

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

CABINET – 24 MARCH 2016

COMMUNITY PRIDE FUND – EXTENSION FOR PROJECTS

REPORT OF MANAGING DIRECTOR

LEAD CABINET MEMBER – CLLR SHAUN DAVIES

PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS

- 1.1 The Community Pride Fund has been delivered as part of the Council's Pride in Your Community Programme and comprises of a £1,260,000 grant fund. Following a comprehensive application and evaluation process Cabinet approved funding for 37 projects in November 2014.
- 1.2 The majority of organisations have spent their grant and completed their projects; groups are currently submitting their final monitoring reports which will identify the outcomes that have been delivered as a result of receiving their grant. A final report on the outcomes delivered through the Community Pride Fund will be prepared in the autumn as part of the programme evaluation. Projects have already been contributing to the 'Community Pride Fund Blog' and examples of these updates can be seen in Appendix 1.
- 1.3 A small number of organisations have experienced delays in delivering their projects. It is therefore proposed that delegated authority is given to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Business, Neighbourhood & Customer Services, to give an extension to organisations to complete their projects beyond the original deadline of 31 March 2016.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That delegated authority is given to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Business, Neighbourhood & Customer Services, to extend the deadline for expenditure of Community Pride Fund grants beyond 31 March 2016. The final deadline for completion of projects and receipt of financial and outcome monitoring information from organisations will be 31 March 2017.**

3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-Operative Council priority objective(s)?	
	Yes	One of the essential criteria for the Community Pride Fund was that applications contributed towards the delivery of at least one Council Priority.
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes	The organisations that are identified to receive an extension to the deadline to complete their Community Pride Fund project have the potential to have a positive impact on a wide cross section of the community; some projects do target specific groups.
TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE	It is envisaged that most of the projects will be complete by September 2016 but the Managing Director will have discretion to agree an extension beyond this deadline where appropriate and where significant progress has been made to deliver the project. All projects will need to be completed by 31 March 2017.	
FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT	Yes	The recommendations within this report will be accommodated within the existing budget allocation for the Community Pride Fund, but will require Council approval to carry forward (slip) the capital budget into 2016/17. This approval will be sought through the Service and Financial planning process. JAC 250516
LEGAL ISSUES	Yes	Although provision was made within the Community Pride Funding Agreement to allow for an extension of the Grant Period this was limited to be no longer than 31 March 2016. The Funding Agreement is in essence a contractual agreement between the parties, i.e. the Council and the Grant Recipient, and as such the parties are at liberty to agree amendments to any of its terms and conditions, including this extension to the date of the Grant Period. Any variation is at the discretion of the Council, must be agreed in writing and will therefore be put in place by a formal variation of the existing terms and conditions signed by both parties. All other terms and conditions relating to the funding, e.g. payment, use and

		conditions of funding, and clawback, will remain in place and therefore enforceable.
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	No	
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	No	Borough wide impact

PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4. INFORMATION

- 4.1 The Community Pride Fund was established to support the delivery of the Council's Pride in Your Community Programme, it comprises of £1,260,000 grant funding to support the physical, social and economic regeneration of Telford.
- 4.2 Following an open application process and evaluation by an independent funding panel, Cabinet agreed that 37 projects would be funded through the Community Pride Fund. The majority of the projects that were awarded a grant have spent their funding and completed their projects. There has been an ongoing process of monitoring the Community Pride Fund and final reports are currently being sought from organisations that have completed their projects. It is proposed to produce a final summary of the outcomes delivered by the Community Pride Fund projects in autumn 2016.
- 4.3 As part of the monitoring process outlined above organisations were asked to provide information on the progress of their project that could be captured through the 'Community Pride Fund Blog', a sample of some of the projects included within the blog are shown in Appendix 1.
- 4.4 Some organisations have been unable to complete their projects by the deadline of 31 March 2016. There are various valid reasons why the projects haven't been able to meet this deadline and the projects that fall into this category are as follows;
- All Saints Church – £36,000 to extend Parish Centre car park
 - Bowring Bowls and Social Club - £11,300 to purchase mower and storage container
 - Dawley Brook Scouts - £50,000 to extend and refurbish the Lighthouse building
 - Edgmond Village Hall – £95,000 to extend and refit the village hall
 - Trench Tots Nursery - £100,000 to build new neighbourhood nursery
 - Wellington Cottage Care - £20,640 to improve facilities within Cottage Care Centre
- 4.5 It is therefore proposed that delegated authority is given to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Business, Neighbourhood & Customer Services, to give an extension to organisations to enable them to complete their projects. It is envisaged that most projects will be complete by autumn 2016; however, the final deadline for all projects will be 31 March 2017.

Although all projects not outlined in 4.4 are due to be complete by 31 March 2016, if they are unable to meet this deadline the Managing Director will have delegated authority to allow them an extension beyond this date.

5. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cabinet – 9 January 2014 - Report – ‘Everyday Telford – Pride in Your Community Programme;

Cabinet – 24 April 2014 - Report – ‘Pride in Your Community – Community Pride Fund’

Cabinet – 13 November 2014 – Report – ‘Community Pride Fund – Grant Allocation’

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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