

NAME OF COMMITTEE	Executive
DATE	5 March 2015
REPORT TITLE	Community Re-investment Projects Fund 2014/15 Grant Allocations
Report of	Amanda Harvey, Community Projects & Policy Officer, Planning, Economy & Community
WARDS AFFECTED	Salcombe & Malborough, Allington & Loddiswell, Stokenham, Totnes Town and Dartington

Summary of report:

- To provide the Executive with a summary of the applications to the Community Re-investment Projects Fund in 2014/15 and to seek approval for allocating grants of over £10,000 to these projects.

Financial implications:

The Executive is asked to approve grants from an approved budget of £153,900 as per the recommendation below. (The remaining £7,788 has been allocated under delegated authority as set out in paragraph 2.1 below).

RECOMMENDATIONS:**That the Executive RESOLVES:**

- To approve six grants of over £10,000, totalling £136,013, as follows:
 - £30,000 to Malborough Village Hall & Playing Fields Association and Malborough Parish Council towards replacing the Village Hall roof.
 - £13,295 to Loddiswell Playing Fields & Village Hall Trust for tarmacing the Playing Field car park area.
 - £12,506 to Stokenham Parish Council towards footpath surface and drainage improvements between Carehouse Cross and Torcross (to complete improvements between Chillington and Torcross).
 - £27,225 to Totnes Development Trust towards improvements to the Shady Garden (creation of an improved public space through installation of paving, seating and street furniture).

- £26,166 to Dartington Village Hall Association towards disabled access alterations and a toilet block and committee room extension.
 - £26,821 to Totnes Town Council for Civic Hall regeneration (purchase and installation of sound system and sound insulation and refurbishment of backstage stairs and landing).
2. To approve an addition to the eligibility criteria to the Community Re-investment Projects Fund to take effect from 1 April 2015, as per the red text in the attached Guidance Notes (Appendix B).

Officer contact:

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1. BACKGROUND TO THE COMMUNITY RE-INVESTMENT PROJECTS FUND

- 1.1 The Council's New Homes Bonus Strategy was discussed at the Community Life & Housing Scrutiny Panel meeting on 29 November 2012. It was recommended to support the use of the New Homes Bonus funding for 2013/14 for various categories including community re-investment projects, with an underpinning criteria that this fund takes account of wards where housing development has or will be taking place (minute CLH.27/12 refers). This was approved by the Executive on 6 December 2012 (minute E.66/12 refers). The principles for this fund and budget of £153,900 for 2013/14 were approved by the Executive on 18 July 2013 and delegated authority was granted to the Head of Planning, Economy and Community in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder to agree the final criteria based on these approved principles (minute E.13/13 refers). The Community Re-investment Projects Fund was launched in October 2013.
- 1.2 In 2013/14, eight grants totalling £153,900 were awarded, two totalling £18,100 under delegated authority and six totalling £135,800 were awarded by the Executive on 5 June 2014 (minute E.05/15 refers).

2. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

SUMMARY OF 2014/15 COMMUNITY RE-INVESTMENT PROJECTS FUND APPLICATIONS

- 2.1 Seven applications were received by the 31 December 2014 deadline, all of which met the eligibility criteria for the Fund detailed in the Guidance Notes. One of these applications requested a grant of under £10,000. The decision on this was made under delegated authority by the Community Manager in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, as follows:
- £7,788 to Dart Area Landscape Access Group for A379 verge footpath at Stoke Fleming.

2.2 Appendix A provides summaries of the six applications requesting grants of over £10,000, including the officers' assessments of each in terms of community need, community support, how the project provides or improves community infrastructure, deliverability, value for money and lasting impact. Decisions on these grants of over £10,000 need to be made by the Executive as per the approved criteria for the Fund. It is suggested that these projects are supported as per the recommendations above. It should be noted that none of these applications currently qualify for Section 106 match funding.

3. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report as South Hams District Council accepts no liability for projects beyond the provision of Community Re-investment Projects Fund grants. The Council has powers to give these grants in order to support its priorities through the Localism Act's Powers of General Competence.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 This report seeks Executive approval to allocate six grants totalling £131,013 as set out in the recommendations above out of an approved budget of £153,900 for 2014/15. (£7,788 has been allocated under delegated authority as set out in paragraph 2.1 above).

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Risk Management implications are shown at the end of this report in the Strategic Risks Template.

6. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate priorities engaged:	All
Statutory powers:	Localism Act 2011 (Section 1 – Powers of General Competence)
Considerations of equality and human rights:	Grants will provide funding to a wide range of community groups, therefore promoting equal opportunities
Biodiversity considerations:	None
Sustainability considerations:	Grants contribute to increasing the sustainability of communities in the South Hams
Crime and disorder implications:	None
Background papers:	New Homes Bonus Strategy Community Life

	<p>& Housing Scrutiny Panel Report 29 Nov 2012 & Minutes (CLH.27/12) Executive Minutes 6 Dec 2012 (E.66/12) Principles and Budget for the New Homes Bonus Community Re-investment Projects Fund 2013/14 Executive Report 18 Jul 2013 & Minutes (E.13/13) Community Re-investment Projects Fund 2013/14 Grant Allocations Executive Report 5 June 2014 & Minutes (E.05/15) Community Re-investment Projects Fund Guidance Notes</p>
<p>Appendices attached:</p>	<p>Appendix A Community Re-investment Projects Fund 2014/15 Summary of Applications and Assessments Appendix B Amended Community Re-investment Projects Fund Guidance Notes</p>

STRATEGIC RISKS TEMPLATE

No	Risk Title	Risk/Opportunity Description	Inherent risk status			Mitigating & Management actions	Ownership
			Impact of negative outcome	Chance of negative outcome	Risk score and direction of travel		
1	Delivery of Outcomes and Value for Money	Failure to deliver outcomes to the community and provide value for money for the Council's contributions / communities where development has taken place will be able to benefit from this new Fund	3	2	6 ↔	<p>Grants of over £10,000 need to be approved by the Executive</p> <p>Grants will be paid in arrears on submission of proof of expenditure</p> <p>Annual monitoring report to the Executive</p> <p>The benefits of this new Fund to communities are likely to outweigh the risks associated with its operation</p>	Community Manager

Direction of travel symbols ↓ ↑ ↔