



Constituency Committee - Wirral West
Thursday, 14 March 2019

REPORT TITLE:	WIRRAL WEST COMMUNITY FUND (2018/19)
REPORT OF:	Director for Health and Wellbeing

REPORT SUMMARY

This report sets out details of applications made to Wirral West Community Fund for decision by Wirral West Constituency Committee.

RECOMMENDATION/S

Wirral West Constituency Committee reviews the applications, giving consideration to the assessment conducted and outcome of the public vote, and decides which applications to award funding.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 To support local groups to improve the Constituency area and quality of life.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 Options for the spend of this allocation of funding has been discussed at a number of previous meetings of the Committee.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Further to Wirral West Constituency Committee on 4 October 2018 (minute 15 refers), Wirral West Community Fund was launched on 12 October 2018. This small grants programme invited applications for bids of no more than £1,000 from voluntary, community and faith sector groups to deliver quality of life improvements within a Constituency ward/s. £50,000 was set aside by the Committee for this Fund, with £10,000 allocated for each ward.
- 3.2 This funding opportunity was communicated by Council press release; notifications on social media; posters delivered to 200 venues; electronic bulletins/emails to over 150 groups signed up to receive notifications from the Constituency Team and through elected members.
- 3.3 The Fund closed for applications at noon on Friday 23 November 2018 and 36 bids were received. One application was deemed ineligible (WWCF5) and the details of this project have therefore not been included.
- 3.4 The main content of each application is summarised in Appendix 1, including which ward/s each respective project benefits. The project descriptions used for the online public vote (referred to in 3.6 below) have been used for this spreadsheet for the purpose of clarity.
- 3.5 Appendix 2 provides a scored assessment for each application. The column entitled '*Assessment Score (maximum of 9)*' contains the outcome of the assessment completed by the (Wallasey) Constituency Manager of the content of each application against the criteria published at www.wirral.gov.uk/wirralwest (i.e. the extent to which the proposed project will improve community life and people's wellbeing; number of people anticipated to benefit and an assessment of value for money). The response to each of the three criteria was scored out of three, allowing for a maximum score of nine for each respective application.
- 3.6 As requested previously by the Committee, the applications were then subject to public vote. The online voting process commenced at noon on Monday 14 January 2019, with paper copies available in all Wirral West Libraries. The groups were also required to take part in a funding showcase event on Tuesday 22 January 2019, hosted by the Constituency Engagement Officer, and held at Hoylake Parade Community Centre. This event enabled members of the public to find out more about the proposed projects and

activity in their local area. This event was attended by 22 residents and 48 representatives from the bidding groups.

- 3.7 The public vote was open to anyone, with votes counted only for those people who lived and/or worked within Wirral. Only one voting submission was permitted per person. The public vote closed at noon on 25 January 2019. 2,294 votes were received in total of which 2,022 lived and/or worked within Wirral West. Appendix 2 sets out the number of counted public votes received for each application; in the column entitled '*Public Votes*'.
- 3.8 The respective assessment score and the number of counted public votes have been combined to give a final total score for each application. This weights the scored assessment (outlined in 3.5 above) as 60% of the final score and the public vote (outlined in 3.7 above) as 40% of the final score. This weighting is to ensure that groups that are not well networked; have limited or no access to social media and/or are small in size are not unduly disadvantaged. This information is also included in Appendix 2.
- 3.9 The final column in Appendix 2 (entitled 'Rank') sets out how each project ranked against the others. As the budget for this Fund is split equally between wards, Appendices 2a-e place each of these projects, as ranked in Appendix 2, within each budget allocation based upon the ward/s the project will benefit. For those projects which will benefit multiple wards, the amount requested has been pro-rated. By way of example, WWCF36 Wirral Country Park Junior Runners which seeks £1,000 total funding, is noted under Pensby & Thingwall ward (Appendix 2c) and West Kirby & Thurstaston ward (Appendix 2e) requesting £500 from each ward's allocation.
- 3.10 Based on the outcome of the scored assessment and public vote combined (as outlined in 3.8 above) and the funding available per ward, the appendices 2a-e outline which projects are recommended for funding and the amount.
- 3.11 During the week commencing 12 February 2019, it was brought to the Constituency Team's attention that one project had purchased the item that funding was being sought for. WWCF8 Bertram Tennis Court purchased the Public Access Defibrillator it was seeking. The group had their site assessed by North-West Ambulance Service and became concerned that having identified the pressing need for a Defibrillator they should install one as soon as possible using their 'emergency funds' whilst awaiting the outcome of this Fund. Unfortunately they had not appreciated that the terms and conditions of this Fund prevents bids for funding for costs which have already been incurred, i.e. paying for projects retrospectively. The project has therefore regrettably had to be deemed ineligible. The group has been fully co-operative throughout this query. The project remains in the Appendices as the details were made public and subject to public vote.
- 3.12 For ease of reference the recommendations for funding are summarised below.

a) Greasby, Frankby & Irby ward

ID	Organisation/Group Name	Amount	Rank
WWCF31	Mellow Yellow	£200.00	1
WWCF16	Greasby Community Association	£1,000.00	2
WWCF25	Celebrate Greasby 2019	£985.47	3
WWCF34	Wirral Junior Chess	£200.00	4
WWCF6	Greasby Over 60's Club	£470.00	5
		£2,855.47	

This ward was undersubscribed and therefore an uncommitted balance of **£7,144.53** is left.

