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**NEIGHBOURHOOD SMALL SCHEME WORKS/QUALITY OF LIFE**

**Report by Service Director for Neighbourhood Services**

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**TWEEDDALE AREA FORUM**

**3 SEPTEMBER 2014**

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**1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1 **This report seeks approval of the Tweeddale Area Forum for proposals to deliver projects throughout the Tweeddale area using Neighbourhood Small Schemes and Quality of Life budgets.**
- 1.2 The following Neighbourhood schemes have been requested for the consideration of the Tweeddale members from Small Schemes budget:-  
Creation of ramped access to tennis club rooms and courts, Victoria Park Innerleithen; Footway surface improvements at Young street Peebles; Creation of several pedestrian dropped accesses at locations within Peebles; removal of old play equipment bases and tree stumps at Innerleithen Primary school.
- 1.3 The following Quality of Life scheme seeking funding support:-  
Installation of pedestrian bus shelter on the A72 west bound carriageway, Peebles Road, Innerleithen.  
Installation of a pedestrian bus shelter on the A72 east bound carriageway, Walkerburn  
Grant support Innerleithen Community Trust to empower them to undertake grass maintenance within the post code area.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 **I recommend that the Tweeddale Area Forum:-**
- (a) **approves the following new Neighbourhood Small Schemes for funding support and implementation:-**
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|------|--|-------------------|
| i)   | <b>Creation of one ramped access to Tennis Club rooms and courts, Victoria Park Innerleithen-</b>  | <b>£1,607.15;</b> |
| ii)  | <b>Footway resurfacing and kerbing work, Young Street, Peebles -</b>   | <b>£2,306.00;</b> |
| iii) | <b>Creation of seven pedestrian dropped accesses at Glensax Road/Whitehaugh Avenue, Cademuir Drive, Glen road, Crookston Court Peebles</b> | <b>£3150.00</b>   |

- iv) **Removal of old concrete base of profile slide and nearby tree stump within the grounds of Innerleithen primary school** **£1,500**
  
- (b) **approves the use of Quality of Life funding to;**
  - i) **Create a new pedestrian bus shelter at Peebles Road, Innerleithen –** **£6,900;**
  - ii) **Create a new pedestrian bus shelter on the East bound side of the A72 at Walkerburn -** **£7,010;**
  - iv) **Grant a payment to Innerleithen Community Trust, empowering them to undertake local grass maintenance in the post code area, as a pilot to the Neighbourhood Operations Review -** **£200;**

### **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Elected Members, Community Councils and the public can request financial support to enable delivery of local improvement projects and initiatives via Small Schemes and or Quality of Life budgets. Additionally requests for direct work to be undertaken by Neighbourhood operations can be made by contacting the Neighbourhood Area Manager direct. Neighbourhood Operations is contactable via the new Scottish Borders Council telephone number 0300 100 1800, e-mail address – enquiries@scotborders.gov.uk or by writing to Neighbourhood Services, Council Headquarters, Newtown St. Boswells, Melrose TD6 0SA.

### **4 NEIGHBOURHOOD SMALL SCHEMES**

- 4.1 The following schemes have been requested for consideration utilising Small Schemes support to enhance the Tweeddale Area:-
- 4.2 Creation of one access ramp to the club house and tennis court at Victoria park Innerleithen- £1,607.15 (Tweeddale East). This scheme has been put forward by the Innerleithen Tennis club to compliment the work they have been undertaking to improve their club facilities and therefore the participation in tennis for all. It sees the existing ground levels be re-engineered to remove sharply sloping areas and make easier access both into the club rooms and across onto the playing surface. The area is approximately twenty square meters and the work includes kerbs and drainage.
- 4.3 Footway resurfacing and kerbing work, Young Street, Peebles - £2,306.00 (Tweeddale West). Following approaches made to Councillor Bhatia by residents of Young Street regarding access difficulties in the area this scheme would see re-surfacing of the footpath for approximately 40 square metres and include reducing the height of the kerb line by about 50 millimetres to improve access and egress from an adjacent property.
- 4.4 Creation of seven pedestrian dropped accesses at Glensax Road/Whitehaugh Avenue, Cademuir Drive, Glen road, Crookston Court Peebles - £3150.00 (Tweeddale West). Tweeddale Access Panel has approached Scottish Borders Council following representations having been to them about specific problems for people with access difficulties in Peebles crossing roads. Initially the number of locations mentioned included several other sites and officers with the Place Network Management team undertook site inspections to determine suitability of those locations to be improved using safer routes to school funding. The locations listed here did not meet the requirements of safer routes to school funding and so are being proposed as small scheme projects for consideration by Tweeddale Members.
- 4.5 Removal of old play equipment base and nearby tree stumps at Innerleithen primary school - £1,500 (Tweeddale East) There is a large section of concrete which is the left over remains of a play equipment which is unsightly and prohibits positive use of a section of the school grounds. Having recently completed drainage improvements to the grounds this improvement project would enhance and compliment that work.

