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Date: *14 November 2014*

NOTIFICATION OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION

On 14 November 2014, Cllr C A Wise, the Finance and Efficiency Portfolio Holder, made the following decision. Any member of the Council, who is not a Portfolio Holder, who considers that this decision should be reviewed should give notice to the Monitoring Officer (Grainne O'Rourke) (in writing or by e-mail) to be received **ON OR BY 4.45 P.M. ON FRIDAY, 21 November 2014.**

Details of the documents the Portfolio Holder considered are attached.

DECISION: Allocation of Community Grant Aid to Poulner Scout Group for funding support for a multi-activity centre climbing wall.

REASON(S): Set out in the report

ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED: See report

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED: Cllr Mrs Di Brooks. Details are set out in the report.

For Further Information Please Contact:

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HEALTH & LEISURE PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION: 14 NOVEMBER 2014

This decision was made by Cllr Colin Wise, Finance and Efficiency Portfolio Holder due to the declaration of interest made by Cllr Mrs Brooks, Health & Leisure Portfolio Holder.

ALLOCATION OF COMMUNITY GRANT AID TO POULNER SCOUTS

ITEM FOR DECISION

An application has been received from 1st Poulner Scout Group for some funding support for a Multi Activity Centre Climbing Wall at their centre in Ringwood.

The scheme will see a climbing wall built inside the Scout building. The build will see a physical facility which will be supported by a programme to ensure that volunteers are suitably trained and in a position to deliver a quality experience for all participants. This will provide an opportunity for people to be introduced to the activity, develop their skills and confidence whatever the weather and by those skilled in the delivery of more adventurous pursuits.

The facility will be much smaller than other facilities in the district such as those at Calshot. This can offer an opportunity for those on the western side of the district to practise their skills and gain confidence in a safe environment before with the opportunities to progress on to Calshot if they desire.

The facility in Ringwood would be easy to access for many towns, villages and communities within the district and a strong programme of delivery for wider use. The site is of easy access to those who live in the town by foot or cycle and will offer informal activity for local residents as well as formal opportunities for those in schools, other uniformed groups and local youth clubs and organisations.

The Scouts have been corresponding with the governing body of climbing to ensure that the facility is fit for purpose and they have embarked on a schedule to ensure that training of volunteers allows for wider community use.

POLICY FRAMEWORK

The development of the site will ensure the maximisation of potential of the facility. This is supported by a consultation process held by the Scouts which identified a desire for such a facility in the Parish. 100% of responses from a school survey offered support for the project. As well as improving access to quality facilities in local communities, it would help to ensure more diverse and diversionary activities for the young people in the community creating a stronger and healthier community. Local adults have also expressed a desire to set up a new adult club which will help to ensure lifelong participation for local people and create a more active adult population.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The Scout group have raised all of the initial £120,000 through their own efforts to implement the scheme. This has seen a multi activity space developed which is available for both the Scout's and wider community use.

The group have now requested support towards a climbing wall project of £35,000. The climbing wall will be the final stage of the activities space. The

suggested allocation is £10,000 from the youth facilities budget and £6,000 from the participation budget. The balance is to be made up from the Scout Group funds. In addition £4,000 will be made from the community engagement budget to support the training of volunteers to continue offering safe opportunities to participate for the wider community.

IMPACT ON OTHER PORTFOLIOS

There are none.

CONSULTATION INPUT

TBC

PROPOSED DECISION

That an allocation of £10,000 from the youth facilities budget be made. An allocation of £6,000 from the participation budget will be made. In addition £4,000 will be made from the community engagement budget to support the training of volunteers to continue offering safe opportunities to participate for the wider community.

REASONS

There is a strong evidence of need from the local and district community and indication on national trends that this type of activity will continue to grow in popularity. The 1st Poulner Scout Group has a proven record of community involvement in its facilities and so there is every confidence that the group can deliver a sustainable, quality, community facility.

ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Not to fund: rejected on the basis that the group have raised a large proportion of the funds themselves and the benefit to local and wider NFDC residents will be advantageous. Support also demonstrated from the Town Council and local community groups. Other external funding sources applied for and rejected as ununiformed group. Support is backed up from the needs based evidence for such a facility.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED

Cllr Mrs Di Brooks's son is a scout leader with the applicant scout group and therefore it was not appropriate for the Health and Leisure Portfolio Holder to make this Decision.

SIGNED:

CLLR C A WISE

Cllr Colin Wise
Portfolio Holder Leisure, Finance and Efficiency

DATE: 14 November 2014

Date on which notice given of this Decision – 14 November 2014
Last date for call-in – 21 November 2014