

## **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 Plan or Community Vision documents, they are available on our website, [www.big-local.org](http://www.big-local.org), or by contacting the Big Local Co-ordinator.

## **What is Three Parishes BIG Grants Scheme?**

In our Plan, we have set aside £35,000 per year for three years from September 2016. The aim of the fund is to support projects or activities that require a grant of £501 or more and that work towards our Community Aspirations. The typical maximum grant value from this fund is **£5000**, although we would consider higher value grants for projects that make a significant impact on the Three Parishes Big

Local community. Smaller grants are available from our Community Chest small grants fund – please contact us for details.

### **Who can apply?**

The Three Parishes BIG Grants Scheme is open to individuals and 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 benefit of 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
- Core running costs of a group or organisation

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?**

Grants are available from £501. We expect the maximum grant value to be in the region of £5,000 but are happy to consider higher value applications that show substantial progress towards the Community Aspirations.

### **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](http://www.big-local.org).
- Email [biggrants@big-local.org](mailto:biggrants@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: [biggrants@big-local.org](mailto:biggrants@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. An assessment panel will make an initial review of your application and decide whether or not the application meets the basic assessment criteria. Applicants who do meet this criteria will be invited for an informal discussion to enable the panel to find out more about the application. Although we aim to assess all applications as quickly as possible, the process may take up to three months.

### **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 BIG Grant Scheme application or to identify alternative sources of funding.

For more information about the BIG Grants Scheme, 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](mailto:b.laraway@qube-oca.org.uk)

Website : [www.big-local.org](http://www.big-local.org)

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