

Public Document Pack



West Devon
Borough
Council

Please reply to: Darryl White
Service: Strategy & Commissioning
Direct Dial: (01803) 861247
E-mail address: Darryl.White@swdevon.gov.uk
Date:

Dear Councillor

WEST DEVON OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY (EXTERNAL) COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 21ST MARCH, 2017

I refer to the agenda for the above meeting and attach papers in connection with the following item(s).

Agenda No Item

9. **New Homes Bonus Allocation to Dartmoor National Park Authority (Pages 1 - 6)**

10. **Tamar Trails Legacy**

Verbal update

Yours sincerely

Darryl White
Senior Specialist – Democratic Services

Encs

This page is intentionally left blank

Report Template

2. Background

The Council receive New Homes Bonus funding from Government in respect to the new increase in housing stock for the Borough.

The New Homes Bonus funding includes development that has taken place in the West Devon area that sits within the DNPA, despite it being within a separate Local Planning Authority area.

As DNPA does not receive any direct allocation, the Borough Council agreed to transfer a sum of £24,136 in 2016/17 based on actual housing completions towards a Dartmoor National Park Sustainable Community Fund to fund community projects in DNPA communities where development has taken place.

The Sustainable Community Fund supports capital projects that ensure the long term viability of valued existing community facilities and services, or creates a new community infrastructure to meet identified community needs.

In addition to the main fund in 2016/17, a small grants (max £500) 'Community Action' pot was set up to support environmental projects undertaken by local community action groups on publicly accessible land.

The payment is made with the following conditions:

- decisions must be taken in consultation with the West Devon Borough Council local Ward Member(s);
- funding can only be used for capital spending on projects in those parts of Dartmoor National Park which fall within the West Devon Borough Council Boundaries and enable the Dartmoor National Park to carry out its social and economic responsibilities; and
- Dartmoor National Park reports on the annual progress in the application of, and use of the funds to the Council.

3. Outcomes/outputs

Ten projects totalling £21,253 were supported by DNPA in 2016/17. The total value of these projects is £112,291.

4. Proposed Way Forward

Appendix 1 provides a summary of the projects supported by DNPA.

Report Template

5. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance		<p>A condition of approval for the funding is that regular reports be made to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the application and use of the funds.</p> <p>The Local Government Act 2000 gave the Council the power to promote the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the area.</p> <p>Localism Act 2011 – General Power of Competence, a local authority has power to do anything that individuals of full legal capacity may do giving authorities the power to take reasonable action they need 'for the benefit of the authority, its area or persons resident or present in its area'.</p>
Financial		There are no direct financial implications from this report as funding is agreed as part of the budget setting process.
Risk		<p>Grants are paid in arrears of receipt of proof of expenditure.</p> <p>Grant offers are subject to a number of conditions which limit the potential risk to DNPA.</p>
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity		Grants support funding to a wide range of community groups, therefore promoting equal opportunities.
Safeguarding		None directly arising from this report
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder		None directly arising from this report
Health, Safety and Wellbeing		Grants contribute to supporting the social wellbeing of West Devon communities.
Other implications		None directly arising from this report

Report Template

Supporting Information

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Dartmoor Community Fund projects supported in 2016/17

Process checklist	Completed
Portfolio Holder briefed	Yes/No
SLT Rep briefed	Yes/No
Relevant Exec Director sign off (draft)	Yes/No
Data protection issues considered	Yes/No
If exempt information, public (part 1) report also drafted. (Committee/Scrutiny)	Yes/No

		Grant Award (£)	Total Project Value (£)
WEST DEVON			
Horrabridge fencing	materials to renew fencing to recreational field car park boundary improving safety	£ 325.00	£ 650.00
War memorial works, Princetown	A 'Just Do It' small grant to enable the inscription of additional names to the existing war memorial following significant local volunteer research.	£ 250.00	£ 500.00
Hall extension, Walkhampton	A proposal to extend the Walkhampton Village Hall to accommodate a Play-Group storeroom and the enlargement and modernisation of the kitchen to bring it up to standard. The Play-group are an important regular hall user who provide a vital service in the community, using the main hall each weekday, they currently have no internal store for equipment.	£ 10,000.00	£ 75,276.00
Fire safety improvements Sheepstor	Improvements to Sheepstor Village Hall and installation of hatch and fire door to meet fire standards, improve health and safety and circulation to enable full use of the kitchen for community events and get togethers.	£ 650.00	£ 1,375.00
fireproof cabinet for archive Sticklepath	The provision of a lockable fire resistant cabinet to securely house Sticklepath community archive materials (mainly documents and photographs) at the Village Hall to provide a safe, accessible centralised community heritage resource. Thematic displays can then be arranged for the benefit of interested members of the community and visitors to the area.	£ 557.00	£ 1,113.00
Archive storage, Throwleigh	A project to provide storage for the Throwleigh Archive established in 2000, a community resource that presents the heritage of the parish through different media, including a successful book now in its second print. The project reconfigures existing space in the village hall to provide stable storage space and a pleasant reading room where the public can access items for study purposes.	£ 2,510.00	£ 5,470.00
Dark Sky friendly Churches, Chagford	This project is to make the church of St Michael the Archangel, Chagford "dark sky friendly". This will be achieved through external lighting replacement and improved control functions, thereby reducing light pollution by minimising light scatter and hours of operation, reducing energy consumption and promoting the dark sky initiative agenda with its associated benefits for residents and wildlife such as bats.	£ 1,000.00	£ 2,000.00
Drainage, Weir park, Horrabridge	Provision of drainage to the front of the Youth Shelter in Weir Park, Horrabridge by providing guttering to the Youth Shelter and a land drain. The Youth Shelter is popular and takes heavier foot traffic than the rest of the park, the ground has compacted, leaving an area perpetually wet and muddy.	£ 796.00	£ 1,592.00
Compost Loo, St Raph's Huccaby	An innovative project to install a fully accessible compost toilet at St Raphaels Church, Huccaby that has no access to mains water or sewerage. This will enable this small chapel to expand its use for community events such as concerts, meetings, weddings, funerals and social get togethers, helping to bring an isolated, dispersed rural community together. The Chapel was also designed as a school and the intention is also to open up for school visits, increasing understanding of Dartmoor's cultural heritage.	£ 2,675.00	£ 8,925.00
Skate & Ride, Chagford	A project to extend current 2 strip Skate/Ride facility for Chagford and villages to create 4 strips, providing the older and more skilled users with a greater level of challenge than the existing beginner and intermediate runs. Also proposed to improve perimeter fencing and provide a picnic table, as currently those watching have nowhere to sit and socialise.	£ 2,490.00	£ 15,390.00

A total Grant Award of £21,253 was made. The total project value of the projects supported totalled £112,291.

This page is intentionally left blank