

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside
<b>Date:</b>	14 September 2015
<b>Title:</b>	Community Buildings Capital Fund 2015/16 (requests for £15,000 and under)
<b>Reference:</b>	6875
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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#### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside for £55,855 from the Community Buildings Capital Fund 2015/16.

#### 2. Summary of grants:

- 2.1 Community Buildings Capital Fund 2015/16 applications

Organisation	District	£
Appleshaw Village Hall	Test Valley	£5,000
Braishfield Village Hall	Test Valley	£15,000
Bullington Parish Hall	Winchester	£3,960
Bursledon Village Hall	Fareham	£0
Denmead Community Association	Winchester	£4,975
Horndean Community Association	East Hampshire	£11,290

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>£</b>
Ibsley Village Hall	New Forest	£6,000
Micheldever Station	Winchester	£0
Mottisfont Village Hall	Test Valley	£2,130
Portchester and District Community Association CIO	Fareham	£0
South Wonston Village Hall	Winchester	£7,500
The Parish of the Resurrection	East Hampshire	£0
<b>Total</b>		<b>£55,855</b>

### **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 Capital 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. Details of the grant criteria are set out in Appendix 1.
- 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.
- 3.4 Twelve organisations have applied for 2015/16 funding and details are set out in Appendix 2.

**4. Budget Position**

**4.1 2015/16**

Budget approval for 2015/16	125,000
Carry forward from 2014/15	5,984
Grants awarded to date (5 March 2015, 16 July 2015)	68,195
Grants recommended for approval 14 September 2015 (grants of £15,000 and under in this report)	55,855
Plus £35,000 transfer from revenue grants (see Agenda Item 4)	+ 35,000
Remaining balance available	41,934

**5. Other Considerations**

- 5.1 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 a grant or loan towards the expenses incurred by voluntary bodies in providing such facilities and activities.

**6. Recommendations**

- 6.1 That the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside:
- i) Approves grants for £55,855 from the Community Buildings Capital Fund 2015/16.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	

**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.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

1.1. The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

**Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:**

- a) The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- c) Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **1.2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

A high level Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken. The grants are intended to have a positive impact and advance equality.

### **1. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

2.1 Not applicable.

### **3. Climate Change:**

a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

Not applicable.

b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

Not applicable.

## Appendix 1

### Community Buildings Capital Fund

#### What is funded?

The Community Buildings Capital Fund supports capital based projects including refurbishment and improvement of Hampshire community centres, village halls and charitable and voluntary organisations (which offer a full and varied open access community programme).

Hampshire County Council can fund up to a maximum of 50% of the total project costs not exceeding a maximum grant of £15,000.

As a one-off opportunity, the County Council has set aside £1m from the Capital Programme for a programme of significant improvements to community centres and village halls. If you wish to apply for a larger grant of over £25,000, it is also anticipated that a small number of grants of up to £150,000 will be awarded for projects valued at £50,000 and over which substantially improve the building to increase usage or which enable the joint use of a building by the merger of two or more community organisations. Projects should be well developed, ideally with planning permission in place, and organisations should also apply for funding from their local borough or district council, where available. This budget has been added to the existing Community Buildings Capital Fund and will be granted to projects meeting the criteria below taking place in the financial year of 2016/17 (and 2017/18 if appropriate). **There is a different application process for these larger proposals.**

The aim of this funding programme is to focus primarily on projects which provide improvements that reduce running costs. By way of example at one end of the scale, the installation of insulation, new windows and a modern central heating system could have a significant effect on heating costs as well as carbon footprint. At the other end of the scale would be the merging of two self-standing facilities into one. An example could be the building of an extension onto an existing centre to accommodate the needs of other local community groups which were previously housed in an old, inadequate building with very high maintenance and heating bills.

The programme is not designed to be over prescriptive and developed innovative ideas for projects are encouraged.

#### What isn't funded?

The following organisations are not funded under this scheme:

- Parish Councils
- Other local authorities
- Groups and organisations whose main priority is of an individual focus or single use i.e. playgroup, lunch clubs or youth groups
- Uniformed organisations
- School properties
- Sports clubs
- Theatres

The following projects are not funded under this scheme:

- The purchase of land.
- Equipment not directly attributable to the building i.e. we will fund fitted kitchen equipment and sound systems, but would not fund a television or hi-fi system. We will also not fund equipment intended for the use of a separate trading arm or commercial organisation using the premises.
- Capital works that have already been carried out. We cannot retrospectively fund projects, grants are awarded for works to be carried out in the future.

