

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Decision Report**

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
Date:	6 July 2012
Title:	Community Buildings Fund 2012/13
Reference:	4033
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	£
Appleshaw Village Hall Trust	Test Valley	4,158
Brookvale Community Association	BDBC	6,250
Catherington Village Hall Trust	EHDC	2,613
Chilbolton Village Hall Trust	Test Valley	1,329
North Baddesley Village Hall Trust	Test Valley	1,674
TOTAL		16,024

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. To date £16,100 has been allocated this year. This leaves an unallocated amount to date of £108,900 and if the recommendations in this report, which amount to £16,024 are approved then £92,876 will be available for the rest of the year.

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:

That partnership funding totalling £16,024 as listed below be approved for allocation from the Community Buildings Fund for 2012/13

Hall/ Centre	District	£
Appleshaw Village Hall Trust	Test Valley	4,158
Brookvale Community Association	BDBC	6,250
Catherington Village Hall Trust	EHDC	2,613
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TOTAL		16,024

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
Castle Avenue , 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	Appleshaw Village Hall Trust
Consultation	Cllr Mrs P.A. West has been consulted
Project	Replacement of hall heating
Cost	£22,177
General Reserves	£11,413
Project Reserves	£8,000
Statement	The current heating system is reaching the end of its useful life and we wish to replace with an environmentally sustainable system.
Partnership Funding	Test Valley Borough Council £8316
Recommendation	£4,158 as 50% of the funding from sources other than their own up to a maximum of £12,500

Name	Brookvale Community Association
Consultation	Cllr R Hussey has been consulted
Project	Upgrade kitchen and toilet facilities
Cost	£25,000
General Reserves	£15,000
Project Reserves	£6,250
Statement	The hall was built in 1983 and needs upgrading to meet the needs of a large increase in population of Brookvale.
Partnership Funding	S106 - £12,500
Recommendation	£6,250 as 50% of the funding from sources other than their own up to a maximum of £12,500

Name	Catherington Village Hall Trust
Consultation	Cllr S Darragh has been consulted and is happy with the recommendation
Project	Repairs to roof
Cost	£7,840
General Reserves	£5000
Project Reserves	£1000
Statement	The roof has been repaired twice in the last two years, however it needs to be replaced as it is now in a dangerous condition.
Partnership Funding	Horndean Parish Council £1,000
Recommendation	Up to £2,613 as 1/3 rd of the project cost

Name	Chilbolton Village Hall Trust
Consultation	Cllr A Gibson has been consulted
Project	Maintenance of the main hall floor
Cost	£3,988
General Reserves	£10,000
Project Reserves	£2,000
Statement	The hall floor is overdue for attention and needs sanding and resealing
Partnership Funding	Non
Recommendation	Up to £1,329 as 1/3 rd of the project cost

Name	North Baddesley Village Hall Trust
Consultation	Cllr A G Dowden has been consulted and supports this offer of grant aid.
Project	Replace central heating system
Cost	£5,022.12
General Reserves	£6,600
Project Reserves	
Statement	The present boiler is 20 years old and is causing problems
Partnership Funding	Alan Dowden Community Fund £1,000 North Baddesley Parish Council £500 Test Valley Borough Council £800
Recommendation	Up to £1,674 as 1/3 rd of the project costs