

Willenhall Local Neighbourhood Partnership – 8th November 2006

LNP Funding

Summary of report

The purpose of this report is to inform the LNP on the progress of the projects the LNP have agreed to fund to date from their £33,000 resource allocation for 2005/2006 and £15,000 allocation for 2006/2007

Recommendations

The LNP is asked to:

1. To note progress on projects
2. That project champions feedback progress at the next LNP meeting
3. The LNP endorse the plans outlined under '*Project details for 2006-2007*' section and progress at following CAG's.
4. The LNP consider the projects under '*Proposed projects*' section and take decision to fund or not fund the proposed activity.

Progress funding priorities 2005-2006

Activity	Allocated	Spent
Christmas Lights	£11000	£9496
Community Safety	£11000	£855 - Concerts
Youth Engagement	£11000	£0
Totals	£33000	£10351

Youth project

During initial discussions around youth engagement Youth Services proposed to carry out an extensive consultation which the LNP could consider funding. However after careful consideration it was felt the LNP should concentrate their funds on the outcome of a consultation and not the consultation itself. Therefore the LNP have requested that both Youth Services and Youth Opinions Unite look into the possibility of carrying out a youth consultation, following which the recommendations would be considered by the LNP. At this stage both youth services and Youth Opinions Unite are reviewing the possibility of carrying out the consultation and will feedback to the LNP.

Progress on projects 2006-2007

Activity	Allocated	Spent
Short Heath/Lane Head - improve War Memorial on High Road	£5000	£0
Willenhall South - improve War Memorial on Little London which will enhance the current investment to improve the monument;	£5000	£0
Willenhall North village green - improve open space adj. to Rugeley Avenue going onto Forest Gate/Lichfield Road	£5000	£0
Totals	£15000	£0

Project details for 2006-2007

Willenhall War Memorial

The LNP fund will be utilised as part of the overall development of the memorial which is part of the district regeneration programme. This important gateway feature to the north of the town centre is now undergoing consultation based upon a sketch design of enhancements shown at a meeting of the Community Action Group 11/10/06. Consultation in partnership with the LNP and the British Legion is planned for Friday 3rd November at Willenhall Market.

Lane Head (Short Heath) War Memorial

A site visit has been taken to the site by regeneration officers to appreciate the works required at the site in view of the LNPs desire to fund improvements works (£5k) at this site. This has resulted in the damaged pergola being made safe by the Establishment Service and other maintenance works being carried out; these include removal of the redundant bench, pruning of vegetation and rectifying damaged fencing panels.

Regeneration officers suggested that it was essential for the maintenance works to be completed before the LNP viewed what other enhancement works could be undertaken with their funding. Regeneration officers will in due course put forward recommendations to the LNP on how best to utilise the £5000 allocated for the Lane Head war memorial

Forest Gate (New Invention)

Initial discussions between Regeneration, Green spaces and the New Invention Community Forum have taken place and an understanding of the wishes of the Forum to create a village green on the open space is now understood. It has been suggested that the £5000 be utilised to commission Groundwork Black Country to carry out a feasibility study on the open space. The study will recommend possible enhancements to the open space- through community consultation and the development of sketch proposals and cost estimates- and also identify potential funding sources to deliver the project in the medium-term. Further information on the involvement of Groundwork Black Country will be available at the meeting or 16th November CAG..

Proposed Projects

Christmas Lights

The LNP provided funds toward the Christmas lights display in **2005**; the total grant came to £9496 and was spent as follows:

➤ New features/Equipment for Willenhall New Invention and Lane Head -	£6223.30
➤ Willenhall – Christmas tree installation & maintenance, preparation of new equipment and switch on -	£1615
➤ Lane Head/New Invention – installation and removal	£1657.50
Total granted in 2005:	£9496

It has been proposed that the LNP continue to fund costs towards the Christmas lights for **2006**. As the majority of equipment was purchased last year the main bulk of funding requested this year would go towards the maintenance and installation/dismantling of the lights.

The requested funds would be spent as follows:

New Invention

• Purchase of equipment – proposal received from LITE	£1410
• Installation / dismantling costs	£800
• Maintenance costs	£200
• Electricity costs	£100

Lane Head

• Installation / dismantling costs (<i>estimated figure based on 2005</i>)	£900
• Maintenance costs	£200
• Electricity costs	£200

Willenhall

• Installation / dismantling of Christmas Tree lights (<i>estimated figure based on 2005</i>)	£325
• Switch on event (<i>estimated figure based on 2005</i>)	£250
• Maintenance costs	£400
• Electricity costs	£200

Total fund requested for 2006: £4985

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