

Palfrey and Pleck Local Neighbourhood Partnership – 31st July 2006

LNP Funding

Portfolio: Safer Stronger Communities, Partnerships and Vision 2021

Service Area: Neighbourhood Services

Wards: Palfrey Ward
Pleck Ward

1. Purpose of the Report

This report seeks to inform the Local Neighbourhood Partnership of the funding criteria for the 2006-2007 LNP funding and to inform the Local Neighbourhood Partnership of progress to date with regards to the funding priorities 2005-2006.

2. Recommendations

The LNP is asked to:

- (a) Note the progress on funding priorities 2005-2006
- (b) Note current spend.
- (c) Note the criteria for the allocated funding 2006-2007

3. Progress funding priorities 2005-2006

Project Description	Allocated	Spent	Project Status
Motiv8 project – Groundwork	£2,000	£2,000	Complete
Fencing around Palfrey Park Bowling Green	£5,000		
Shelter at Pleck Park	£5,000	-	
Sports Coaching – Alumwell CA	£4,650	-	Activities taking place during 2006 -March 2007

Total Funding spent to date **£ 2,000**
Total allocated but not yet spent **£ 14,650**
Total Remaining **£ 5,350**

Below is a progress report for each project identified to date.

Funding Priority Identified through Workshop	Service Area	Feedback from Service Area	What Happens Next?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alley gating:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Countess Street - Earl Street 	Safer Walsall Borough Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countess Street/ Earl Street/Clews Close Victor Street and Bescot Street are currently out for consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update will be given at LNP meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motiv8' programme 	Groundwork Black Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report will be circulated at the LNP meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Centre for Delves area incorporating several GPs and other medical care. 	tPCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event provisionally planned for 5th December 2006 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LNP will be updated in due course
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palfrey and Pleck One Stop Shop – Link into the Putting the citizen first scheme, being rolled out across the borough 	Walsall MBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reviewing what is needed to improve access to services including the provision of local access points and thus information will be sent to future cabinet and LNP meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Await further information • <i>LNP may not be required to allocate any funding</i>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fencing around Bowling Green (in Palfrey Park)	Parks and amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awaiting outcome of a Capital Investment Choices Bid for £40k towards the project. The bid highlighted the £5k commitment from the LNP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• schemes recommended for a reserve list for 06/07 to commence if funding becomes available'• landscape architects have since produced revised designs and plans for the scheme in order to reduce costs and it is anticipated that the scheme will now cost £37,000.• A range of external funding sources have and will continue to be explored for the project and in the mean time we are currently monitoring the situation with the capital programme.
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a play area for all ages:- Multi ball pitch (including football, basketball), swings, slides, roundabouts and surfacing 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposal is to undertake a consultation exercise within the Delves area using 'Planning for Real' as the consultation tool. The completed consultation will be used as supporting evidence to attract external funding into the area. The consultation will also look at other issues which affect the area such as crime, housing, leisure and the environment. Request LNP to allocate funding towards this consultation exercise. Amount needed: £6,000 (see appendix 1 for project details) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LNP recommended to approve funding to this project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Press article celebrating the LNP area 	<p>Communications & Marketing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LNP at March 2006 meeting agreed to defer this issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deferred

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter for Pleck Park 	<p>The Friends of Pleck Park/ Green spaces Improvement Service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost estimates are currently being sought for differing types of shelter to replace the bowls pavilion at Pleck Park. Based on initial quotations a replacement shelter (metal framed with Perspex panels) will cost in the region of £20,000. When the selection of quotations/designs is complete, the range of options available will be presented to the Friends of Pleck Park, the Sons of Rest Bowls Club and the Palfrey and Pleck LNP for discussion. Once a final style has been agreed the Friends of Pleck Park plan to submit a Landfill Tax application for project funding, utilising the £5000 allocated by the LNP as match funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates will be given to the LNP at every LNP meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Coaching Opportunities 	<p>Alumwell Community Association</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awaiting confirmation from LNP Project team on approval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities taking place during 2006 - March 2007

4. Criteria LNP funding 2006-2007

The Palfrey and Pleck LNP has been allocated a further £10,000.

The focus of the 2006-2007 allocation of funding will have to be on developing safer and stronger communities, in particular:

- One of the council pledges for 2006-2007 is the delivery of 3 environmental projects in each LNP area. Therefore an emphasis should be placed on delivering the 3 environmental projects in the Palfrey and Pleck LNP area. The LNP should aim to fund initiatives that will have the greatest environmental impact across their area.
- There needs to be a focus on hotspots/areas of greatest need, as identified by community intelligence and local stats. Therefore funding should not be split by ward but by areas of greatest need.
- The activities/actions need to have a direct impact on Local Area Agreement indicators.
- The funding will need to link in to the Pledges developed by the Local Neighbourhood Partnership.

To support the LNP in distributing their funding within the criteria a menu/basket of measures will be developed through Safer Walsall Borough Partnership, Environmental Regeneration and Street Pride which the LNP would be able to “purchase” from their £10,000 allocation to assist in developing safer and stronger communities. The menu drawn up by these services will bear in mind the Local Neighbourhood Partnership pledges as well as the Local Area Agreement Indicators.

