

Community Chest Q & A

What is Three Parishes Big Local?

Three Parishes Big Local is an exciting opportunity for you as residents of Weston Rhyn, St Martins and Gobowen to use £1m of Big Lottery money to make a massive and lasting positive difference to your community.

Within the three communities, Three Parishes Big Local has been carrying out consultation and background research since 2011. This has culminated in the development of a Community Vision and a Community Plan. The Community Vision sets out what we would like to achieve by the end of the 10 year Big Local programme. The Community Plan set out how we hope to achieve this.

In developing our Community Vision, we have defined a set of Community Aspirations, detailed below. All activities and project supported by Three Parishes Big Local must show an impact on one or more of the Community Aspirations, which are:

- Create more opportunities for gaining skills and qualifications
- Build more opportunities for everyone to improve their health & well-being
- Get the best out of our rural environment and economy
- Become more enterprising
- Make the most of our community buildings
- Enable ALL residents to benefit from being part of our community.

Our first Community plan was launched in September 2014. This was reviewed in 2016 and refined into a second Community Plan that covers 3 years from September 2016.

If you would like a copy of the full Community Vision document, it is available on our website, www.big-local.org, or by contacting the Big Local Co-ordinator.

What is Three Parishes Big Local Community Chest?

In our Plan, we have set aside £12,000 per year for three years from September 2016. The aim of the fund is to support projects or activities that work towards our Community Aspirations. The maximum grant value from this fund is **£500**. Larger grants are available from our BIG Grants Scheme – please contact us for details.

Who can apply?

The Community Chest is open to all community organisations based within the area. If you are just forming as a group and don't yet have a bank account or constitution don't be put off. Talk with our Co-ordinator to see how Big Local can help to develop your idea. Applications from organisations outside the area need to clearly demonstrate how the funding will help the Three Parishes Big Local area. If you are not sure if your project will qualify for funding, please talk to our Co-ordinator.

Please note that we cannot support:

- Organisations or activities that support a political party or political policies.
- Activities which promote religious beliefs (this does not mean that we would not accept applications from religious institutions)
- Debts or liabilities
- Funding in retrospective – i.e. when the activity has taken place before the funding has been awarded.
- Groups with significant reserves

However, we can assist organisations or projects like these to identify other sources of funding. Please contact our Co-ordinator for more information.

How much can I apply for?

You can apply for up to £500 in any rolling twelve month period.

How do I apply?

To apply for a grant, you will need to complete one of our application forms and return it to us. To get an application form, you can:

- Download one from our website, www.big-local.org.
- Email communitychest@big-local.org
- Telephone the Big Local Co-ordinator on 01691 656882
- Write to us at Three Parishes Big Local, Qube, Oswald Road, Oswestry, SY11 1RB.
- Ask any of the members of the Three Parishes Big Local partnership

Please don't be put off by the application form and process. We can help you fill in the application form and can guide you through the process.

Completed application forms can be sent to us by:

- Email: communitychest@big-local.org
- Post : Three Parishes Big Local, Qube, Oswald Road, Oswestry, SY11 1RB

What happens after I have sent in my application and how long will it take?

When we have received your form we will check it to make sure that we have all the information that we need to consider your application. We may contact you to ask for evidence or supporting information. We aim to assess applications as quickly as possible but it may take up to two months from when we receive your form.

Do I need to have funding from other sources?

You don't need to have funding from other sources to apply. However, we may be able to help you identify additional sources of funding to support your project.

What happens when my application has been assessed?

We will contact you to let you know whether or not your application has been successful and to make arrangements to pay grants that have been approved.

Successful applications - We will contact you again when your expected completion date is reached to check how the project has progressed and will ask you to complete a simple grant monitoring form.

Unsuccessful applications – We can work with you to further develop your Community Chest application or to identify alternative sources of funding.

For more information about the Community Chest, or any other aspect of Three Parishes Big Local,

Contact the Big Local Co-ordinator, Bridget Laraway:

Write to: Qube, Oswald Road, Oswestry, SY11
1RB

Tel: 01691 656882

Email: b.laraway@qube-oca.org.uk

Website : www.big-local.org

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