

## **Annual Report – 2010/11**



### **➔ Introduction**

The Dover District Neighbourhood Forums are pleased to present their annual report covering the period from 1st April 2010 to 31 March 2011.

Kent County Council and Dover District Council are committed to finding ways to inform, consult and involve local residents. The Dover District Neighbourhood Forums are fundamental to our approach of involving local people in shaping the places in which they live and work.

The purpose of the Neighbourhood Forums is to:

- Engage with local residents, businesses and other community groups in the district;
- Provide a key consultative mechanism between all the councils and with the public on policies, plans and strategies;
- Assist councillors and other agencies to listen to and respond to their communities;
- Discuss an issue of local importance or concern or resolve specific issues;

- Advise the council's cabinet and scrutiny committees on issues of interest or concern in their area.

The Dover District Neighbourhood Forums and the areas they cover are:

- **Dover Town** - covering Buckland, St.Radigunds, Maxton Elms Vale and Priory, Town and Pier, Tower Hamlets and Castle;
- **Dover North** - covering Aylesham, Nonington, Eythorne, Sutton, Langdon, Great Mongeham, St Margarets at Cliffe, Ringwould and Kingsdown, Ripple, Northbourne and Tilmanstone;
- **Dover West** - covering Denton with Wootton, Lydden, Shepherdsweil with Coldred, Whitfield, Temple Ewell, River, Hougham Without, Alkham and Capel-le-Ferne;
- **Deal & Walmer** - covering: North Deal, Middle Deal, Mill Hill and Walmer;
- **Sandwich Area** - covering Stourmouth, Preston, Ash, Wingham, Goodnestone, Eastry, Sandwich, Staple, Worth and Sholden.

The Neighbourhood Forums help Councillors to engage with communities in a positive and informal way, giving residents an opportunity to meet their elected members, setting up regular two-way communication.

The seven County Members (Councillors) and the respective areas they represent are:-

Deal & Walmer	Kit Smith
Deal & Walmer	Julie Rook
Dover North	Steven Manion
Dover Town	Nigel Collor
Dover Town	Gordon Cowan
Dover West	Bryan Cope
Sandwich Area	Leyland Ridings

The Dover District Neighbourhood Forums sadly lost Cllr Roger Frayne on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2010; we extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

The seven voting Dover District Council Members (Councillors) and the respective areas they represent are:-

Deal & Walmer	Trevor Bond
Deal & Walmer	Adrian Friend
Dover North	David Lloyd-Jones
Dover Town	Kevin Mills
Dover Town	Marion Munt
Dover West	Jennifer Record
Sandwich Area	Sue Chandler

The lists of Members are shown in **Appendix 1**.

## ➤ **Dover District Neighbourhood Forum Meetings 2010/11**

In 2010 the decision was taken to change the way the Dover District Neighbourhood Forums ran their meetings in order to make them more responsive to public need. Rather than quarterly meetings the forums would now have two fixed meetings per year, one focusing on multi-agency updates and the other concentrating on funding – often taking the form of a participatory budgeting event.

In addition there is an opportunity for each of the Neighbourhood Forums to hold a further two additional meetings a year, in response to pressing local issues with a maximum of 10 meetings for the whole district. This limit is due to resource and budget constraints.

Within this number, the Forums can hold joint meetings on issues of wider interest (at the discretion of relevant Forum boards).

The forums are intended to be accessible to the public, who are given the opportunity to discuss local issues affecting their communities. Members of the public are actively encouraged to get involved at forum meetings, which can take the form of Q&A sessions, large group discussions or smaller table discussions. Everyone is given the chance to speak and be listened to, given responses and explanations if something cannot be resolved or improved on.

### ➤ ***Multi-agency update meetings***

Due to local elections being held in 2011, the multi agency update meetings were postponed to June 2011. As a result summaries of these meetings will appear in the 2011/12 Annual Report.