Organisations will not normally be awarded more than one grant per financial year (previously funded projects must be completed before a new application is made). If an organisation requires an emergency request outside of the above dates please contact [CCBSgrants@hants.gov.uk](mailto:CCBSgrants@hants.gov.uk).

### Grant criteria and eligibility

The Community Buildings Capital Fund is open to the following community based organisations who benefit a local community/local communities in Hampshire, support the priorities and outcomes of Hampshire County Council's [Strategic Plan 2013-17 'Shaping Hampshire: modern, public services for the future'](#) and improve the health and wellbeing for all, improving the quality of life for all, particularly those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged:

- Village halls (not parish-run halls)
- Community associations
- Charitable and voluntary organisations which offer a full and varied open access community programme.

These organisations must be properly constituted with clear and effective local governance and management structures.

Organisations will not normally be eligible for grants where they hold unallocated reserves in excess of one year's running costs. Where it is judged that unallocated reserves are unreasonably in excess of what is required or not allocated for legitimate purposes, those organisations may receive a reduced grant. All charitable organisations are expected to have an agreed reserves policy that addresses their financial risk.

### Grant criteria

Capital based projects must fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Building repairs, extensions and refurbishments
- Capital improvements that reduce running costs
- Health and Safety issues
- Equipment that will become a permanent fixture within the building which improves access and/or increases usage (the exception to this are tables, chairs and storage units which will also be funded)
- Capital based feasibility studies.

Organisations need to demonstrate:

- The provision of open access community programmes/activities from the community building for the benefit of the local community.
- The impact the capital based project will make to the local community, the organisation and wider society (if appropriate).
- The local community have been involved in identifying the need for the project and support it.

Applicants will be expected to have obtained permission from the landlord to undertake the capital work. If required applicants will also be expected to have obtained (or engaged in the process of) planning permission and/or listed buildings consent (if appropriate) to carry out the works.

Where appropriate, depending on the grant sum requested, the organisation will be expected to submit supporting documentation. All documentation will be used, alongside the application form, to assess against the grant criteria.

**Community Buildings Capital Fund 2015/16  
Application assessment summary**

Each grant application has been assessed against the Community Buildings Capital Fund criteria (Appendix 1) using a standard template.

**Project funding requests**

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount recommended capital fund 2015/16
Appleshaw Village Hall Charity  (Test Valley / Andover West)	Upgrade heating system  (£29,266.14)	<p>The organisation requests funding for the upgrading of their heating system including new boiler, installation of radiators. It also plans to redecorate the entrance and main hall. It offers and hosts activities to a range of age groups including children and older people.</p> <p>The organisation has committed £5,000 of its own funds to the project and has applied to Test Valley Borough Council for £14,000 (awaiting outcome). The organisation has 24 months running costs as reserves (£19,830 approx.). 2,650 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The organisation was awarded £4,158 Community building Capital Fund 2012/13 (decision day: 06/07/2012) but subsequently withdrew their application and did not take up the award.</p> <p>Councillor Brooks supports the application</p> <p><b>Due to high levels of reserves, it is recommended Appleshaw Village Hall Charity is partially supported and awarded 17% of project costs to a maximum of £5,000.</b></p>	£10,266.14	£5,000
Braishfield Village Hall  (Test Valley / Baddesley)	Refurbishment  (£35,000)	<p>The organisation requests funding to connect the main building to the Village Shop extension (part funded by the County Council), improve disability access, and refurbish the kitchen and community room. The hall is used by a wide range of groups, including young and older people, and specialist groups such as young carers, though there is scope to increase this and it is hoped increased footfall with the Village Shop will lead to this happening. Questionnaires have been carried out locally which provided support for the proposed improvements.</p> <p>The organisation has committed £15,000 of its own funds to the project and has applied to Braishfield Parish Council for £2,000 (awaiting outcome). Test Valley Borough Council provided £25,000 to the Village Shop extension.</p> <p>The application was missing some requested attachments and these would need to be submitted if an award is made.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The organisation was awarded £20,000 Village Community Grant (part of Economic Development) for the creation of a Village Shop on site (decision day:</p>	£15,000	£15,000

