

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside
Date:	18 April 2016
Title:	Community Buildings Capital Fund 2016/17 (requests for £25,000 and under)
Reference:	7431
Report From:	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 £14,750 from the Community Buildings Capital Fund 2016/17.

2. Summary of grants:

- 2.1 Community Buildings Capital Fund 2016/17 applications

Organisation	District	£
The Meon Hall	Winchester	£14,500
Total		£14,500

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 One organisation has applied for 2016/17 funding and details are set out in Appendix 2.

4. Budget Position

4.1 2016/17

Budget approval for 2016/17	125,000
Carry forward from 2015/16	27,522
Plus £60,000 transfer from revenue grants 2015/16 (see Agenda Item 2)	+ 60,000
Transfer from revenue grants 2016/17 (3rd December 2015)	+ 79,990
Grants recommended for approval 18 April 2016 (grants of £25,000 and under in this report)	14,500
Remaining balance available	278,012

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 £14,500 from the Community Buildings Capital Fund 2016/17.

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):	

Other Significant Links

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

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>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.)</p>	
<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 £25,000.

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 and 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.

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.

Feasibility studies

In order to assist voluntary organisations apply for funds from other sources, Hampshire County Council may support the costs of feasibility studies. Applications will be considered for 50% of the cost of such studies up to a maximum of £500.

**Community Buildings Capital Fund 2016/17
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 2016/17
The Meon Hall (Meon Valley / Winchester)	Replacement of Main Hall and Small Hall Roofs (£73,148)	<p>The organisation seeks funding to urgently replace the leaking, corrugated cement roofs (35 years old) on the main and small halls with modern, better insulated roof sheeting. Asbestos is present in the current roofing, so specialist removal and disposal is required. The organisation hopes to carry this work out in June and July 2016, to minimise disruption to planned community use and activity.</p> <p>The organisation has committed £47,000 of its own funds (including approx. £16k local fundraising already secured) to the project, has secured £900 from Corhampton and Meonstoke Parish Council, and has applied to Winchester City Council (£3,500), Bernard Sunley (£1,500) and Henry Smith (£1,500). It also expects to generate a further £4,000 through local fundraising.</p> <p>736 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit.</p> <p>Councillor Huxstep has been consulted.</p> <p>It is recommended The Meon Hall is awarded 20% of project costs to a maximum of £14,500 on condition that appropriate planning permission is in place, two additional quotes, a business plan and evidence of appropriate insurance are submitted and that the organisation develops a more robust Safeguarding Policy.</p>	£14,500	£14,500
TOTAL			£14,500	£14,500