### ➤ ***Additional Meeting(s)***

#### **Sandwich Area Neighbourhood Forum**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Main Topic/s</b>	<b>Attendees</b>
1 February 2011	Sandwich Guildhall, Cattle Market, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9AH	The Open Golf	84 plus 5 councillors

### ➤ ***'You Decide' in Dover***

Following a very successful pilot participatory budgeting event which was held by Cllr Steve Manion in the Dover North Ward in November 2009, the Members of the Dover District Neighbourhood Forums made the decision to allocate the Small Community Capital Projects grant funding via participatory budgeting in all five Dover Districts in 2010.

Participatory budgeting (PB) directly involves the local community in making recommendations on how specific public budgets should be allocated, with the aim of

engaging residents and community group representatives. This process of allocating funds aims to increase transparency, accountability, understanding and social inclusion in local government affairs.

In addition Cllrs Kit Smith, Julie Rook and Steve Manion added both their Local Schemes Grant funding and Member Community Grants to the 'You Decide' pot. Cllr Nigel Collor added his Local Schemes Grant funding to the Dover Town 'You Decide' pot.

As part of the 'You Decide' event applicants were asked to give a three minute presentation on their project which was then scored by members of the community. At the end of the event all the scores were totalled giving a final list of successful applicants

### Deal & Walmer Neighbourhood Forum

Date of Meeting	Venue	Funding scheme details	Attendees *
2 October 2010 (9.30am to 12.30pm)	Walmer Science College, Salisbury Road, Deal, Kent CT14 7QJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DDC/KCC Small Community Capital Projects</li> <li>Amount bid for £18,812</li> <li>Amount awarded £15,592</li> </ul>	56 plus 3 councillors
2 October 2010 (3.30pm to 6.30pm)	Walmer Science College, Salisbury Road, Deal, Kent CT14 7QJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kit Smith/Julie Rook Member KCC Community Grant and Local Schemes Grant</li> <li>Amount bid for £38,880</li> <li>Amount awarded £29,542</li> </ul>	82 plus 2 councillors

### Dover North Neighbourhood Forum

Date of meeting	Venue	Funding scheme details	Attendees *
18 September 2010	Elvington Community Centre, St John's Road, Elvington CT15 4DZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DDC/KCC Small Community Capital Projects</li> <li>Amount bid for £18,153</li> <li>Amount awarded £9,968.38</li> </ul>	93 plus 2 councillors
9 October 2010	Elvington Community Centre, St John's Road, Elvington CT15 4DZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steve Manion's KCC Member Community Grant and Local Schemes Grant</li> <li>Amount bid for £35,851</li> <li>Amount awarded £19,771</li> </ul>	119 plus 2 councillors

### Dover Town Neighbourhood Forum

Date of Meeting	Venue	Funding scheme details	Attendees *
15 October 2010 (5.30pm to 8.00pm)	St Mary's Parish Centre, Dieu Stone Lane, Cannon Street, Dover CT16 1BY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DDC/KCC Small Community Capital Projects</li> <li>Amount bid for £27,124</li> <li>Amount awarded £16,481</li> </ul>	153 plus 3 councillors
15 October 2010 (8.00pm to 9.30pm)	St Mary's Parish Centre, Dieu Stone Lane, Cannon Street, Dover CT16 1BY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nigel Collor's KCC Local Schemes Grant</li> <li>Amount bid for £17,350</li> <li>Amount awarded £9,771</li> </ul>	59 plus 1 councillor

## Sandwich Area Neighbourhood Forum

Date of Meeting	Venue	Funding scheme details	Attendees *
2 October 2010 (mid day)	Walmer Science College, Salisbury Road, Deal, Kent CT14 7QJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DDC/KCC Small Community Capital Projects</li> <li>• Amount bid for £11,538</li> <li>• Amount awarded £9,928</li> </ul>	41 plus 3 councillors

\* The number of attendees at each meeting is based on sign-in sheets. However, this is not always accurate, as not everybody wishes to record their details, and as a result we have measured attendance by way of a headcount at larger meetings.



