

**REPORT OF: FINANCIAL MANAGER**

**TO: EXECUTIVE**

**DATE: 18<sup>th</sup> JULY 2007**

## **CAPITAL GRANTS TO PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS 2007/08**

### ***Purpose of Report***

1. The purpose of this report is to allocate the budget for Capital Grants to Parish and Town Councils (£30,000 in the capital programme). The report gives details of the bids that have been received.

### ***Issue***

2. The bids are listed in Appendix A with further details in Appendix B.
3. The councils' cash position and details of grants made to each Parish in the years 2004/05, 2005/06 and 2006/07 are shown in appendix A.

### ***Allocation of grant***

4. Previous allocations and available resources, are shown in the last column of Appendix A.

### ***Policy Implications***

5. All the bids received are in line with Council Policies being aimed at improving the environment.

### ***Risk Management/Health and Safety Implications***

6. None

### ***Financial Implications***

7. When setting the Council's Approved Capital Programme in February 2007 Members agreed to a budget of £30,000. Members will appreciate that bids exceed this by £26,000. In view of this, it has been necessary to ration awards according to funds available. Given that the Council's capital programme is currently over-programmed by £236,000, there is insufficient funding to meet all bids. Should members wish to increase the amount of funding available for capital grants to town and parish councils, this would have to be done at the expense of other projects within the programme.

## ***RECOMMENDATION***

8. The Executive is requested to allocate grants to the town and parish councils from the available budget of £30,000.

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Capital Grants to Parish Councils - Bids Received 2007/08

Appendix  
A

Ref	Previous Allocations			Council	Details of Bid	Cash Position	Bid
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07				
	£	£	£				
1	4,000	7,650	3,000	Barley Parish Council (a)	Health & Safety Fencing Work (£2,885), Finger Posts (£6,150)	5,015	9,035
2	2,000	5,000	4,000	Barnoldswick Town Council	Third Phase of "Operation Facelift" Town Centre Improvements	9,760	5,000
3		2,840	2,000	Barrowford Parish Council	Play Facilities Project (Total cost £218,930) match funding being sought with alternative should match funding not be approved.	48,339	8,000
4	1,000	2,500	2,500	Blacko Parish Council	Reinstatement of river bank (Phase 2)	4,986	7,500
5				Brierfield Town Council	Improvements to festive lights	33,975	6,840
6				Earby Parish Council			
7		2,000	5,000	Foulridge Parish Council	Welcome to Foulridge signs	3,620	2,400
8		6,812		Goldshaw Booth Parish Council	Improvements to Newchurch Village Centre	2,738	3,500
9			3,000	Higham with West Close Booth Parish Council			
10	1,000	6,000	3,000	Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council (a)	Environmental improvements, notice boards (£1,750), Other landscape etc work (£3,750)	4,135	5,500
11	500	1,500		Laneshawbridge Parish Council			
12	1,000	3,000	4,000	Old Laund Booth Parish Council	Improve pedestrian Access to Wheatley Close	6,078	2,000
13				Reedley Hallows			
14	1,500	4,000	3,000	Roughlee Booth Parish Council	Car Park renovation	5,440	4,250
15	1,500	2,596	2,500	Salterforth Parish Council (a)	Mower (£900), Repairs to "Ginny Well" (£1,500) and Play Area Safety Surface Repair Kit £160)	2,309	2,560
16		4,000		Trawden Forest Parish Council			
	<b>12,500</b>	<b>47,898</b>	<b>32,000</b>				<b>56,585</b>

Notes (a) These parish councils do not make a precept

### Details of Applications for Grants to Parish and Town Councils

**1.) Barley Parish Council** – has applied for grants to make the fence around the children's play area in Barley safe and to bring it up to the appropriate standard. The cost of this is estimated at £2,885. In addition the Council ask for support to meet the cost of renewing the finger posts in the village – estimated cost £6,148.48. (Note these bids have also gone to Barrowford and Western Parishes Area Committee and the outcome will be reported at the meeting)

**2.) Barnoldswick Town Council** – are seeking £5,000 support for Operation Facelift. The council is engaged in the third phase of this environmental initiative which is an improvement scheme for the fabric of the Town Centre. The programme began in 2004 and has been supported by a grant from West Craven Together. The grant would fund various flower beds and hanging baskets.

**3.) Barrowford Parish Council** – has applied for a grant of £8,000 to help with the cost of a scheme to provide teenage play facilities at Bullholme Playing Fields. The full scheme would cost in the region of £219,000 and include a MUGA, mountain biking facilities, a wheel park and a youth shelter. Funding sources are being explored including the Big Lottery Fund. If full funding is not achieved then the Council would expect to raise enough funding to finance at least the mountain biking facility. The council has committed £5,000 from its own resources to the scheme.

**4.) Blacko Parish Council** – have submitted a request for a grant of £7,000 to finance further work on the river bank by the side of the track between Beverley Road and the Recreation Ground.

**5.) Brierfield Town Council** – are looking for a grant of £6,840 to finance improvements to the festive lights in Brierfield centre. This is to supplement the existing provision by the borough council through central budgets and area committee budgets to enable the lights to be improved. The Council would point out that whilst its resources are substantial there are several pending projects including IT equipment which will reduce them.

**7.) Foulridge Parish Council** – have requested a grant of £2,400 to meet the cost of new "Welcome" signs.

**8.) Goldshaw Booth Parish Council** – has made a bid for £3,500 to support the next phase of improvements to Newchurch village centre which builds on previous year's work of improving access and upgrading footpaths.

**9.) Kelbrook and Sough Parish Council** – have applied for a grant of £5,500 to help to fund a number of small environmental schemes including improvements to notice and information boards (£1,750), improvements to the entrance to the Kelbrook play area (£1,750), work to the bank of Kelbrook beck (£1,000) and general environmental improvements (£1,000).

**11.) Old Laund Booth Parish Council** – have applied for a grant of £2,000 to improve pedestrian access to Wheatley Close from Wheatley Lane Road. This is currently dangerous especially to the elderly.

**13.) Roughlee Parish Council** – have requested a grant of £4,250 to help fund walling and environmental schemes around the riverside parking area. £10,000 has been secured from other sources to enable the construction of new planting area and walling. The grant would fund the renovation of the car park.

**14.) Salterforth Parish Council** – request a grant of £2,560 to fund three projects. The Council wishes to purchase a push mower to be used to mow small areas like the children's play area, to repair the wall around the Ginny Well and to purchase a repair kit for rubber safety matting. This last item would allow the council to maintain the safety of the play area without incurring the cost of employing the specialist safety surface company.