

## **Cover Report for Sheppey Area Committee Funding Scheme Round 2**

### **Introduction**

The Sheppey Area Committee has been allocated a total of £47,000.00 for the financial year 2022/23. At the Sheppey Area Committee Meeting on 22 September 2022, £38,412.10 of funding was allocated. Committee Members agreed that for the unallocated funding of £8,587.90, a second funding round should take place to allocate the remaining funding.

The process proposed by the Area Committee Review Working Group, and agreed by Area Committee Chairs, was to carry out a scoring process on applications received for Area Committee Funding. The deadline for applications was Thursday 3 November 2022 and bids of £20,507.90 were received for consideration by the Committee. Since, then the applications have been assessed for eligibility by officers and a scoring process carried out.

Three impartial officers have independently considered the applications and given them a score against the criteria set out in the Applicant Guidance Notes. Each criteria was scored as follows High – 3, Adequate – 2, Limited – 1, None – 0. All three officers scores were added together and presented to Committee Members in Appendix 1. Members were given the opportunity to challenge the scores, however, no challenges were received.

Also attached to this paper is the summary report on the applications received which contains the full text provided by applicants describing the project (Appendix 2).

### **Proposal**

Having considered the summary report and supporting papers, along with the scoring and background information, officers would like to submit 4 options for allocating funds for the Committee to vote on.

Part of the reason for the Working Group's recommendation that impartial officers should score bids based on criteria agreed in advance by Members was to create a degree of separation between the Committee's decision-making on the one hand and Members with a disclosable interest in a bidder (e.g. involvement with a community group or membership of a parish council) on the other. Members who have a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in any of the bids should declare it in the usual way and will be able to vote, as long as the voting is on the basis of the presented options, as this is unlikely to result in any Member having a bias. However, in the event that the Committee agrees to vote on amendments to these options, favouring (and by implication disfavouring) certain bids, Members with a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in the favoured bid(s) should not take part in the vote.

### Option 1:

This option would allow the highest scoring application to receive 100% funding from the scheme and the second highest scoring applicant to receive slightly less than 100% to ensure that the annual allocation is not exceeded:

| Applicant                          | Score | Funding request | Proposed allocation |
|------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Curly's Farm – SHEP027             | 37    | £2,880.00       | £2,880.00           |
| Warden Parish Council – SHEP026    | 31    | £6,000.00       | £5,707.90           |
| Friendly Faces of Kent – SHEP028   | 29    | £3,040.00       | £0                  |
| Member bid Cllr Harrison – SHEP025 | 28    | £8,587.90       | £0                  |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       |                 | <b>£8,587.90</b>    |

### Option 2:

This option pays out 72.045% to the three highest scoring applications. This allows more organisations to receive a portion of funding.

| Applicant                          | Score | Funding request | Proposed allocation |
|------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Curly's Farm – SHEP027             | 37    | £2,880.00       | £2,074.90           |
| Warden Parish Council – SHEP026    | 31    | £6,000.00       | £4,322.70           |
| Friendly Faces of Kent – SHEP028   | 29    | £3,040.00       | £2,190.17           |
| Member bid Cllr Harrison – SHEP025 | 28    | £8,587.90       | £0                  |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       |                 | <b>£8,587.77</b>    |

### Option 3:

This option pays out 41.876% to all applicants regardless of their score but ensures that all bids receive an award of funding:

| Applicant                          | Score | Funding request | Proposed allocation |
|------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Curly's Farm – SHEP027             | 37    | £2,880.00       | £1,206.03           |
| Warden Parish Council – SHEP026    | 31    | £6,000.00       | £2,512.56           |
| Friendly Faces of Kent – SHEP028   | 29    | £3,040.00       | £1,273.03           |
| Member bid Cllr Harrison – SHEP025 | 28    | £8,587.90       | £3,596.27           |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       |                 | <b>£8,587.89</b>    |

### Option 4

So that all possible options are presented for Committee Members to vote on, the final option is to award no funding to any bid. As the funding cannot be rolled forward to the year 2023/24, the unallocated funding of £8,587.90 would be recorded as a saving for 2022/23.

Sheppey Area Committee Members are invited to vote on the above options.

Janet Dart  
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 November 2022