



Portfolio Holder Decisions

Together We Make a Difference Fund – Fleetwood Beach Wheelchairs and Awarding of Grants - Resources

1. **Together We Make a Difference Fund – Fleetwood Beach Wheelchairs and Awarding of Grants** (Pages 3 - 8)

Report of the Corporate Director Communities

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Portfolio Holder Report

The portfolio holder will make a decision on this item after seven days have elapsed (including the date of publication).

Report of:	Portfolio Holder	Date of publication
Marianne Hesketh, Corporate Director Communities	Councillor Alan Vincent, Resources Portfolio Holder	27 July 2020

Together We Make a Difference Fund – Fleetwood Beach Wheelchairs and Awarding of Grants
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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To gain approval to allocate funds from the Performance Reward Initiative Reserve to create a new accessible entrance to the building adjacent to Central Car Park, Fleetwood in order that the 'Fleetwood Beach Wheelchairs' project can operate.
- 1.2 To seek approval to delegate future authorisation of the remaining Performance Reward Initiative Reserve, up to the amount of £10,000 per single beneficiary, to the Corporate Director of Communities and to transfer the balance to revenue and rename this the Together We Make a Difference Fund.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 The Fleetwood Beach Wheelchair community service will operate a free beach wheelchair hire service without access limitations.
- 2.2 To improve opportunities, quality of life and provide healthier choices for disabled people, people with limited movement, and their families and friends.
- 2.3 To utilise Wyre's unique selling point – the Great Outdoors – supporting residents and visitors to maximise the opportunities from coast to countryside.
- 2.4 Timely delivery of community led TWMAD initiatives, across the borough.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1** To agree a one-off allocation of £3,000 from the Performance Reward Initiative Reserve to the Fleetwood Beach Wheelchair charity group, for the purpose of creating an accessible entrance for its customers and visitors.
- 3.2** To delegate authorisation of the remaining Performance Reward Initiative Reserve, up to the amount of £10,000 per single beneficiary, to the Corporate Director of Communities and to transfer the balance to revenue and rename this the Together We Make a Difference Fund.

4. Background

- 4.1** Together We Make A Difference (TWMAD) is an initiative introduced in 2016 by the Council to explore opportunities for communities and partners to deliver initiatives that build resilience and sustainability. It takes an asset based approach to working with local communities, to achieve their aims. TWMAD projects are led and delivered by communities.
- 4.2** The Performance Reward Initiative Reserve was established in 2009/10 and has previously been used for Shaping Your Neighbourhood projects. The estimated balance at 31 March 2020 was £24,564 and it is expected that some of this will be committed to fund the ongoing costs associated with Volunteer Wyre (£3,035 in 2019/20) in 2020/21. An unallocated balance will remain and it is intended that this be transferred to revenue and held as a one-off TWMAD fund to be drawn down for community projects.
- 4.3** In order to address the diversity of local need, TWMAD projects vary greatly in their requirements for support, from connecting communities with experts and assisting groups with funding bids to the longer term set up of organisations and the delivery of community ideas, skills and projects. TWMAD projects can be referred in by council officers, partner organisations and elected members.
- 4.4** The requirement to develop a beach wheelchair project was referred to the Engagement Team in 2018. The project received officer support, and the group has now received charitable status. The charity is known as Fleetwood Beach Wheelchairs and they have actively secured grant funding to be able to progress the lease of a building owned by the council, formerly used by the Kite Club on the seafront at Fleetwood.
- 4.5** The Charity has been working with the council to find the ideal location, close to the beach, to enable access for those who find it difficult to navigate the beach on foot as well as people with complex disabilities and their carers. The former 'Kite Club Room' became vacant and is situated next to the disabled beach access ramp and the car park, thus providing a suitable venue for users.

4.6 The volunteer led project will operate throughout the year to relieve the needs of people with physical limitation or infirmity. They will be working with individuals and local organisations that care for or work with them, including schools and care homes, to provide all-terrain wheelchairs to enable access to the beach, recreation venues and beauty spots.

5. Key issues and proposals

5.1 The room Fleetwood Beach Wheelchairs wish to lease requires a new accessible entrance, door and ramp to accommodate wheelchair users and their carers, and to aid the movement of the beach wheelchairs.

5.2 The building costs and associated work amount to £3,000 and have been verified by the council and it is recommended that this amount is granted to the charity for these works to be undertaken.

5.3 To support the variable development requirements and pace of community benefit initiatives, the council needs a mechanism in place to be able to provide a timely community grant allocation response. Where satisfactory evidence is provided, it is proposed that the Corporate Director of Communities be able to authorise up to £10,000, per single beneficiary and that such activity is documented via the relevant Executive Report update to full Council. For amounts in excess of £10,000, a portfolio holder report would still be required.

6. Delegated functions

6.1 The matters referred to in this report are considered under the following executive function delegated to the Resources Portfolio Holder (as set out in Part 3 of the council's constitution): "To determine payment of grants to outside bodies within allocated budgets".

