

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
Date:	8 March 2011
Title:	Community Buildings Fund 2010/11
Reference:	2687
Report from	Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs

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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 2010/11 and details requests for partnership funding from this fund.

2. Applications considered in this report:

Hall/Centre	District	£
Bullington Parish Hall	Test Valley	5,034
Colden Common Community Association	Winchester	863
Fordingbridge Community Association	New Forest	1,732
Horndean Community Association	East Hampshire	2,960
Newnham Clubroom	Basingstoke and Deane	12,500
Tadley Memorial Hall	Basingstoke and Deane	3,700
TOTAL		26,789

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 £84,000 has been set aside in the 2010/11 capital programme for Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs to support the Community Buildings Fund. An allocation of £20,000 has also been made from the Rural Action Plan Fund to support applications from Village Halls bringing the total available for distribution to £104,000. To date £74,770 has been allocated this year and if the recommendations in this report, which amount to £26,789 are approved then £2,441 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:

That partnership funding totalling £26,789 as listed below be approved for allocation from the Community Buildings Fund for 2010/11.

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CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	no
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	no
Corporate Business 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.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
Applications for financial assistance	Community Support Service Department for Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs Mottisfont Court, Winchester

Appendix 1

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.
- For projects costing more than £15,000, the grant is calculated at 50% of the combined district and parish council contribution up to a maximum of 25% of the project costs or £12,500, whichever is the lesser.
- Feasibility studies – applications will be considered for 50% of the cost up to a maximum of £500.

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.

Appendix 2

Name	Bullington Parish Hall
Consultation	The local member is Councillor Gibson.
Project	General repairs to exterior including chimney and roof. General internal repairs including re-wiring, replacement doors/windows. New kitchen installation.
Cost	£20,138
General Reserves	£1,500
Project Reserves	£4,000 and donations of approximately £2,000
Statement	If this work is not carried out the hall will have to shut and we will lose the only meeting place for Upper and Lower Bullington, Tidbury and Norton
Partnership Funding	Bullington Parish Council £2,517 Test Valley BC £7,551
Recommendation	Up to £5,034 as 50% of the district and parish contribution up to a maximum of £12,500

Name	Colden Common Community Association
Consultation	The local member is Councillor Mason.
Project	Replacement of ring circuit and installation of low energy bulbs
Cost	£2,588
General Reserves	£24,000
Project Reserves	£1,800
Statement	This project is part of a maintenance programme and is needed for health and safety purposes. The ring circuit needs to be split to prevent it shutting down. The replacement of the current bulbs with low energy type is an energy saving measure. The office has no natural light and a sun tube is to be provided in order to improve the working environments.
Partnership Funding	None
Recommendation	Up to £863 as one third of project costs

Name	Fordingbridge Community Association
Consultation	The local member is Councillor Heron.
Project	Removal of defective chimney. Inspection, modification and repair of roofs and rainwater goods.
Cost	£5,196
General Reserves	£8,000
Project Reserves	None
Statement	A structural engineers appraisal of the roof , trusses and bell tower has uncovered serious structural problems which require urgent attention. It is essential to determine exactly what remedial work is necessary to ensure the safety of all visitors and staff and prevent injury and damage.
Partnership Funding	Rotary Club £2,100
Recommendation	Up to £1,732 as one third of project costs

Name	Horndean Community Association
Consultation	The local member, Councillor Darragh, has been consulted and she supports the recommendation.
Project	Replacement of stolen lead from Merchistoun Hall with alternative to reduce buildings vulnerability
Cost	£8,880
General Reserves	£5,000
Project Reserves	£1,300
Statement	Over the past 3 years Merchistoun Hall has suffered from 4 lead thefts from its roof. This has cost the Association a substantial sum of money and the resulting water ingress has damaged internal fixtures and fittings which have had to be replaced. EHDC has granted the Association listed building consent to replace the lead with an alternative material similar in appearance.
Partnership Funding	Parish Council £1,500
Recommendation	Up to £2,960 as one third of the project costs

Name	Newnham Clubroom
Consultation	The local member, Councillor Mrs Still, has been consulted and she supports the application.
Project	Demolition and replacement of existing building and extension to Car Park.
Cost	£100,000
General Reserves	£41,798
Project Reserves	£37,000
Statement	The current building is over 50 years old and is beyond economical repair and no longer meets the requirements of a modern facility including disability access provision.
Partnership Funding	BDBC £25,000 2011/12 confirmed Veolia £25,000 confirmed
Recommendation	Up to £12,500 as 50% of the District and parish contribution

Name	Tadley Memorial Hall												
Consultation	The local member is Councillor Tucker.												
Project	Installation of new fencing on East-West boundaries.												
Cost	£11,100												
General Reserves	£14,000 (Dec 2009)												
Project Reserves	None												
Statement	Replacing the existing east boundary fence will improve site security and safety of users. On the south boundary the traditional chain link fence has been severely damaged over the past couple of years because youngsters either playing football on The Green or kicking a ball against the changing rooms wall have used the fence as a means of climbing into the neighbours garden for the purpose of recovering balls. As a result we have then had to cut away the damaged chain link to avoid damage to vehicles of hall users.												
Partnership Funding	<table> <tr> <td>Sentinel Housing</td> <td>£1,000</td> <td>TBA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BDBC</td> <td>£</td> <td>TBA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tadley TC</td> <td>£</td> <td>TBA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Veolia</td> <td>£</td> <td>TBA</td> </tr> </table>	Sentinel Housing	£1,000	TBA	BDBC	£	TBA	Tadley TC	£	TBA	Veolia	£	TBA
Sentinel Housing	£1,000	TBA											
BDBC	£	TBA											
Tadley TC	£	TBA											
Veolia	£	TBA											
Recommendation	Up to £3,700 as one third of project costs												