

# TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, 24 High Street, Tenterden, Kent. TN30 6AN

Website: [www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 01580 762271



Email: [townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk)  
Facsimile: 01580 765647

## COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION FACTSHEET 1

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### **The Community Chest - your chance to help spend £165,000**

#### **Background**

Tenterden Town Council is inviting local people to put forward ideas on how to spend £165,000 on local projects.

It is part of a process called Participatory Budgeting, which allows members of a community to be involved in making spending decisions - rare for a local authority of our size, and normally only offered by bigger councils, NHS Primary Care Trusts and housing associations.

Called the Community Chest, the money is part of the £3.5m received from the sale of council land in the town, and although we are legally obliged to earmark most of it to capital projects, including improving the recreation ground, restoring the Town Hall, and investigating the feasibility of a major project such as a cinema, we have set aside this separate sum specifically to help smaller projects around the town.

#### **How you can get involved**

We are asking for Tenterden residents to come forward and become a member of the Task Group to evaluate applications for funding, or submit projects that you would like considered for funding.

**The Public Meeting** The first stage is a public meeting, to be held at the Town Hall on Wednesday, 17 January 2018 at 7pm. The meeting will explain the concept of the Community Chest; enlist volunteers to join the Task Group; get people thinking how the money might be used; and raise awareness.

**The Task Group** The majority of Task Group members will be local residents, supported by members of the town council which, by law, has to make the final decision on how the money is spent. Task Group members should not be directly interested in any of the projects.

The primary role of the Task Group is to plan and manage the Community Chest process, encourage maximum public involvement, and see the initiative through to delivery.

**The Projects** These should be proposed by community groups. The over-riding consideration is that they should be of benefit to the whole community, rather than a specific interest group. We suggest a deadline of 31 March 2018 for submission of project proposals.

**The Presentation** Once the Task Group has initially evaluated projects put forward for funding, it is envisaged they will organise an exhibition and presentation to the public. This is expected to take place in June 2018.

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**The Voting** Every Tenterden and St Michael's resident, including younger people under 18, will have an opportunity to vote for their preferred projects. This may be subject to a proportional representation process, so the projects are finally listed in order of community preference.

**The Decision** on which projects will be funded will be taken by the Town Council, taking into account the voting tallies and preferences and the recommendations of the Task Group in the light of the votes cast and the funds available.

## Your next step

If you would like to be involved in the Community Chest initiative, have a project you would like considered for funding, or would like to comment on the process and timetable, please contact the Town Hall (see contact details below) and complete an application form.

## Future factsheets - and your comments

Future factsheets on the Community Chest and other council initiatives will be available from time to time from the Town Hall. They can be sent by email (ideally) or by post, or collected from the Town Hall and other outlets in the parish. If you would like to receive copies, please let the Town Hall have your details for this.

## Tenterden Town Council

Our contact details are above, and we are open to the public between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday.

Twitter: @TenterdenTC Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TenterdenTownCouncil](http://www.facebook.com/TenterdenTownCouncil)

January 2018