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	<p>The estimated balance as at 31 March 2020 on the Performance Reward Initiative Reserve is £24,564.</p> <p>It is proposed to award a grant of £3,000 from this reserve to the Fleetwood Beach Wheelchair Charity in order to undertake accessibility works to the 'Kite Club' building at Fleetwood.</p> <p>This grant is conditional on all necessary building control, planning permission and associated legal requirements being met.</p>
Legal	<p>The fund of £3,000 would not be released to the Charity until the following are satisfied:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A lease agreement is signed by both parties (Wyre Council and Fleetwood Beach Wheelchair charity)

	<p>2. Fleetwood Beach Wheelchair Charity agree to spend the fund in accordance with the grant agreement, and.</p> <p>3. Planning permission is approved.</p>
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Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
sustainability	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	✓
climate change	x
ICT	x
data protection	x

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

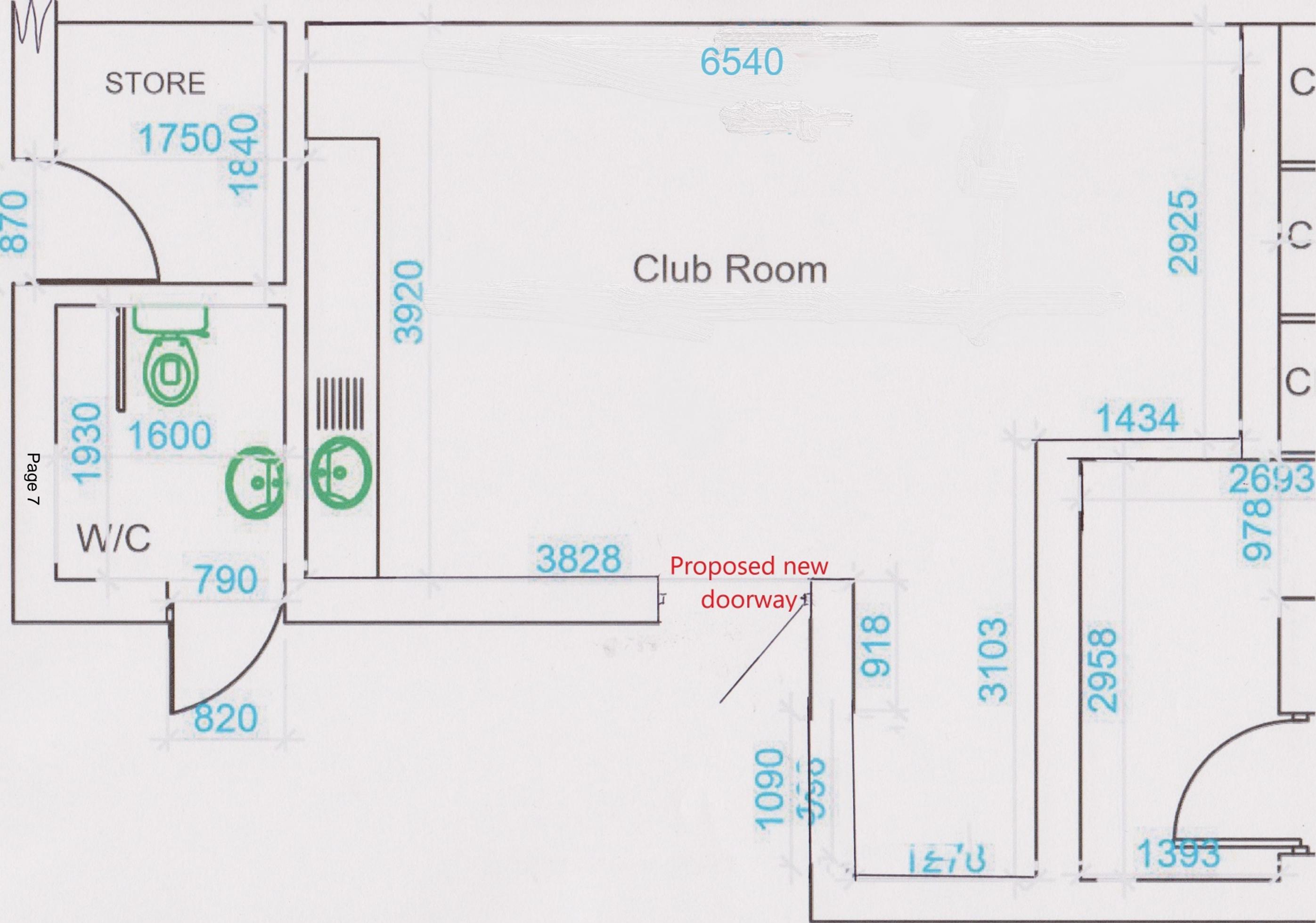
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List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
None		

List of appendices

Appendix 1 proposed plan for the new entrance.

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