Above. Cllr Julie Rook and Cllr Kit Smith congratulating winners at the Deal & Walmer 'You decide' event



Above. Cllr Leyland Ridings and Cllr Sue Chandler congratulating winners at the Sandwich 'You decide' event



Above. Dover North 'You decide' event

Below. Cllr Steve Manion congratulating winners at the Dover North 'You decide' event

Below. Cllr Nigel Collor congratulating winners at the Dover Town 'You decide' event



## ➤ Outcomes

The outcomes that each forum meeting achieves is primarily down to the type of meeting held, some for example are purely information based. However, other meetings cover issues of concern to local residents and more often than not both members of the forums and officers will go away with issues to follow up for the local community. Outcomes in 2010/11:

- At the Sandwich Area Neighbourhood Forum, residents gave Ian Biggs and Neil Edwards from Kent Highways some useful suggestions on how traffic arrangements in and around Sandwich could be improved during the period of the Open Golf in July. These were taken to the Dover Joint Transportation Board in February for its consideration and the Board's recommendations/decisions will be fed back to residents at the Sandwich Area/Deal & Walmer Annual Partners' meeting in June.
- In response to concern that roadworks on the East Kent Access Road would significantly disrupt traffic travelling to and from the Open Golf, Toby Howe, KCC's Highways Manager for East Kent has subsequently confirmed that contractors will ensure a free flow of traffic between Thanet and Sandwich during that period.
- Seven very successful participatory budgeting events were held in September and October 2011 giving away a total sum of **£111,055** to community based projects.
- Evaluation forms completed by residents at each of the 'You decide' meetings and comments/suggestions on how to improve the process were considered and frequently acted upon at subsequent meetings. For example, at the first meeting in Dover North it was suggested that voting take place at the end of all the presentations instead of after each presentation, and this was adopted at all subsequent 'You decide' events.

## ➤ Funding

### ➤ *Small Community Capital Projects Fund*

KCC allocated £38,900 in its Capital Budget for 2010/11 to the Small Community Capital Projects Fund in Dover. Dover District Council added £22,500 to this figure giving a total of £61,400 to be spent on small capital projects which bring benefit to the local community. Each forum was allocated a percentage of this which was determined by population numbers.

The following projects were successful at the 'You Decide' events and received the following grants:

<b>SMALL COMMUNITY CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND – ALLOCATIONS 2010/11</b>			
<b>Organisation</b>		<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Grant Allocated (£)</b>
<b>DOVER WEST NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM*</b>			
	Alkham Valley Community Project	Upgraded hand washing facilities	£1,930
	Capel-le-Ferne Parish Council	Footpath from Village Hall to Primary School	£2,500
	Capel-le-Ferne Village Hall	Replacement floor	£2,500
	River Parish Council	New public seating	£2,500

	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£9,430</b>
<b>DOVER NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM</b>			
	Betteshanger Social Club and Community Centre	Replace ceiling and lighting to community room	£1,270
	East Langdon Parish Hall	Hall and car park security lighting project	£1,700
	Guston Parish Council	Guston Village Recreation Park	£1,729
	Nonington Cricket Club (Colts Section)	Tennis ball machine	£998
	St Margaret's Community Project	Pony Seesaw play equipment for St Margaret's	£1,771
	The Church of St Peter, Aylesham	Restoration of the community floor space	£2,500
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£9,968</b>
<b>DOVER TOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM</b>			
	Brambley Hedge Children's Centre Charity Limited	Replacement windows	£2,500
	Clarendon and Westbury Community Association	Renovation and refurbishment of hall	£2,500
	Curzon Hall Community Centre	Memorial area	£1,900
	Dover Gymnastics Club	Club improvements	£1,525
	Folkestone Film Factory	Freedayz Film Festival: purchase of a portable screen	£1,316
	Kids Out Playing Safely (KOPS)	Cook for KOPS	£300
	London Road Community Forum	Empty Shop Project	£650
	Nosh and Natter Community Café	Kitchen equipment	£569
	Skillnet Group Community Interest Company	Workshop equipment	£2,345
	Soundview Studio	Electrical installation and security cameras	£1,650
	Triangles Community Centre	St Rads TLC Café and Gardens	£691
	St Radigunds Children's Club	Sports and art equipment	£535
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£16,481</b>
<b>DEAL &amp; WALMER NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM</b>			
	Age Concern Deal Centre for the Retired	Disabled unisex toilet	£2,500
	Deal & Betteshanger Rugby Football Club	Security goal nets	£2,500
	Deal & Walmer Allotment Association	Security improvements	£2,500
	Deal Community First	Dedicated response vehicle	£2,500

