



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

B506

Cabinet 16 March 2011

Recommendations from the Grant Working Party: 8 March 2011 (Mar11/02)

Cabinet Member:
Cllr Robert Everitt

Chairman of the Working Party:
Cllr Sarah Broughton

1. Application for Funding in 2011/2012: Clare in Bloom (Report B497)

RECOMMENDED:- That,

- (1) *a grant of £2,000 be awarded to Clare in Bloom in 2011/2012 from the approved 'In Bloom' budget of £2,925; and*
- (2) *discussions be held with the Clare in Bloom Committee to advise that the grant to Clare in Bloom is likely to be reduced by a greater amount in future years.*

On 7 December 2010, the Working Party had recommended approval of a total grant fund for 'In Bloom' organisations of £2,925. This amount has subsequently been approved by the Cabinet and full Council as part of the budget setting process.

At that Working Party meeting, Clare in Bloom was the only organisation to apply for funding and the officers had recommended that an 'In Bloom' grant of £2,925 be awarded to Clare (Report B363 refers). However, Members had expressed concern that funding awarded in the previous year had not been fully utilised and that there was a sizeable balance carried forward to 2011/2012, which led to the Working Party deferring consideration of the application having questioned whether a grant was in fact required for the 2011 Anglia in Bloom competition.

Section 2 of Report B497 provided further background information on the application, including how funding allocated in previous years to Clare in Bloom had been spent and the reasons for the requesting an application in 2011/2012.

The Working Party noted that a grant from the Borough Council had been consistently awarded for a number of years and Members considered grants should be sought from other funding sources such as Havebury Housing Partnership or Suffolk County Council's Locality Budget. Consequently, the Working Party considered the grant to Clare in Bloom should be reduced to £2,000 in 2011/2012 and that discussions should be held with the Clare in Bloom Committee

to advise that its ongoing grant from the Borough Council was likely to reduce further in future years.

2. Chedburgh Parish Council (Report B498)

RECOMMENDED:-

That, although the total cost of the project to modernise the village play area has been reduced, as outlined in Section 2 of Report B498, the grant of £7,500 previously awarded to Chedburgh Parish Council from the Recreation, Village Hall and Play Area Grant Scheme fund, be confirmed.

In June 2010, Chedburgh Parish Council applied to the Borough Council for a grant from the Recreation, Village Hall and Play Area Grant Scheme fund to fully refurbish and modernise the village play area at a cost of £46,176 plus VAT. A grant of £7,500 was subsequently allocated to the Parish Council by the Cabinet on 23 June 2010 (Minute 22 (b) refers).

Whilst it had successfully obtained the majority of match funding sought for the project, the Parish Council has been unable to secure Big Lottery Funding. Applications to a number of other funding sources have also been unsuccessful.

The Parish Council has therefore decided to reduce the size of the whole project to cost £30,000 plus VAT.

Details of the original application were attached as Appendix A to Report B498, which was reconsidered by the Working Party. Taking into consideration the changing circumstances, the Working Party confirmed that £7,500 be awarded to Chedburgh Parish Council.