

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Chief Executive

Community Participation Committee: 12 December 2007

Subject: The People's Fund

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To inform Committee about the outcome of the recent People's Fund event held on 3 November 2007.

2. Background

- 2.1** The People's Fund provides the opportunity for local people to vote for project ideas which have been developed by other local people. The projects must aim to benefit local neighbourhoods in West Dunbartonshire, with a significant focus on deprived areas. Following last year's successful event – a "first" in Scotland, a second event was held on Saturday, 3 November 2007 in the Concord Community Centre, Dumbarton. Funding for this comes from the community planning partners' Community Regeneration Fund budget.
- 2.2** The event was led by staff of West Dunbartonshire Partnership working in partnership with representatives of the community and officers of WDC Community Learning & Development and WDC Policy Unit. The event was chaired by the community representative who is the Chair of West Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnership Board.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** This year there was £30,000 worth of funding to award, with 23 project bids originally submitted.
- 3.2** On the day 21 local people gave a short 2-3 minute presentation on their project submission. 49 voters (local residents of West Dunbartonshire who had signed up to take part) were present to listen to these presentations and decide whether to vote yes or no to each application. In addition voters were given summaries of the project bids and the opportunity to ask questions after each presentation.
- 3.3** The outcome was that 19 of the groups who applied received full funding for their projects. 2 groups who had received a lower share of the vote (but at least 50%) were awarded the sum they had applied for minus the shortfall of available funding. This made full use of the £30,000 funding available. Appendix 1 lists the projects who received awards. Details of individual amounts of awards are available from West Dunbartonshire Partnership (contact details are at the end of this report).

3.4 Another reported benefit of the event was the opportunity for the project bidders to spend time together and network with a very useful exchange of information and experience.

4. Personnel Issues

4.1 There are no personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial issues.

6. Risk Analysis

6.1 There are no risks identified in relation to the above.

7. Conclusions

7.1 The event was successful in empowering local people to make decisions about what goes on in their communities and allocate money to support community initiatives. It also provided a source of networking and mutual support to the project bid participants.

8. Recommendations

8.1 The Committee is invited to note the contents of the report.

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David McMillan
Chief Executive
Date: 22 November 2007

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Wards Affected: All

Name of Group

Name of Project

➤ Balloch & Haldane District Veteran's Bowling Club	
➤ Bonhill Community Arts Group	Dressmaking & Design
➤ Carers Support Group	Carers Actively Supporting Healthy & Educational Walks (CASHEW)
➤ Dumbarton & Vale of Leven Disabled Women's Group	Healthy Wellbeing
➤ Elim Parents & Toddlers	Safe Play for Clydebank Kids
➤ Families United Support Group	Community Support Project
➤ Friends of Kirkpatrick School Parent & Staff Association	Support Sensory Base Garden
➤ Jamestown EECC Parent's Group	Old Fashioned Fun
➤ Loch Lomond Rugby Club	Rugby Youth Development
➤ Lomond Radio Club	Teaching Resources for Amateur Radio
➤ Mill Hall Activity Centre	Indoor bowls for all the community
➤ Mount Blow Community Project	How do we market our centre?
➤ Peace for Parents	Parents Initiative
➤ Renton Craigandro Football Club	
➤ Shoto Budo	Castlehill Shoto Budo
➤ St Michael's PTA	Eco Garden
➤ Silk Group	Women's Voices
➤ United In Learning	
➤ Visually Impaired Group	Digital Radio Project
➤ Vale of Leven Seniors Forum	
➤ Voices	Christmas Party