(For Democratic Services use)

Decision Number: 56 (2014/15)

Portfolio Holder Executive Decision Statement

The Local Authority (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

Subject: Big Community Fund Appraisal March 04 2015

Details of Decision taken: Seven applications from the south of the District to the Big Community Fund to receive funding to enable projects to proceed as set out in the applications, as follows:
Hartley & Hodsoll Street ward £ 3,900 (2 applications)
Fawkham & West Kingsdown ward £ 1,075 (2 applications)
Ash & New Ash Green ward £ 2,680 (2 applications)
Hextable ward £ 1,500

Reason for Decision

- **Cabinet, on 21 July 2011 approved a new grant scheme, entitled the Big Community Fund. Currently, £ 18,404.29 remains in the fund.**
- **It was agreed to have one final round of the Big Community Fund in March to spend the remaining funding. The applications received were appraised over two days, with applications from the south of the District being appraised by Members from the north of the District and applications from the north of the District being appraised by Members from the south.**
- **The March 2015 round closed on 20 February 2015 and 19 applications were received. Nine applications from the south of the District were appraised on 4 March 2015, using an agreed appraisal template and decision-making form. The remaining ten applications were appraised on 3 March 2015 and are the subject of a separate Portfolio Holder decision.**
- **Members present recommended that seven projects, two each from Hartley & Hodsoll Street ward, Fawkham & West Kingsdown ward and Ash & New Ash Green ward and one from Hextable ward should receive a total of £ 9,155.**
- **Two applications, one each from Fawkham & West Kingsdown ward and Farningham, Horton Kirby & South Darenth ward, were not recommended to receive any funding.**

All Documents considered:
Big Community Fund applications from Hartley & Hodsoll Street ward, Fawkham & West Kingsdown ward, Ash & New Ash Green ward, Hextable ward and Farningham, Horton Kirby & South Darenth ward

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Member when making the Decision:

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None

Financial implications

The Big Community Fund total stands at £ 18,404.29. 19 applications totalling £ 41,842.50 have been received and all remaining funding is to be allocated. There are no plans to put further funding into the Big Community Fund.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

There are no legal implications from this decision.

Equality Impacts (Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty)

Question	Answer	Explanation / Evidence
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to disadvantage or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	The projects supported by this decision will make improvements to local communities and make a positive contribution to Equalities: • A Fawkham & West Kingsdown application recommended to receive funding is for defibrillators, which will be available to everyone in community locations. The equipment has the potential to save lives in communities where such equipment has not previously been available. • A baby changing unit in a disabled toilet in West Kingsdown village hall will improve facilities for parents with disabilities. • Improvements to village halls in Hodsoll Street, Hartley, New Ash Green and Hextable will improve community facilities for everyone in those communities. • Basketball sessions for young people will provide much needed sports sessions for those isolated from other sports activities.
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have the potential to promote equality of opportunity?	Yes	
c. What steps can be taken to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		No mitigations required

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Local Member (s), other Portfolio Holders and/or Directors/Heads of Service Consulted **Members of the Appraisal Panel: Cllrs Mrs Cook, Edwards-Winser, Raikes, Miss Thornton and Walshe**
Details of any conflicts of interest **a) declared by any executive member who is consulted by the Decision Taker** **None** **b) and any details of dispensations granted by the Chief Executive in respect of any declared conflict** **None**

Decision taken by:	Portfolio Holder for Economic & Community Development [redacted]
Signed by Portfolio Holder	
Date of Decision	6/3/15
Record made by:	George Lewis
Date of record:	9 March 2015

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