b) Hoylake & Meols ward

ID	Organisation/Group Name	Amount	Rank
WWCF22	St Hildeburgh's Parish Church	£1,000.00	1
WWCF7	The UTS Foundation	£1,000.00	2
WWCF24	Hoylake Parade Community Centre	£1,000.00	3
WWCF8	Bertram Tennis Club (see 3.11 above)	£0	4
WWCF2	Carers Soup 'n' Support	£150.00	5
WWCF31	Mellow Yellow	£200.00	6
WWCF12	Metanoeo CIC	£980.00	7
WWCF11	Friends of Hoylake and West Kirby Beaches	£480.00	8
WWCF21	Melrose Club	£1,000.00	9
WWCF15	St John the Baptist Church	£1,000.00	10
WWCF14	Wirral Community Narrow Boat Trust	£333.33	11
WWCF19	The Friends of Hoylake & Meols in Bloom	£1,000.00	12
WWCF26	Wirral Festival of Firsts	£1,000.00	13
WWCF9	West Kirby Ladies Bowling Club	£500.00	14
WWCF33	West Kirby Christmas Lights	£356.67	15
WWCF34	Wirral Junior Chess	£0	16
WWCF27	Wirral Rebels Volleyball Club	£0	17
		£10,000	

This ward was oversubscribed and therefore the two lowest ranking projects for this ward are not recommended for funding and the third lowest ranking project is recommended for part funding; taking this to a **nil** balance.

(continued overleaf)

c) Pensby & Thingwall ward

ID	Organisation/Group Name	Amount	Rank
WWCF4	Barnstondale Centre	£1,000.00	1
WWCF31	Mellow Yellow	£200.00	2
WWCF17	Pensby Library Friends Group	£1,000.00	3
WWCF20	Pensby Community Association	£1,000.00	4
WWCF36	Wirral Country Park Junior Parkrun	£500.00	5
WWCF18	Carers Get Together	£754.00	6
WWCF14	Wirral Community Narrow Boat Trust	£333.34	7
WWCF1	Pensby Library Volunteers	£776.30	8
WWCF34	Wirral Junior Chess	£200.00	9
		£5,763.64	

This ward is undersubscribed and therefore an uncommitted balance of **£4,236.36** is left.

d) Upton ward

ID	Organisation/Group Name	Amount	Rank
WWCF28	Friends of Warwick Park	£1,000.00	1
WWCF31	Mellow Yellow	£200.00	2
WWCF23	Holy Cross Parish Church	£1,000.00	3
WWCF13	Upton Victory Hall	£1,000.00	4
WWCF14	Wirral Community Narrow Boat Trust	£333.33	5
WWCF3	Woodchurch ICT Project	£1,000.00	6
WWCF34	Wirral Junior Chess	£200.00	7
		£4,733.33	

This ward is undersubscribed and therefore an uncommitted balance of **£5,266.67** is left.

e) West Kirby & Thurstaston ward

ID	Organisation/Group Name	Amount	Rank
WWCF30	Autism Together	£844.00	1
WWCF35	Phoenix Futures	£970.00	2
WWCF2	Carers Soup 'n' Support	£150.00	3
WWCF31	Mellow Yellow	£200.00	4
WWCF32	Irby, Thurstaston & Pensby Amenity Society	£998.14	5
WWCF10	Wirral Barn Owl Trust	£728.04	6
WWCF36	Wirral Country Park Junior Parkrun	£500.00	7
WWCF29	Transition Town West Kirby	£940.00	8
WWCF9	West Kirby Ladies Bowling Club	£500.00	9
WWCF33	West Kirby Christmas Lights	£500.00	10
WWCF34	Wirral Junior Chess	£200.00	11
WWCF27	Wirral Rebels Volleyball Club	£500.00	12
		£7,030.18	

This ward is undersubscribed and therefore an uncommitted balance of **£2,969.82** is left.

- 3.13 Applicants are required to deliver projects and submit an evaluation report (with receipts) to the Council by no later than the end of March 2020

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This report recommends the allocation of £30,382.62 through small grants to local groups, leaving uncommitted spend of £19,617.38.

Ward	Allocation	Recommended amount	Uncommitted budget
Greasby, Frankby & Irby	£10,000	£2,855.47	£7,144.53
Hoylake & Meols	£10,000	£10,000	£0
Pensby & Thingwall	£10,000	£5,763.64	£4,236.36
Upton	£10,000	£4,733.33	£5,266.67
West Kirby & Thurstaston	£10,000	£7,030.18	£2,969.82
Total	£50,000	£30,382.62	£19,617.38

- 4.2 Regular budget monitoring with the finance department takes place to ensure that the expenditure incurred is accurate and complies with what has been agreed by the Committee.

5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The arrangements will help the Council to deliver on the Localism Act 2011 and Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

- 6.1 Spend will result in greater use of community assets and public spaces.

7 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 A robust approach to auditing the spend on projects helps to ensure the appropriate use of grants allocated by the Constituency Committee.

8 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Elected members and Community Representatives have had the opportunity to participate in the Constituency Committees dealing with this spend.

9 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 An impact review relating to neighbourhood working can be found at the link below:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments/equality-impact-assessments-2010-14/chief>

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: WWCF 2018/19 Summary
Appendix 2: WWCF 2018-19 Total Score, Ranking and Recommendations for Funding
Appendix 2a: WWCF 2018-19 Greasby, Frankby & Irby
Appendix 2b: WWCF 2018-19 Hoylake & Meols
Appendix 2c: WWCF 2018-19 Pensby & Thingwall
Appendix 2d: WWCF 2018-19 Upton
Appendix 2e: WWCF 2018-19 West Kirby & Thurstaston

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Wirral West Constituency Committee Budget and Spend 2018/19 (most recent)	4 October 2018