trust and Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust.

The aims of this project are to:

- Stimulate an active interest in the history, and also the environmental and geological diversity, of the area.
- Provide an accessible starting point and a destination for local people and visitors

There are three aspects to the project:

1. The project is designed to prevent further deterioration of the two historic Limeworking Brake (Winding) Drum Houses and ensure that they are sufficiently robust to sustain the weather in years to come. The work will stabilise any loose material making them safe for visitors.
2. An interpretation panel will be installed near the large Brake Drum House and an orientation / information panel on the inner wall of the building.
3. To Design , construct and install a toposcope on a former spoil heap overlooking the landscape to the east, south and west of Llanymynech rocks, This former spoil heap offers extensive views east of England (the Vyrnwy/Severn plain) and to the west and south of the borderland Wales including the former granite volcano at Criggion.

The project has been awarded £30,574 from CADW and **an award of £15,000 is recommended on this occasion.**

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p data-bbox="268 188 392 226">CG3122</p> <p data-bbox="204 259 456 331">Llanidloes Town Council</p> <p data-bbox="213 367 446 439">Children's Play Equipment</p>	<p data-bbox="587 188 705 226">£26,810</p>	<p data-bbox="852 188 973 226">£10,000</p>	<p data-bbox="1066 188 1420 371">A grant of £10,000 is recommended subject to a satisfactory health and safety check system being in place.</p>

Reason for recommendation

Llanidloes Town Council are seeking financial assistance towards the reinstatement of new children's play equipment at the Victoria Park Playground.

The previous equipment was dismantled due to health and safety reasons. The application is for the purchase and installation of an Ellesmere unit, which consists of platforms, slide, steps, fireman's pole, inclined bridge, Tarzan beam and scramble net.

The play area sited in Victoria Avenue is suitable for 5 - 14 year olds. The Town Council have annual ROSPA safety inspections, and the playground is maintained on a weekly basis. The applicant has sought advice from the Authority's Outdoor Recreation Officer who is supportive of the proposal.

The application meets the criteria of the fund and a grant of £10,000 is recommended subject to a satisfactory health and safety check system being in place.

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p style="text-align: center;">CG3765</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Mills Village Hall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Disabled facilities, Heating system and Curtains</p>	£22,912	£11,500	<p>An award of £9,205, being 50% of the shortfall after all other Lottery, European and Government funding has been taken into consideration.</p>

Reason for recommendation

This hall, which serves the Manfon Community, is located a few yards from the junction of the Berriew/Llanfair/Newton Roads in the Berriew direction. The hall is one of the few remaining of the original Lord Davies funded 1920s buildings.

The management committee has charitable status with the Charity Commissioners and undertakes the responsibility of maintaining the village hall for the use of individuals and community groups from the surrounding area

The application now received is for internal works including construction of new toilets with separate disabled facilities within the main building, improvements to disabled access to the main building and insulation to the end wall of the building and external side cladding.

The applicant is requesting that this application meets the 50% of the project costs; however this would not be possible under the fund's current criteria. The maximum the Community Enablement Support Fund Capital Grant would be able to contribute would up to 50% of the shortfall after the PAVO Can Do Communities award of £4,500 has been taken into consideration.

An award of amounting to £9,205 is recommended on this occasion.

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p align="center">CG1018</p> <p>Wyeside Arts Centre</p> <p>Refurbishment to external fabric of building</p>	<p align="center">£28,724</p>	<p align="center">£14,362</p>	<p>A grant of £14,362 is recommended.</p>
<p>Reason for Recommendation</p> <p>The Wyeside promotes over 600 affordable and accessible arts, entertainment and community activities throughout the year. Its Live Shows offer a wide appeal with approximately 60 performances of music, theatre, dance, and light entertainment by both professional and community artists. Included in its arts events programme the Centre shows approximately 820 screenings of mainstream and specialist films, plus ad hoc film education events for schools, linked to the live show and film programme.</p> <p>The Organisation has had several changes in staff during 2009/10 including the resignation of the Chief Executive and Accounts Administrator; the Trustees have appointed an interim Chief Executive and are actively looking at strengthening the grassroots community art activity at the Wyeside.</p> <p>A new website has been developed with assistance from the Rural Development Plan Powys Connections grant scheme. The Wyeside are developing a programme of refurbishment and restructuring of the building which will enable the Centre to be more flexible and secure its sustainability and with this application the Organisation has requested capital assistance for the initial stage of refurbishing and enhancing the exterior of the building.</p> <p>The Wyeside Arts Centre is a very unique structure, designed primarily in the late Victorian Gothic style, the building is a grade 2 listed and the exterior works is a specialist area of work and must be undertaken in a sympathetic and authentic manner to safeguard the origins of the building.</p> <p>The Managing Trustees are in the process of making application to the Aggregate Levy Fund for a major internal refurbishment and aim to meet the December 2010 deadline.</p> <p>An award of £14,362 is recommended on this occasion.</p>			

