

COUNCIL MEETING – 24 APRIL 2012

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Notes of meeting of Finance Committee held on 4 April 2012

Present: Councillor Goodwin (Chairman); Councillors Bullen-Jarvis and James

1. COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Committee discussed a policy for the allocation of community grants in the financial year 2012/13. A sum of £1000 was available for distribution.

Members agreed that the previous policy of allocating relatively small sums to an established list of recipients was inappropriate. The preferred approach was to publicise the availability of a small grant budget and make grants to, say, two or three suitable projects during the year. The grant budget would be advertised and bids invited, but with no deadline for applications. Bids would be considered on their merits when received. The Clerk agreed to prepare suitable paperwork for grant applications.

It was also agreed that the Council should aim to include a modest grant allocation in its budget each year. The amount would depend on the Council's finances and other relevant considerations at the time of budget preparation. The Localism legislation could well be a factor in determining grant levels.

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) That publicity be given to the available grant budget of £1000 for the year 2012/13 and that grant applications be invited, with no deadline for submission;
- (2) That the Council allocate grants for suitable projects during the year, considering each application on its merits.