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount recommended capital fund 2015/16
		30/06/2015) Councillor Dowden has been consulted. <b>It is recommended Braishfield Village Hall is awarded 43% of project costs to a maximum of £15,000 on condition that it submits a Business Plan, evidence of Public Liability Insurance and that it develops and adopts Safeguarding Policies and a Reserves Policy. These missing items are to be returned with the signed acceptance of grant form.</b>		
Bullington Parish Hall  (Test Valley / Test Valley Central)	Reroofing  (£7,920.24)	The organisation requests funding to replace the existing roof which is no longer fit for purpose. The hall is used monthly for an older people's lunch and also for other social and community activities. Rates of use are very low (15-30 days use for bookings over the last three years), but this reflects the low population (101) and isolation of the village. Without repair to the roof the hall will not be usable. The organisation has 50 months reserves, but this equates to only £4,000. It has recently installed double glazing which was funded through local fundraising efforts. It has requested 50% of this project costs from the County Council and the remaining 50% from Test Valley Borough Council (decision due in October). Councillor Gibson supports this application. <b>It is recommended Bullington Parish Hall is awarded 50% of project costs to a maximum of £3,960.</b>	£3,960.24	£3,960
Bursledon Village Hall  (Fareham/ Fareham Warsash)	Exterior Wall Repair  (£14,891.60)	The organisation requests funding for the repair of an external wall. This is a retrospective application for work carried out in May/June 2015 and as such does not meet eligibility criteria for this scheme. <u>Note:</u> The organisation was awarded £4,720 Community Building Capital Fund 13-14 (decision date: 20/01/2014) towards new gas boilers. Councillor Evans has been consulted. <b>As this is a retrospective application and therefore does not meet eligibility criteria, it is recommended the application is not supported.</b>	£7,445.60	£0
Denmead Community Association  (Winchester/ Winchester Southern)	Programme of Refurbishment  (£9,950)	The organisation requests funding towards external decoration of the building, including new fascias and guttering, painting and replacement of rotten wooden cladding. This is part of a planned programme of maintenance and refurbishment works agreed with users and members. The organisation is a well established Community Association providing a wide range of activities and services through its community programmes. If these improvements are not made, there are concerns existing users will decide to leave. 7,000 Hampshire Residents are expected to benefit.	£4,975	£4,975

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount recommended capital fund 2015/16
Parishes)		<p>Note: The organisation was awarded £4,290 Community Building Capital Fund 13-14 (decision date: 06/03/2014) towards refurbishment. The organisation is also in receipt of Community Investment Fund support. It was awarded £1,925 in 2015/16 and £1,985 in 2014/15 (decision days: 04/12/2014, 04/12/2013). Councillor Stallard supports the application <b>It is recommended Denmead Community Association is awarded 50% of project costs to a maximum of £4,975.</b></p>		
Horndean Community Association  (East Hampshire / Catherington)	Building Works  (£33,859)	<p>The organisation requests funding towards a programme of refurbishment including repairs to main building roof and chimney, internal and external fire doors, refurbishment of toilets, roof and door repairs to an outbuilding and repairs to garden wall. Work is due to begin in October and to take six months to complete. The organisation is a large Community Association providing a high number of targeted community services as well as social and recreation opportunities. The organisation has committed £13,573 of its own funds to the project and has applied to East Hampshire District Council for £9,000 (awaiting decision.) 3,000 Hampshire Residents are expected to benefit. Note: The organisation plans to submit an Expression of Interest to the Large Capital Building Fund (up to £150,000) later this year. It was awarded £5,335 Community Building Capital Fund 14/15 (decision day: 16/09/2014) towards refurbishment costs. The organisation is also in receipt of Community Investment Fund support. It was awarded £8,990 in 2015/16 and £9,275 in 2014/15 (decision days: 04/12/2014, 04/12/2013). Councillor Harvey fully supports the application <b>It is recommended Horndean Community Association is awarded 34% of project costs to a maximum of £11,290.</b></p>	£11,286	£11,290
Ibsley Village Hall  (New Forest/ Fordingbridge)	Car Park and Access Improvements  (£12,000)	<p>The organisation requests funding to surface their car park and install kerbs to improve access. The current car park is of mixed surface and prone to large puddles due to unevenness and complaints from users reflect this. The organisation has committed £6,000 of its own funds and has tried to get funding to support the project from four other sources including the Parish Council, New Forest Park Authority and two energy trusts. 1,500 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. Councillor Heron has been consulted. <b>It is recommended Ibsley Village Hall is awarded 50% of project costs to a</b></p>	£6,000	£6,000

