

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Decision Report**

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
Date:	14 May 2012
Title:	Community Buildings Fund 2012/13
Reference:	3827
Report From:	Director of Culture, communities and Business Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The County Council provides partnership funding from the Community Buildings Fund for capital projects to Community Associations, Village Hall Trusts and similar bodies as outlined in the fund's criteria. This enables the voluntary and community sector to maintain the quality of Hampshire's cultural assets, namely Community Centres and Village Halls, some of which are listed.
- 1.2 This report provides details of the financial position of the Community Buildings Fund in 2012/13 and details requests for partnership funding from this fund.

2. Applications considered in this report:

Hall/ Centre	District	£
Bursledon Village Hall Charitable Trust	Eastleigh	12,500
Monxton and Aport Village Hall Trust	Test Valley	3,600
TOTAL		16,100

3. Contextual Information:

- 3.1 The County Council works in partnership with specific community organisations, particularly Community Associations and Village Hall Trusts who seek to enable local people to meet the recreational, educational, social, cultural and environmental needs of their local communities. These organisations give local people an opportunity to participate in local activities and encourage local initiatives by people of all ages.
- 3.2 Partnership funding from the Community Buildings Fund enables the voluntary and community sector to maintain the quality of Hampshire's cultural assets, namely their Village Halls and Community Association buildings, some of which are listed. This finance enables improvements to be made to those buildings and can assist with the development of new facilities where appropriate. The provision of these buildings by the voluntary and community sector enable local communities to access the services and facilities they need.
- 3.3 By providing financial support to these organisations for the maintenance of their buildings the County Council is able to work in partnership with the community sector to achieve the Corporate Priority – Enhancing our Quality of Place.

4. Budget Position:

- 4.1 A sum of £125,000 has been set aside in the 2012/13 capital programme for Culture, Communities and Business Services to support the Community Buildings Fund.
- 4.2 To date no money has been allocated this year. If the recommendations in this report, which amount to £16,100, are approved then £108,900 will remain.

5. Criteria for Grant:

- 5.1 The partnership funding distribution criteria is set out in Appendix 1.
- 5.2 Projects listed in Appendix 2 meet fully the criteria and have been allocated a proposed level of partnership funding in line with the criteria.

6. Other Considerations

- 6.1 Legal Implications

The Council has wide powers under Section 19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to provide recreational facilities and to contribute by way of grant or loan towards expenses incurred by voluntary bodies in providing such facilities.

6.2 Impact Assessment

Organisations applying to this scheme are by their nature defined as accessible to all members of the community. This is embodied within their charitable objects, therefore no groups or organisations should be excluded from any benefit arising from these decisions. Furthermore the application procedure includes equalities monitoring information as agreed as part of the corporate review of grants programmes and procedures.

7. Recommendations:

7.1 That partnership funding totalling £16,100 as listed below be approved for allocation from the Community Buildings Fund for 2012/13

Hall/ Centre	District	£
Bursledon Village Hall Charitable Trust	Eastleigh	12,500
Monxton and Ampport Village Hall Trust	Test Valley	3,600
TOTAL		16,100

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	No
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document**Location**

Applications for financial assistance

Community Support Service
 Department for Culture, Communities
 and Business Services
 Mottisfont Court, Winchester

Criteria for these grants

The partnership funding distribution criteria for the Community Buildings Fund is as follows:

Partnership funding is granted for:

- Building repairs, extensions and refurbishments
- Health and safety issues
- Equipment to improve the buildings and increase usage
- Feasibility studies

Who can apply:

- Village Halls (not parish run halls)
- Community Associations
- Church organisations that have a separate community programme on their property

Funding criteria:

- For projects costing less than £15,000, the funding criteria is up to one third of the cost.
 - . A minimum project cost of £3,000 applies

- For projects costing more than £15,000, the grant is calculated at

50% of funding from sources other than the organisations own funding up to a maximum of 25% of the project costs or £12,500, whichever is the lesser.

Priority Criteria:

1. Health and safety issues that could result in the building being closed or activities seriously curtailed if the work is not carried out.
2. The work is absolutely essential in order to meet the terms of the Disability Discrimination Act. (It has been widely publicised that These types of buildings will not be closed provided reasonable steps have been taken to meet the terms of the Act)
3. The project is part of a phased development and this element is essential to it's overall completion.
4. Non priority work.

Name	Bursledon Village Hall Charitable Trust
Consultation	The local member, Councillor House, has been informed
Project	New roof and Projection/ lighting/ sound box
Cost	£110,838
General Reserves	£19,000
Project Reserves	£20,000
Statement	The current roof of the Village hall is nearing the end of it's serviceable life. The trustees wish to re-roof the building to ensure a dry and secure building and improve energy efficiency. The new roof will also mean they are able to install a new projection/lighting/sound box which will encourage further use of the hall and improve the productions that take place.
Partnership Funding	£36,000 Veolia
Recommendation	Up to £12,500 as up to 50% of funding from sources other than the applicants own to a maximum of £12,500

Name	Monxton and Ampport Village Hall Trust
Consultation	The local member, Councillor West, has been informed
Project	New Disabled Toilet and Access Ramp
Cost	£10,800
General Reserves	£10,000
Project Reserves	£3,000
Statement	There is currently no disabled toilet facility within this local village hall and access is very difficult. By installing a disabled toilet and putting in an access ramp, the committee are ensuring the hall is available for use by all.
Partnership Funding	£None
Recommendation	Up to £3,600 as one third of the project costs.