## 5 QUALITY OF LIFE

- 5.1 The following schemes are requested for consideration utilising Quality of Life funding support to enhance the Tweeddale Area:-
- 5.2 The enhancement of an existing bus stop by the introduction of a new pedestrian bus shelter, and associated works, at Peebles Road, Innerleithen - £6,900 (Tweeddale East). These works have been requested by the Innerleithen Community Council and will involve the erection of an open sided 3 bay cantilever shelter complete with seats. There will also be some carriageway patching works carried out in association with the bus shelter works so as to eradicate the issue of water ponding at the bus stop location. 'Bus Stop' lining works will also be carried out as part of the project.
- 5.3 The enhancement of an existing bus stop by the introduction of a new pedestrian bus shelter, and associated works, at A72 East Bound, Walkerburn - £7,010 (Tweeddale East). This improvement project follows a request by Walkerburn Community Council to Councillor Garvie for SBC to consider the technicalities and, if following assessment, funding options to install a bus shelter at the existing Bus Stop situated on the A72 just east of Walkerburn, directly across from the access path leading from Tweedholm Avenue. The work will involve increasing the existing Tarmac hard standing area to erect an open sided 2 bay cantilever shelter with built in seat. This would be constructed a minimum of 450mm back from the carriageway. The shelter will cantilever from the front to the back of the footway to protect pedestrians from the elements. Dropped access will also be created on both sides of the road to assist pedestrians crossing the A72 to use the Bus Stop and some drainage works would be carried out to the west of the bus stop to alleviate water ponding in that area.
- 5.4 Innerleithen Community trust is an organisation currently actively supporting various environmental improvement projects in and around the town is seeking funding support to enable them to purchase equipment to undertake maintenance of the recently created shared pathway between Innerleithen and Peebles. The Trust only work within the Innerleithen postcode area of EH45 and so their work would not go beyond the pedestrian bridge between Innerleithen and Cardrona, initially. This grant support would also enable the Trust to continue to develop interest in the environmental maintenance of the Innerleithen area and compliments the Neighbourhood Operations Review that the Council agreed in January of 2014, in the area of community empowerment and enablement

## 6 IMPLICATIONS

### 6.1 Financial

- (a) A budget of £34,702 is available for small schemes in the Tweeddale Area in 2014/15. To date £13,931 has been committed leaving a remaining balance of £20,771 for 2014-15. Should the proposals at 2.1(a) be agreed the subsequent remaining balance will be £11,507.85
- (b) In addition, a budget of £20,000 is available for Quality of Life schemes in the Tweeddale Area in 2014/15. Should the proposals at 2.1(b) be agreed the remaining balance will be £5,890 for 2014-15

## 6.2 Risk and Mitigations

If the budgets are not spent, the local area will not benefit from improvement works being carried out.

## 6.3 Equalities

The proposals within this report will not have an adverse impact on any of the equality groups - race, disability, age, sexual orientation or religion/belief.

## 6.4 Acting Sustainably

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

## 6.5 Carbon Management

There are no significant effects anticipated on carbon emissions to the Council by doing or not doing what is proposed.

## 6.6 Rural proofing

It is anticipated there will be no adverse impact on the rural area from the proposals contained in this report.

## 6.7 Changes to scheme of administration or scheme of delegation

No changes to the scheme of administration or scheme of delegation are required as a result of this report.

## 7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Service Director Strategy and Policy, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Chief Officer HR, the Service Director Capital Projects and the Clerk to the Council have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated in the final report.

### Approved by

**Service Director of Neighbourhood Services**

**Signature .....**

### Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
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**Background Papers:** None

**Previous Minute Reference:** None

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Contact us at Jacqueline Whitelaw, Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose, TD6 0SA, Tel 01835 825431, Fax 01835 825071, email [eitranslationrequest@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:eitranslationrequest@scotborders.gov.uk).