

Ward Discretionary Budget - Festoon Lighting on Market Street, Marple

Report of the Director of Place Management

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The report sets out a request for additional funds to support Marple Fest organisers to install festoon lighting along Market Street and Derby Way in Marple South Ward. The additional funding will further support Marple Fest reaching the required target to engage contractors to install the lighting.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Marple Fest is a volunteer based small team of local people and traders who have the best interests of the whole of Marple District Centre and Marple residents at their hearts and has been responsible for putting on well attended events such as Kings Coronation and Xmas Light Switch on events in the District Centre bringing hundreds of people to these events.
- 2.2 The Festoon Lighting project is supported by Marple Vision and forms part of the Action Plan to make improvements to the District Centre.
- 2.3 Additional lighting creates a safer environment and will add atmosphere and ambience to events and undoubtedly will be a benefit to local businesses.
- 2.4 It is planned that the lighting will be managed to reduce light pollution to residents and will be on a timer so that they are not on permanently and that they will be separately metered so that there are no maintenance costs to the council. The lights will be maintained by Marple Fest in the future.
- 2.5 The project has been subject to UKSPF funding and approx. £2,000 has been raised by residents and local business to support the funding target. This additional funding and a fund-raising event planned by Marple Fest is likely to meet its target aim.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Area Committee is recommended to comment on the allocation of funding to the and to request that the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources approves the use of £4,000 from the Ward Discretionary Fund (£2,000 from Marple South and £2,000 from Marple North) towards the costs of the Festoon Lighting installation.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are none.

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact richard.daniels@stockport.gov.uk