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Appendix 1

PROPOSAL FOR USE OF ‘ONE-OFF’ RESOURCES IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL PLAN

NAME OF LNP: Palfrey & Pleck

PRO-FORMA COMPLETED BY: Tom Briscoe

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Brief Description of the project

Walsall Council’s Greenspaces Improvement Team have recently been working closely with the Delves United Charity Group, based in the Delves area of Walsall, on a range of proposals/ideas to physically improve the area for the local community. A three phased piece of work has been designed (with costs) and includes the following-:

- A Multi User Games Area(MUGA) for young people
- A new Play Area for children
- A Nature Reserve for all the community

These proposals were submitted to the LNP earlier this year for comments. Although we are still currently looking at areas of land to deliver the work, it was generally agreed that the ideas, in principle, were good ones.

Although the need for youth and play facilities has been clearly identified by the Delves United Group over a number of years, there has been a lack of supporting evidence in terms of recording public opinion in this area. Therefore the proposal is to undertake a consultation exercise within the Delves area using ‘Planning for Real’ as the consultation tool. The completed consultation will be used as supporting evidence to attract external funding into the area. The consultation will also look at other issues which affect the area such as crime, housing, leisure and the environment.

The Neighbourhood Initiatives Foundation (Planning for Real) is a UK charity based in Telford, Shropshire, specialising in community participation, training and development. Working with local authorities, housing associations, voluntary agencies and community groups, They offer an independent, quality service to improve the well-being of communities.

We have used ‘Planning for Real’ in several of our parks with great success in terms of attracting external funding.

The Neighbourhood Initiatives Foundation will also offer free training to volunteers wanting to work on the project

We are looking at around £6,000 which is broken down as follows-:

Consultation and Fees	£5,500
Expenses (food, bookings, printing etc)	£500

How does the proposal link to LNP local plans?

The proposal would/should cover all of the pledges made in the LNP plans in terms of identifying priorities. If the LNP local plans reflect local opinion in the area, then the proposed consultation will 'mirror' those plans but be more site specific (and detailed) in the Delves area.

How does proposal link to Council Vision 2008?

1. Ensure a clean and green borough
3. Ensure all people are safe and secure
5. Make Walsall a healthy and caring place
7. Make it easier to access local services
9. Listen to what local people want

These are listed numerically as they appear in the council's list of ten priorities.

Assurance that the proposal is not contrary to Council policy

Explicit statement that the planned spending is not contrary to existing any Council policy

The proposal is not contrary to council policy

Impact of the proposal?

Who will benefit from this spending, how will they benefit, numbers of people who will benefit, how long will these benefits last

- Everyone will benefit from the consultation information within the Delves, in establishing residents priorities within their area
- The benefits to the residents will be in hopefully attracting external funding into the area
- Hopefully, if improvements are made within the near future, then a sizeable percentage of residents will benefit
- In terms of sustainability, if physical works happens on the ground (i.e. play area for example), then we envisage the benefits lasting many years

Value for money?

Are the identified benefits worth the costs to be incurred

The information collated from this exercise can be used by many groups (statutory & Non Statutory) to use as supporting evidence when applying for internal and external funds. For example, 'Planning for Real' was used in Pleck Park three years ago to identify priorities for parks users. As a result of this over £150K of improvement work has been completed in Pleck park over the last two years. In fact, 'The Friends of Pleck Park' are still referring back to the same documentation to look at further improving their park

Match funding:

Does this proposal attract any match funding (in cash or kind) from council partners or other organisations?

Neighbourhood Initiatives Foundation will earmark funding for training of volunteers to deliver this work. However it is envisaged that the consultation documents will attract external funding to deliver projects within the area of Delves in the near future. Therefore, there will be match funding 'in kind' for this work.

Responsible officer:

If approved, this officer (usually a Service Manager) who will be responsible for ordering the work, spending the money in compliance with the Council's contract and financial procedure rules

I, myself will oversee the project planning and financial arrangements. However, the consultation will be very much a grass roots approach and will be led by representatives of the Delves United Charity group and other residents who wish to be involved. Also funds will need to be directed through the group's bank account in order for the group to access free training. N.I.F. can only offer free training to charitable organisations

Reporting back:

*When will money be spent, work be done, impact be felt and reported back to LNP
Also need 'audit trail' to evidence this*

The consultation will normally last several weeks along with two weeks preparation beforehand. However, collation of the data and report writing will last a few weeks.

Rough timescales would be 8 weeks in total.

Start Date:	Aug 06
End Date:	End of Sep/Early Oct 06
Funding Spent:	Oct 06
Feedback to LNP:	Oct 06 onwards
Impact Felt:	Over several years if external funding is secured
Audit Trail:	Will be evidenced on completion

This proposal agreed by the LNP on

Signed by the LNP Chair _____ **Date** _____

FOR OFFICE USE:

Reference number, expenditure code etc....