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount recommended capital fund 2015/16
		<b>maximum of £6,000.</b>		
Micheldever Station Community and Recreation Centre  (Winchester / Itchen Valley)	Installation of 3 Phase Electricity Supply  (£6,000)	The organisation requests funding towards the installation of three phase electricity supply. This is a retrospective application for work carried out in July 2015 and as such does not meet eligibility criteria for this scheme. <i>Note:</i> The organisation was awarded £200,000 Large Community Buildings Capital Fund 2013/14 (decision date: 06/03/2014) to significantly extend and improve the centre. This project is now complete. Councillor Porter was fully supportive of the application despite it being retrospective funding <b>As this is a retrospective application and therefore does not meet eligibility criteria, it is recommended the application is not supported.</b>	£1,000	£0
Mottisfont Village Hall Association  (Test Valley / Test Valley Central)	New Combi-Boiler  (£4,262)	The organisation requests funding towards the installation of a new boiler with work to take place in October 2015. As well as an improved experience for users, this will lead to reduced running costs for the organisation. The organisation has committed £800 of its own funds to the project and hopes to raise £200 through fundraising activities. It is asking for more than the maximum 50% award eligible through this scheme and has not approached any other funders. 500 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. Councillor Gibson supports this application <b>It is recommended Mottisfont Village Hall Association is partially supported and awarded 50% of project costs to a maximum of £2,130.</b>	£3,262  <i>(this is above the maximum % award eligible through this scheme)</i>	£2,130
Portchester and District Community Association CIO  (Fareham / Fareham Portchester)	New Central Heating System and Fire Safety Installation  (£13,734)	The organisation requests funding towards the installation of heating and hot water system and of fire alarms and fire extinguishers in the extension supported by a prior County Council grant of £25,000. Work is planned to take place in October. The organisation has developed a Community Hub on the high street and provides services and activities for a range of local people. The organisation has committed £6,867 of its own funds to the project, but has not approached any other funders for support. <i>Note:</i> The organisation has applied for £3,000 to the Culture and Community Activity Grants 2015/16 (awaiting decision). It was awarded £25,000 Community Building Capital Fund 2014/15 (decision day: 22/07/2014), £999 County Councillor Grant 2014/15 towards art, exercise and history classes/groups (decision day: 02/02/2015). It was unsuccessful in applications of £3,967 to the Children's Services Integrated Grant 2015/16 for a Toy Library as it didn't meet	£6,867	£0

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount recommended capital fund 2015/16
		<p>scheme criteria (decision day: 21/01/2015) and of £9,975 to the Organisational Change Fund 2014/15 as it was similar to a previously funded project (decision day: 16/09/2014).</p> <p>Councillor Price strongly supports this application  <b>Due to significant prior investment, it is recommended this application is not supported.</b></p>		
South Wonston Village Hall  (Winchester / Itchen Valley)	Disabled Toilet  (£15,642)	<p>The organisation seeks funding towards the extension and conversion of a store room into disabled toilets. Work is planned to take place between October and January. The organisation provides a range of activities and letters of support for this work were included with the application. It did not submit a Reserves Policy. The organisation has committed £8,124 of its own funds to the project. 1,000 Hampshire residents and expected to benefit.</p> <p><u>Note:</u> The organisation was awarded £1,000 County Councillor Grants 2013/14 (decision day: 04/10/2013) towards a smaller version of a similar project which has subsequently been redeveloped into the current application.</p> <p>Councillor Bailey fully supports this application  <b>It is recommended South Wonston Village Hall is awarded 48% of project costs to a maximum of £7,500 on condition that it develops and adopts a Reserves Policy. This is to be returned with the signed acceptance of grant form.</b></p>	£7,500	£7,500
The Parish of the Resurrection  (East Hampshire / Alton Town)	Renovation of the Parish Centre  (£32,897)	<p>The organisation requests funding towards a programme of refurbishment including insulation, double glazing, new doors, gas boiler and radiators, internal redecoration and the purchase of new stacking tables. There is very limited eligible community use and the submitted Marketing Plan does not suggest eligible community use will be increased as a result of works. More than half of facility use is church based and there are significant empty periods.</p> <p>The organisation has committed £15,000 of its own funds to the project and secured £3,000 in-kind support through volunteer time. It has applied for more than the budget shortfall.</p> <p>1,500 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit.</p> <p>Councillor Joy strongly supports this application  <b>Due to the limited community programme, it is recommended this application is not supported.</b></p>	£15,000	£0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£92,561.88</b>	<b>£55,855</b>