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p align="center">CG2043</p> <p align="center">Ystradgynlais Volunteer Centre</p> <p align="center">Refurbishment of the Centre</p>	<p align="center">£5,893. (Eligible capital costs.)</p>	<p align="center">£5,310</p>	<p align="center">A grant of £2,950 is recommended.</p>

Reasons for Recommendation

The first Management Committee was formed in 1984 with the support of the predecessors of PAVO and the Ystradgynlais Volunteer Centre was the first Volunteer centre in Powys. It is now part of the Powys Network of Volunteer Bureaux and Community Support Schemes, there being twelve within Powys who are committed to promoting and supporting the development of the local voluntary sector initiatives and services in response to the local needs, through recruiting, training and supporting volunteers. They also provide an information service to the local community regarding activities, opportunities and services, in this instance throughout an area of approximately five miles radius of Ystradgynlais with a population in the region of 13,000 people.

During the last twelve months the Ystradgynlais Volunteer Centre has continued to expand services to a wider community, including the more rural areas and the Centre has encouraged its use by a wide variety of groups such as the Carers Group, Ystrad Re-use, Arthritis Care, Dragon Savers and the Triangle project. The Centre employs part-time Organisers and the remaining staff are all volunteers who work closely with various organisations within the area.

The application received is for funding towards the refurbishment of the Volunteer Centre including replacement of fascias and gutters, internal redecorating and replacement of kitchen.

Various organisations and their clients such as Contact (a mental health group), PDAC (Powys Drugs and Alcohol Centre), the Acorn group youths programme and Communities First are all involved in the project.

A grant of £2,950 is recommended on this occasion, being 50% of the eligible project costs.

Appendix 2 – Revenue Applications

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p>CG4075</p> <p>Knighton Community Centre</p> <p>“Big Ren” project</p>	<p>£78,175</p>	<p>£15,000</p>	<p>A grant of £15,000 is recommended</p>

Reasons for recommendation

The Knighton Community Centre Management Committee have a 30-year lease with Powys County Council and has responsibility for managing and maintaining the facility. He Committee also organise events and activities on behalf of the Community. The current Committee took over in November 2009, when the previous Committee resigned enbloc being unprepared to accept the precarious position of the Centre. The Centre currently has running costs of £2,000 per month.

The Committee’s vision is:

“A thriving caring community where everyone feels they have a place to go, there is lots exciting things to do and that they feel they belong. To achieve this we will provide a top notch facility that provides children, young people and the whole community of Knighton and the surrounding district with a great place to come, learn, share and have fun.”

Knighton Community Centre has a full sized stage, with up-to-date lighting and sound equipment, sports facilities in the main hall, a Community room, Bar, and a snooker room. As part of its sustainability programme, Knighton Community Support Office have relocated from the Library to the Community Centre.

The application submitted is toward the “Big Ren” project and will support phases 1 and 2 of the Centre’s business plan which will include appointing a Project Development Officer to help the committee develop the potential partnerships and opportunities to co-locate other services on site. The post will also support the Centre Committee in an application to the third round of the Asset Transfer Scheme in November 2010 and in other fund raising activities. A key aspect of the post will be to assist the centre to become self sustainable and self sustain the Project Development Role by generating income, interest and the use of the Centre.

The Community Regeneration Manager has visited the Centre and discussed the proposals in more detail and is satisfied that the application meets the criteria of the fund. **A grant of £15,000 is recommended on this occasion**

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p style="text-align: center;">CG4032</p> <p>Radnorshire Indoor Bowls Association</p> <p>Development officer and other revenue costs</p>	£9,000	£4,500	An award of £4,500 is recommended.

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.

The applicant requires assistance to continue the Development Officer post to ensure that maximum use of the building is continued and to promote the Indoor Bowling as a sport to residents of Llandrindod Wells being an inclusive sport for people of all ages and abilities.

