

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND COMMITTEE

28 April 2021

Present: Councillor M James (Chair)  
Dr M Havard, Dr R Plummer, Councillor M Williams and Councillor S Yelland.

(Virtual Meeting: 10.00am - 11.40am)

## 1. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor K Doolin.

## 2. Disclosures of Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

## 3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 20 January 2021 were presented for confirmation and authentication.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 20 January 2021 be confirmed and authenticated.

## 4. Exclusion of the public

It was **RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from the meeting as exempt information, as defined in Paragraphs 12 and 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, would be disclosed.

## 5. Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) Update Report

### a) SDF Financial Position

The report provided the end of year position for 2020/21 which showed that £55,318 remained in the budget and went on to outline the position of projects which had been approved both during the year and for which commitments remained from previous years. It was noted that a total of £100,000 had been made available for grant distribution for the 2021/22 financial year, and the officer advised that the Authority had again applied to Welsh Government for additional funds; it was hoped a decision on this would be received in May.

One Member asked whether the unspent money would be carried forward to the Fund for 2021/22. The Finance Manager replied that it would go back into the Authority's general reserve, however the Authority held an earmarked reserve of £28,000 which comprised of underspend from previous years, and this could be used if the Committee wished to grant



more than that which had been budgeted. Members recalled that the Authority had been in receipt of a large sum of in-year additional funding from Welsh Government during 2020/21 which it had been able to make good use of and congratulated officers on the number of applications that had been submitted and the spend that had been achieved. Nevertheless it was hoped that every effort would be made to spend all the allocated funding in the coming year.

The Funding and Grants Officer reported that a request had been received from Pembrokeshire Mencap Ltd (SDF/112020/3) which had been granted funding to carry out a number of small infrastructure projects, including one to divert rainwater to a pond and another to purchase a shredder for garden waste. The Authority had been advised that the rainwater collection tank had developed a leak and therefore that element of the project was no longer viable and that upon further consideration, Mencap Ltd did not believe that the shredder would produce mulch of an acceptable quality. Therefore they had asked to use the money (which consisted of approximately half of the funds granted) to purchase a manually controlled rotovator for green manure instead. Members' views were sought.

Members wished to ensure that the rotovator purchased would continue to meet the conditions of the Fund and were happy to delegate the decision to the Funding and Grants Officer subject to it meeting the criteria of the fund and on receipt of an acceptable quote.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) the report be noted; and
- b) agreement of the amendment to the Pembrokeshire Mencap Ltd Project SDF/112020/3 be delegated to the Funding and Grants Officer subject to the receipt of an acceptable quote with specification for the rotovator and assurance that the project would continue to meet the criteria of the fund.

#### **b) Applications for Consideration**

The Committee was reminded that in June 2020 the Authority had agreed to change the focus of the Fund to support community led projects that contributed towards a reduction in carbon and helped respond to the climate emergency. There were four categories for applications:

- A. Install renewable energy generation facilities to a community building
- B. An initiative to promote reduction in carbon emissions in transport
- C. Install a community facility that minimises waste
- D. Any other community-based carbon reduction initiative.



The report before the Committee outlined 5 applications made to the fund, requesting a total of £51,272,

The following applications were before the Committee for consideration and the report set out a summary and eligibility check for each.

Project Type	Ref	Organisation	Funding Sought
A	SDF /042021/1	Solva Community Clubhouse	£10,217
B	SDF /042021/2	Paul Sartori Foundation Limited	£ 1,152
C	SDF /042021/3	COAST – Community Organised Allotment for Solva Tenants	£8,000
C	SDF /042021/4	Tenby United RFC Ltd	£ 12,563
D	SDF /042021/5	Ecodewi	£ 19,340
		<b>Total funding sought</b>	<b>£51,272</b>

Each application was considered in detail against the scoring template and it was **RESOLVED** that the full amount of funding requested be granted to the following applications, subject to the usual conditions of grant as well as additional conditions as set out below:

**1) SDF/042021/1 (Solva Clubhouse)**

Additional Condition:

- i) That as part of the project, information be provided within the clubhouse about the energy generated and carbon reduced so that community members could see its impact.

**2) SDF/042021/2 (Paul Sartori)**

The Committee would encourage Paul Sartori to promote the project, for example by adding advertising to the van, and to ask them to evidence how the information gathered had been used, to reduce carbon emissions.

**3) SDF/ 042021/3 (COAST)**

Additional Condition:

- i) A written lease agreement between the land owner (PCC) and the Applicant (COAST constituted group) agreeing the use of the land for allotments.



**4) SDF/042021/4 (Tenby RFC)**

The Committee would encourage promotion of messaging around the Club regarding the reduction of waste as well as recycling. For example investing in and encouraging reusable water bottles and stopping single use plastics.

**5) SDF/042021/5 (Ecodewi)**

Additional Conditions:

- i) A timetable is provided with project milestones for the 18 months in addition to progress reports at each milestone.
- ii) Work closely with the Newport Area Environment Group who are delivering a similar SDF funded project to share good practice.

**c) Date of Future SDF Committee Meetings**

The dates of future meeting were noted. Members agreed to the officer's suggestion that if the regulations allowed, site visits be arranged in lieu of the July meeting to allow Members to see completed projects.

**NOTED.**