	Responders		
	Deal Museum Trust	Repair and restoration of artefacts and display items	£2,500
	North Deal Community Partnership	Two bridges for North Deal	£2,462
	Walmer Baptist Church	Kids Kingdom	£631
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£15,593</b>
<b>SANDWICH AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM</b>			
	Ash Heritage Group	Electrical fittings for dehumidifiers and computers	£2,500
	Ash Parish Council	Portable generator for Ash sports clubs	£947
	Phoenix Youth Forum	Installation of environmentally friendly technologies	£581
	Sholden Parish Council	New notice boards	£1,400
	Staple Parochial Church Council	Redecoration of Staple Church	£2,000
	Walmer Cricket Club	Purchase of bowling machine	£2,500
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£9,928</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>£61,400.00</b>

\* Due to the number of applications received not exceeding the total amount of funding available, there was not a 'You Decide' event in Dover West in 2010. Instead all eligible projects that applied for funding were successful.

### ➔ *Local Schemes Grants*

2010/11 saw the continuation of the County Council funding stream known as the Local Schemes Grant. Countywide the grant had just under £400,000 to allocate to revenue and minor capital projects.

Both Individual KCC Members and members of the community (via You Decide) put forward recommended projects and a list of collective projects was presented to the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Localism and Partnerships, Mr Alex King to make the decision.

A summary of successful projects are listed below:

<b>Name of Applicant</b>	<b>Title of Project &amp; summary if required</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
5 A Side Fun	5 A Side Fun	£1,350
Age Concern Deal Centre for the Retired	Park Street Centre modernisation	£3,000
Aylesham Carnival Association	Aylesham Carnival 2011	£2,000
Carers' Support – Dover District and	Building of new website	£1,000

Name of Applicant	Title of Project & summary if required	Amount Awarded
Thanet		
Castle Forum	Projector and multi-media trolley	£500
Clarendon & Westbury Community Association	Kitchen refurbishment	£3,000
CorDomus	Child Contact Centre	£750
Deal Festival of Music and the Arts	Education and Outreach Manager	£3,000
Dover Community Radio	Radio and internet broadcast	£2,921
Dover District Council	Refurbishment of two Art Deco shelters on Deal Promenade	£10,000
Elvington Youth Club	Step Up Club (for 11-13 year olds)	£1,000
Friends of Poulders Play Area	Saving Poulders Play Area	£4,771
Hougham -Without Parish Council	Energy Buster	£1,750
Kent Miners Festival	Kent Miners Festival 2011	£1,792
Kent Miners Festival	Kent Miners Festival 2011	£801
Lydden Parish Council	Restoration of St Mary's Church flint wall	£3,000
Nonington Dolphin's Young People's Club	'Island and Ships'	£3,000
Pegasus Playscheme	Activities 2011	£2,500
River Parish Council	River Bowls Club, Retainer Wall	£2,024
Sandwich Community Lights Committee	LED Festive Lighting, Sandwich Town	£5,000
Skillnet	Community Building in Dover	£3,000
Soundview Studio	Planning permission and related costs	£2,000
Temple Ewell Parish Council	Fencing for King George V Playing Field	£3,000
The Ark	Family Feast	£1,851
Triangles Community Centre	Improve St Rads	£2,420
Trustees of Aylesham Youth Club	Aylesham Holiday Activities	£2,970
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£68,400</b>

### ➤ **KCC Member Community Grants**

Each KCC Member can recommend grants from their allowance of £10,000 to be spent on local community initiatives or projects. Cllrs Kit Smith, Julie Rook and Steve Manion also added their available member community grant to the 'You Decide' pot of funding for their respective areas. A summary for each Member is shown in **Appendix 2**. The type of project supported in 2010/11 varied greatly and included: funding play equipment, heating systems for community buildings, trees and shrubs for public open spaces, woodland clearing projects, supporting a work skills fair for young people, providing music lessons for children from areas of high deprivation and helping young adults with learning difficulties become better engaged with their communities.

