

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report :

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
Date:	9 September 2010
Title:	Community Buildings Fund 2010/11
Reference:	1999
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	£
Fareham Community Church	Fareham	4,733
Hawkley Parish Hall Trust	East Hampshire	5,000
Sarisbury Community Association	Fareham	1,283
St Luke's Hall, Overton	Basingstoke and Deane	12,500
TOTAL		23,516

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. To date £21,044 has been allocated this year and if the recommendations in this report, which amount to £23,516, are approved then £39,440 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 £23,516 as listed below be approved for allocation from the Community Buildings Fund for 2010/11.

Hall/Centre	District	£
Fareham Community Church	Fareham	4,733
Hawkley Parish Hall Trust	East Hampshire	5,000
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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.)

Document

Location

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	Fareham Community Church
Consultation	The local members, Councillor John Bryant and Councillor Ray Ellis, have been consulted and support the application.
Project	Accessible kitchen and toilets
Cost	£68,930
General Reserves	None
Project Reserves	£6,248
Statement	The trustees are intending to refurbish the kitchen and toilet facilities making them more accessible. By using environmentally friendly materials they will be able to reduce their carbon footprint. This project also enables them to enlarge and refurbish their current first floor facilities to ensure they are accessible for all.
Partnership Funding	Fareham BC £9,465 (awaiting confirmation) Sita Trust £50,000 (confirmed)
Recommendation	Up to £4,733 as 50% of the combined District and Parish contributions.

Name	Hawkley Parish Hall Trust
Consultation	The local member, Councillor Vaughan Clarke, has been consulted and supports the application.
Project	Parish Hall extension and modernisation
Cost	£235,000
General Reserves	£5,000
Project Reserves	£25,000
Statement	Hawkley Parish Hall is the only community building within the village of Hawkley and its surrounding villages. The trustees wish to extend the current hall to offer changing rooms, storerooms and disabled toilet facilities as well as increase the capacity and accessibility of the kitchen.
Partnership Funding	<p>£5,000 EHDC (awaiting confirmation)</p> <p>£5,000 Hawkley Parish C (awaiting confirmation)</p> <p>£30,000 Hawkley sports & social club</p> <p>£15,000 Hawkley Parish church</p> <p>£66,000 Other Trusts</p> <p>£1,000 Members budget</p> <p>Other – local donations</p>
Recommendation	Up to £5,000 as 50% of the combined District and Parish Contributions.

Name	Sarisbury Green Community Association
Consultation	The local member, Councillor Sean Woodward, has been consulted and supports the application.
Project	Radiator replacement
Cost	£3,849
General Reserves	£11,000
Project Reserves	£849
Statement	The trustees wish to replace the current radiators within the main hall. These are no longer operating and very little heat is being produced. The new radiators will be more efficient and ensure a pleasant environment for the winter.
Partnership Funding	£3,000 Fareham B C (awaiting confirmation – unlikely to get this amount)
Recommendation	Up to £1,283 as one third of the project cost

Name	St Luke's Hall, Overton
Consultation	The local member, Councillor Mrs Anna McNair Scott, has been consulted and supports the application.
Project	Complete refurbishment
Cost	£185,000
General Reserves	£5,000
Project Reserves	£24,114
Statement	This building is 70 years old and requires a complete refurbishment which includes double glazing, a new roof, new toilets including disabled facilities and internal supports to incorporate a new annexe into the main hall.
Partnership Funding	£112,700 Basingstoke and Deane B C (confirmed) £8,186 Overton Parish Council
Recommendation	Up to £12,500 as 50% of the combined Parish and District contribution