

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
Date:	7 March 2013
Title:	Community Buildings Fund 2012/13
Reference:	4700
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

Contact name: Alison Angell

Tel: 01962 845379

Email: Alison.angell@hants.gov.uk

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 community centres and village halls.
- 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	£
Cross Barn, Odiham	Hart	12,500
St Pauls Church and Community Centre, Andover	Test Valley	12,500
Titchfield Festival Theatre	Fareham	0
Hampshire Astronomical Group	East Hants	0
St Mary's Church, Copythorne	New Forest	0
TOTAL		25,000

3. Contextual Information:

- 3.1 The County Council works in partnership with specific community organisations, particularly Community Associations and Village Hall Trusts which 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 village halls and Community Association buildings. 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. A further £25,000 has been allocated from the rural fund for this programme. Therefore the total funding set aside for this programme is £150,000. To date £109,909 has been allocated this year. This leaves an unallocated amount to date of £40,091 and if the recommendations in this report, which amount to £25,000 are approved then £15,091 will remain.

5. Criteria for Grant:

- 5.1 The partnership funding distribution criteria is set out in Appendix 1.
- 5.2 Five projects have been put forward for a grant and, of these, two meet the criteria and three do not, as set out in Appendix 2.

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.

7. Recommendations:

That partnership funding totalling £25,000 as listed below be approved for allocation from the Community Buildings Fund for 2012/13.

Hall/ Centre	District	£
Cross Barn, Odiham	Hart	12,500
St Pauls Church and Community Centre, Andover	Test Valley	12,500
Titchfield Festival Theatre	Fareham	0
Hampshire Astronomical Group	East Hants	0
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TOTAL		25,000

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 its overall completion.
4. Non priority work.

Name	Cross Barn Odiham
Consultation	Cllr J Glenn has been consulted
Project	Development of a new store
Statement	The trustees wish to ensure the barn is open to all the community. Due to lack of storage parent and toddler groups are currently unable to leave their toys in storage. It is also intended that The Barn should be used by local youth groups who also require storage
Cost	£54,241
Amount organisation has for project	£8,000
Funding from other sources	Hart DC £15,000 Parish Council £5,000 not confirmed Leader £18,000 not confirmed
Recommendation	£12,500 as 50% of funding from other sources up to a maximum of £12,500

Name	St Pauls Church and Community Centre
Consultation	Cllr P Mutton has approved the community grant for St Paul's Church and Community. It is a well used Church for all the community.
Project	Creation of 3 new rooms for community use by expanding the balcony area of St Pauls
Statement	This project will provide 1 large room and 2 smaller ones and will meet fire regulations enabling the public to use this space. Consultation has taken place with current users and potential future users. This project will improve our ability to work with a full range of people and organisations across the community spectrum.
Cost	£80,000
Amount organisation has for project	£11,000
Funding from other sources	All Churches Trust £37,500(to be confirmed) Church and Community fund £10,000 (to be confirmed) Parent organisation £9,000
Recommendation	£12,500 as 50% of funding from other sources up to a maximum of £12,500

Name	St Marys Church, Copythorne
Consultation	Cllr E Heron has been consulted
Project	Urgent repairs to the church roof.
Statement	A large area of six communities make up the parish of Copythorne with a population of approximately 4000. There are two Church schools within the boundary who both use the Church for exhibitions, meetings, services and plays. In addition there is a very large scouting group alongside who also use the Church and its facilities. Community events are also held which are open to all in addition to the full religious calendar.
Cost	£80,040.00
Amount organisation has for project	£18,000
Funding from other sources	Parish Council £250 (Confirmed) Viridor Credits £30,000 (Confirmed) Paultons Park £8000 (Confirmed) All Churches Trust £1,400 (Confirmed)
Recommendation	£0 as this project does not meet the grant criteria. The Church provides a very limited amount of community activities to inhabitants of Copythorne, most of which have religious connotations.

Name	Titchfield Festival Theatre
Consultation	Cllr G Hockley has been consulted.
Project	Installation of insulated walls and renewable energy source including solar panels and heat sink pumps and heaters.
Statement	The project will install new insulated walls in a large factory building giving extra space for other community activities as well as space for the theatre to expand. The project will replace old outdated heaters with renewable energy sources and advanced new heaters. It has no insulation and the current heaters are outdated and energy inefficient. New insulated walls will be installed sub-dividing the unit to give more rooms for community activities. (such as marshal arts classes, sewing circle, dance groups, and music rehearsal rooms for a the community choir and for our Youth Theatre group) hot and cold air approx cost £20,000)These in turn will be powered The current heaters will be replaced by heat sink pumps and new air conditioning /heater blowers. (air conditioning units blowing by solar panels on the roof of the south facing part of the building.(approx cost 10kw -

	£20,000)
Cost	£60,000
Amount organisation has for project	£10,000
Funding from other sources	Big Lottery £10,000 (to be confirmed) Sainsburys Family Charitable Trust £20,000 (to be confirmed) The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust £20,000 (to be confirmed) Box Office £5,000 (to be confirmed)
Recommendation	£0 This organisation does not meet the grant criteria and eligibility as it is an organisation with an individual purpose.

Name	Hampshire Astronomical Group
Consultation	Cllr J West has been consulted
Project	Replacement of telescope to allow improved access
Statement	The telescope is housed at Clanfield Observatory and can only be used by climbing stepladders. The funding is requested for a new telescope that has an eye piece at 'head height'
Cost	£77,000
Amount organisation has for project	£15,000
Funding from other sources	Southdowns National Park £20,000 (to be confirmed) University of Portsmouth £5,000 (to be confirmed) Donations £27,000
Recommendation	£0 This organisation does not meet the scheme criteria.