## ➤ Conclusion and the Way Forward

The Neighbourhood Forums have improved community engagement in the district and whilst we wish to build on this we have to acknowledge that forthcoming budget cuts at all levels of local government will mean we will need to rethink how we engage with the community. Therefore in addition to public meetings we need to investigate other forms of community engagement such as social networking. It is imperative to move with the times whilst remaining responsive to public need.

Community engagement remains the focus of the forums and by holding events such as 'You Decide' we are hoping to give local people the opportunity to make important decisions about where funding is spent in their area. These events have been a success and we would like to build on these in the future.

## ➤ Tell us what YOU thought

We want to find out what you thought about the neighbourhood forum meetings you have attended, so that we can improve how we involve local people and communities in the decisions which affect them. Please send any comments you would like to make to the KCC Community Engagement Manager for your Forum or e-mail:

[neighbourhoodforums@dover.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodforums@dover.gov.uk)

### Contact details:

- **Emma Carey**, Community Engagement Manager, Tel: 07850 924247, Email: [emma.carey@kent.gov.uk](mailto:emma.carey@kent.gov.uk)
- **Anne Charman**, Community Engagement Manager (Sandwich Area only), Tel: 01622 696389; E-mail: [anne.charman@kent.gov.uk](mailto:anne.charman@kent.gov.uk)

## Appendix 1 Kent County Council



**Bryan Cope**  
Dover West  
Conservative



**Kit Smith**  
Deal & Walmer  
Conservative



**Steve Manion**  
Dover North  
Conservative



**Julie Rook**  
Deal & Walmer  
Conservative



**Gordon Cowan**  
Dover Town  
Labour



**Nigel Collor**  
Dover Town  
Conservative



**Leyland Ridings**  
Sandwich Area  
Conservative



**Dover District Council**



**Adrian Friend**  
Deal & Walmer  
Conservative



**Trevor Bond**  
Deal & Walmer  
Conservative



**David Lloyd-Jones**  
Dover North  
Conservative



**Kevin Mills**  
Dover Town  
Labour



**Marion Munt**  
Dover Town  
Labour



**Jennifer Record**  
Dover West  
Conservative



**Sue Chandler**  
Sandwich Area  
Conservative





➤ **Nigel Collor**

Projects	£
354(Dover) Squadron – Aviation Training Made Easy	£2,321
Astor College for the Arts – Boxercise Club	£750
Dover & District Club for the Blind – Social Support	£1,000
Dover Pageant Society – 2011 Dover Film Festival	£300
Dover Pride Regeneration Partnership – From A to B	£500
Dover Youth Theatre Project – ‘From Film and Footlights’	£1,500
Nosh and Natter Community Café Project – Nosh and Natter Ltd	£500
St Radigunds Street Dance – St Radigunds Street Dance Uniform	£575
The Ark - Community Fun Day	£1,250
The Ark Dover – Christmas Family Feast	£244
The LA Music Club – The LA Music Club Insurance and Administration Project	£500
Western Heights Preservation Society – Interpretation/Advertising Board	£560
	<b>£10,000</b>

➤ **Bryan Cope**

Alkham Valley Community Project – Hand washing facilities	£505
Dover Water Sports Centre – Community Youth Sailing	£2,895
East Kent Business Partnership - Kent Marine Festival 2010	£1,000
Shepherdswell with Coldred Parish Council - Disabled Access to Meadow View Land	£600
Wootton and Denton Cricket Club - Refurbishment of cricket pavilion	£5,000
	<b>£10,000</b>

