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**SB LOCAL SMALL SCHEMES**

**Report by Director of Environment & Infrastructure**

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**TWEEDDALE AREA FORUM**

**24 JUNE 2013**

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**1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

**1.1 This report seeks approval for the proposed new SB Local small schemes from the Area Forum.**

1.2 The following schemes are being proposed for consideration by the Tweeddale members to receive funding support:-

Lyne Station Cycleway, Improvement works - £5,000  
Victoria Park, Innerleithen, Improvement works - £3,500  
Millbank Road, Clovenfords, Restoration and improvement works to the John Leyden tablet, including dry stone wall repairs, at *The Luggie* - £520  
Clovenfords village, provision of plants and materials to create and sustain floral displays in the village. - £372  
Clovenfords village, repairs to the Millennium notice board - £350  
Millennium footbridge, West Linton - £4,500  
White footbridge, West Linton - £2,000  
Burnside, Eddleston, Footpath works- £3,144  
Provost Melrose Place, Peebles, Landscape improvements - £500  
The Strand/Church Street, Innerleithen, Footway improvement works - £1500  
Old A703 Eddleston footpath drainage works - £915  
Broughton Sign and Bollard - £950

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 **I recommend that the Tweeddale Area Forum consider the following new SB Local small schemes for implementation:-**

- (a) Lyne Station Cycleway, Improvement works - £5,000**
- (b) Victoria Park, Innerleithen, Improvement works - £3,500**
- (c) Millbank Road, Clovenfords, Restoration and improvement works to the John Leyden tablet, including dry stone wall repairs, at *The Luggie* - £520**
- (d) Clovenfords village, provision of plants and materials to create and sustain floral displays in the village. - £372**
- (e) Millennium footbridge, West Linton - £4,500**

- (f) Burnside, Eddleston, Footpath works - £3,144**
- (g) Provost Melrose Place, Peebles, Landscape improvements - £500**
- (h) White footbridge, West Linton which would include for repairs to the wooden spars, the deck anti skid surface and repainting- £2,000**
- (i) The Strand/Church Street, Innerleithen, Footway improvement works - £1,500**
- (j) Old A703 Eddleston, drainage improvement works on the footpath where surface water ponds - £915**
- (k) Broughton 'school' sign and collapsible bollard - £950**
- (l) Clovenfords Village, repairs to Millennium notice board - £350**

### **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Elected Members, Community Councils and members of the public can propose small scale enhancement projects within the Tweeddale area and seek funding for those projects via SBlocal Small Schemes.
- 3.2 During 2012-13 SBLocal Small schemes delivered 19 improvement projects within the Tweeddale utilising the total available budget of £34,702.
- 3.3 The available budget for 2013-14 remains at £34,702. To date no expenditure has been incurred during 2013-14.
- 3.4 It is likely that there will be three rounds of projects put forward to the Tweeddale Area Forum throughout the 2013-14 year. These will be dictated by the timings and frequencies of the Tweeddale Area Forum and available budget. The first set of proposals seeking funding is being tabled at the June 2013 of the Tweeddale Area Forum.

### **4 PROPOSALS**

- 4.1 Lyne Station Cycleway, Improvement works - £5,000 (Tweeddale West)  
In response to several contacts from members of the public regarding the usability of the alternative cycle route at Lyne Station. Officers from SBC submitted a funding application to Sustrans for a project costing £30,000 to improve the usability for bicycles to use the alternative cycle route. The bid has been successful for 50% of the funding and as part of the budget package required from SBC an amount of £5,000 is now being sought to fully fund the project and deliver these improvements.
- 4.2 Victoria Park, Innerleithen, Improvement works - £3,500 (Tweeddale East)  
The Community Council has been working to enhance the park since its designation as a Queen Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup> Field in Trust (FIT) in 2010. This has led to a successful application to FIT for grant funding to the value of £6,500, for improvements to the access and arrival information for the park. SBC has been developing plans to deliver these improvements and in doing so the budget required has increased to closer to £10,000. Funding is being sought up to £3,500 to enable the delivery of the project before October 2013, to meet the timescales of the grant offer.
- 4.3 Millbank Road, Clovenfords, Restoration and improvement works to the John Leyden tablet, including dry stone wall repairs, at *The Luggie* - £520 (Tweeddale East)  
Clovenfords village, provision of plants and materials to create and sustain floral displays in the village. - £372 (Tweeddale East)  
Clovenfords village, repairs to the Millennium notice board £350 (Tweeddale East)  
The Community Council is undertaking a number of improvement initiatives in the village and is seeking total funding of £1242 to support them in these locally important projects.
- 4.4 Millennium footbridge, West Linton - £4,500 (Tweeddale West)  
Following an inspection and report into the safety of the bridge in 2011, funding of £4,500 is being sought undertake timber preservation treatment works to the footbridge and abutment protection works. The remainder of the project funding is coming from Property and Neighbourhood Services budgets.