An application was received in 2009/10 financial year for a similar project, however since that time the Bowls Association has developed a business plan and has increased participation at the Centre by 15%, specifically targeting the over 50s. The Centre is also now promoting its facilities for conferences and meetings to assist the Committee to obtain sustainability.

An award of £4,500 is recommended on this occasion, however in future years it is felt that should this Organisation apply to the Community Enablement Support Fund one – off revenue fund for a similar project, they should no longer eligible for an outright grant and may possibly be offered a guarantee against genuine financial loss.

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p style="text-align: center;">CG2338</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Red Kite Theatre</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Postcards from Hay</p>	£10,000	£4,000	A grant of £4,000 is recommended.

Reason for Recommendation

Red Kite Theatre is a Youth and Community Theatre and Performing Arts Group that runs weekly workshops at Gwernyfed Drama Studio. The Group produces annual theatre productions, special workshops and holds a summer dance school in Hay on Wye.

With this request for funding, the group is seeking financial assistance towards their dance school for young people aged 7 – 11 and 12 – 18 years and further workshops leading to a production an outdoor event entitled “Postcards from Hay”

Based in Hay-on-Wye, these workshops are designed to enable more young people to take part in an empowering, creative experience and encourage ‘new blood’ into their already thriving group. The expenditure is made of up salaries, rental costs, sound and lighting equipment, insurance, administration, promotion and travel. Subscriptions from participants are purposely kept low in order to encourage as many young people as possible especially those from low-income families.

It is understood that the applicant is registered with the appropriate bodies including Powys Youth Service - a necessary criteria in considering assistance from this fund.

A grant of £4,000 is recommended on this occasion.

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p style="text-align: center;">CG2678</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Take pART</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Community Arts Programme</p>	£19,400	£9,700	<p style="text-align: center;">A grant of £7,200 is recommended.</p>

Reason for Recommendation

Take pART is a not for profit organisation, based in Brecon, that provides opportunities for volunteering using the experiences as a means of social inclusion. The individuals involved are often social excluded through disability, illness (both physical and mental), age, low income, gender and ethnicity.

The Organisation works with other organisations that help members of the community Such as BDCA, Gwalia Care and Support, Hafan Cymru and the Maendu Well project. They also provide tutors for local community groups such as Brecon Youth Club.

The application received is for funding towards a 9 month programme series of workshops and an exhibition in Spring 2011. The focus of the project will be mobile printing, enamelled jewellery and mask making – promoting independence, rehabilitation and reablement to reduce long term dependence of the participants.

The overall project costs are £19,400 and an award of £5,000 has been received from the Big Lottery – Awards for All grant scheme. **An award of £7,200 from the Community Enablement Support Fund, being 50% of the shortfall, is recommended on this occasion.**

Organisation	Project Cost	Requesting	Recommendation
<p>CG1006</p> <p>Ystradgynlais Miners Welfare Hall & Trust</p> <p>Community Arts Programme</p>	£13,000	£5,000	A grant of £5,000 is recommended.

Reason for Recommendation

The Welfare, Ystradgynlais have made an application for revenue financial assistance towards supporting the technical, marketing and administration costs of the professional performances and entertainment Programme. The Ystradgynlais Miners Welfare & Hall Trust was established in the 1930's by local miners who contributed a penny a week from their wages to create a centre of learning, leisure, recreation and development. It is now run as a charitable trust and is a busy community focussed arts venue, serving the Upper Swansea Valley. It has strong community roots that are emphasised in its Mission statement. *"The Welfare aims to provide a wide-ranging, involving, stimulating and accessible experience to the arts, cultural and community life for the bilingual and diverse communities of the Upper Swansea Valley"*

The main activities of the Welfare are live performances including Indian Mystic Musicians from Rajasthan and Bengal, Cinema, and Community based arts activities. The building is also used as office accommodation and the facilities are hired to the public for weddings and other events as well as regular community activities i.e. Yoga, Exercise for the over 50s and Drama group.

This applicant received a grant of £6,000 towards the 2009/10 Community Arts Programme, which was extremely popular. The Welfare sees the importance of a wide programme of activities as a key function of their work and encourages participation particularly with young people and those of low income. The application meets the criteria of the fund and **a grant of £5,000 is recommended.**