➤ **Gordon Cowan**

Brambley Hedge Children's Centre – Giant Steps for the soft play area	£890
Buckland Residents Association – Heating System for main hall	£3,000
Dover War Memorial Project – Printing of newsletter	£1,000
St Radigunds Community Centre Company Ltd – Warm and welcoming	£3,110
White Cliffs Primary College for the Arts - Musical Experience for underprivileged children	£2,000
	<b>£10,000</b>

➤ **Steve Manion**

Aylesham Ladies Choir - Aylesham Ladies Choir set up costs	£1,000
Kent Miners Festival – Kent Miners Festival 2011	£2,199
Skillnet – Community Building in Dover North	£2,420
St Margaret's Community Project – Play Area	£2,989
Tilmanstone Village Hall Committee – Kitchen Improvements	£1,392
	<b>£10,000</b>

### ➤ Leyland Ridings

10th Deal (Eastry) Scout Group – Replacing Minibus	£1,000
Community Action Group, Sandwich Technology School - Sandwich Environment & Woodland Project	£500
Dover Grammar School for Girls – Community Courses	£2,000
Eastry Cricket Club – Re-thatching of cricket pavilion	£1,000
EBP Kent – Business of Enterprise	£500
Educational Project Management – Skills Fair	£600
Sandwich Community Lights Committee - Sandwich Christmas Lights	£1,000
Sandwich -Honfleur Twinning Association – Le Weekend	£500
Sandwich Junior School - Bill Chesterfield Commemorative Plaque	£500
Sandwich Town Council - Improvement of lighting on Sandwich Guildhall Forecourt	£2,000
Workers of Art – Poetry City	£200
Workers of Art CIC – The Kent 2012 Schools Torch Project	£200
	<b>£10,000</b>