White Bridge, West Linton – £2,000 (Tweeddale West)

Request for funding to replace some of the wearing course, replace broken spars and repaint the structure.

Both of these projects have been developed following various enquiries from West Linton Community Council.

- 4.5 Burnside, Eddleston - £3,144 (Tweeddale West)  
Footpath patching works in and around the Burnside area. This request for funding follows enquiries from constituents to Elected members. Other SBC revenue budgets are unable to support this project when prioritised within the context of a fully committed capital and revenue plan for roads for the Tweeddale area for the year.
- 4.6 Provost Melrose Place, Peebles, Landscape improvement works - £500 (Tweeddale East)  
The area contains several large brick built planters which are the responsibility and maintenance of SBHA. Local people have been complaining for some time about the look of one of the planters in particular. Despite the best efforts of SBHA to tidy the bed up this winter, in order to fully respond to the problem the plants need to be removed and new plants and planting materials installed to give the desired result. This proposal is to support the funding of the redevelopment of the planter to a value of £500 with matched funding to at least the same level from SBHA.
- 4.7 The Strand/Church Street, Innerleithen, Footway improvement works - £1,500 (Tweeddale East)  
This is a narrow linking pathway which is the responsibility of SBHA. The pathway periodically is flooded and large areas become unusable. These areas remain very wet and unpleasant to use even after periods of drying weather. The proposal would see the entire stretch of footway improved to improve functionality and access whatever the weather. This project stems from a number of requests from the Community Council for something to be done to improve the footway. The proposal is to support the improvement by allocating £1,500 of match funding money with an equivalent level of funding from SBHA.
- 4.8 Broughton 'school' sign and collapsible bollard - £950 (Tweeddale West)  
In response to concerns raised by the Community Council these two road improvements are being proposed for support. There are no objections to their installation from officers within E&I, Engineering and Infrastructure service.
- 4.9 Old A703 Eddleston, drainage improvement works on the footpath where surface water ponds - £915 (Tweeddale West)  
This proposal is tabled following a complaint from a member of the public who is particularly inconvenienced by this water ponding issue. Should the proposal not be agreed then the issue will not be resolved due to budget pressures and the process of prioritising within Neighbourhoods Operations Service.

## **5 IMPLICATIONS**

### **5.1 Financial**

A revenue budget of £34,702 is available for small schemes in the Tweeddale area for 2013/14. The proposed projects contained within the report total a value of £23,251. Should all of the projects receive approval then there is adequate budget available to resource their delivery leaving a balance of £11,451 for the year 2013-14.

### **5.2 Risk and Mitigations**

SB Local small schemes budget is used for discretionary revenue spending on projects that do not form priority and therefore qualify for funding from elsewhere within SBC. They are not risk based projects and therefore no risks arise from their non delivery. However, as the money is allocated to be used within the Tweeddale area, should it not be fully utilised then the area is not benefitting as other areas within the region are as a result of fully utilising their budgets.

Measures to ensure the full benefit of the discretionary budget are delivered to the Tweeddale area include bringing timely reports seeking approval for funding projects to the Tweeddale Area Forum, engaging with Community Councils and responding as positively as possible to enquiries from members of the public on requests for help which would otherwise be undelivered.

### **5.3 Equalities**

The proposals within this report have no adverse impact on any of the equality groups - race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion/belief, health or poverty groups.

### **5.4 Acting Sustainably**

It is anticipated that there will be a variety of economic, social or environmental benefits arising from the proposed schemes in para 2.1.

### **5.5 Carbon Management**

There are no significant effects anticipated on carbon emissions to the Council by delivering the proposals in 2.1

### **5.6 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

There are no changes which are required to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals in 2.1 of this report.

## **6 CONSULTATION**

6.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Head of Corporate Governance, the Head of Strategic Policy, the Head of Audit and Risk, the Clerk to the Council and the Head of Human Resources have been consulted and their comments have been incorporated into the report.

**Approved by**

**Director of Environment and Infrastructure**

**Signature .....**

**Author(s)**

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**Background Papers:** None

**Previous Minute Reference:** None

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