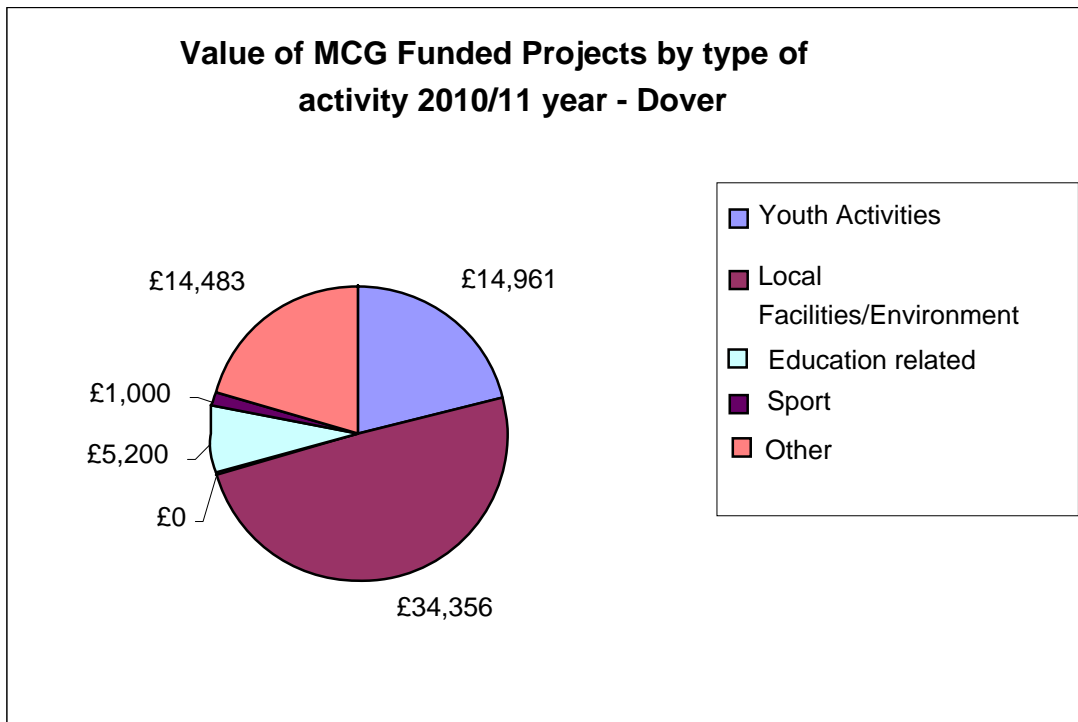
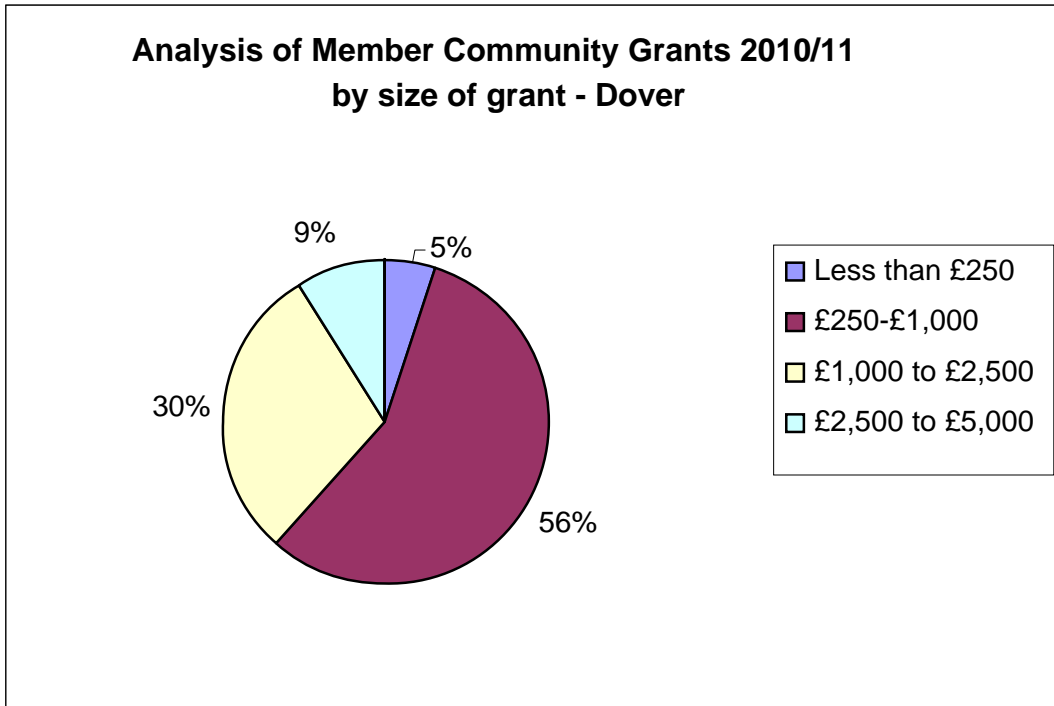
### ➤ Julie Rook

'Deal With It' - Transition Deal	£850
Betteshanger Social Club & Community – Car Park and Entrance Improvements	£1,500
Deal Community First Responders – Response Vehicle Project	£1,500
Kent Miners Festival – Kent Miners Festival 2011	£604
North Deal Community Partnership – More Trees Please	£915
Pegasus Playscheme – Activities 2011	£1,500
Prostate Cancer Support Association – Prostate Cancer Support in Kent	£1,000
Skillnet – Community Building in Deal & Walmer	£1,500
Walmer Baptist Church – Toilet Refurbishment	£631
	<b>£10,000</b>

### ➤ Kit Smith

'Deal With It' - Transition Deal	£850
Betteshanger Social Club & Community – Car Park and Entrance	£1,500
Deal Community First Responders – Response Vehicle Project	£1,500
Kent Miners Festival – Kent Miners Festival 2011	£604
North Deal Community Partnership – More Trees Please	£915
Pegasus Playscheme – Activities 2011	£1,500
Prostate Cancer Support Association – Prostate Cancer Support in Kent	£1,000
Skillnet – Community Building in Deal & Walmer	£1,500
Walmer Baptist Church – Toilet Refurbishment	£631
	<b>£10,000</b>

## Breakdown of Member Community Grants in Dover 2010/11



**Value of MCG Funded Projects by Recipient  
2010/11 year - Dover**

