

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report :

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
<b>Date:</b>	4 November 2010
<b>Title:</b>	Community Buildings Fund 2010/11
<b>Reference:</b>	2193
<b>Report from</b>	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	£
Ashmansworth Village Hall Trust	Basingstoke and Deane	3,473
Barton Stacey Village Hall Trust	Test Valley	2,485
Kingsley Centre Trustees	East Hampshire	2,600
Warnford Village Hall Trust	Winchester	492
Winnall Community Association	Winchester	652
<b>Total</b>		<b>9,702</b>

#### 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 £44,560 has been allocated this year and if the recommendations in this report, which amount to £9,702, are approved then £29,738 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 £9,702 as listed below be approved for allocation from the Community Buildings Fund for 2010/11.**

<b>Hall/Centre</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>£</b>
Ashmansworth Village Hall Trust	Basingstoke and Deane	3,473
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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**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Ashmansworth Village Hall Trust</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	The local member, Councillor Tom Thacker, supports this application.
<b>Project</b>	Internal and external refurbishment of the hall
<b>Cost</b>	£10,419
<b>General Reserves</b>	£14,054
<b>Project Reserves</b>	£6,946
<b>Statement</b>	The existing village hall was built in 1956. The building now requires considerable maintenance and upgrading being unattractive inside and out. This is particularly inappropriate because of its prominent position in the conservation area (an AONB). If the hall is not up-graded it will become unusable and there will be no community facility for these communities.
<b>Partnership Funding</b>	None
<b>Recommendation</b>	Up to £3,473 as one third of project costs.
<b>Name</b>	<b>Barton Stacey Village Hall Trust</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	The local member, Councillor Andrew Gibson, supports this application.
<b>Project</b>	Major refurbishment and redecoration of kitchen
<b>Cost</b>	£7,455
<b>General Reserves</b>	£7,756
<b>Project Reserves</b>	£6,250
<b>Statement</b>	The existing kitchen units are over 30 years old and are falling apart
<b>Partnership Funding</b>	County Councillor Grant £1,000
<b>Recommendation</b>	Up to £2,485 as one third of project cost.

<b>Name</b>	<b>The Kingsley Centre Trustees</b>								
<b>Consultation</b>	The local member, Councillor Mark Kemp-Gee, supports this application.								
<b>Project</b>	Replace main hall roof with energy efficient green roof. Create community store from old boiler room, upgrade small rooms and build an extension to the café.								
<b>Cost</b>	£100,000								
<b>General Reserves</b>	£18,620 ( Dec 2009)								
<b>Project Reserves</b>									
<b>Statement</b>	The overall aim of the project is to complete the upgrading and refurbishment of the building complex which began in April 2006 in order to meet the current and developing needs of the local and wider rural community .								
<b>Partnership Funding</b>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Big Lottery</td> <td>£50,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EHDC &amp; Kingsley PC</td> <td>£5,200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other sources</td> <td>£12,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Own funds</td> <td>£17,400</td> </tr> </table>	Big Lottery	£50,000	EHDC & Kingsley PC	£5,200	Other sources	£12,600	Own funds	£17,400
Big Lottery	£50,000								
EHDC & Kingsley PC	£5,200								
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<b>Recommendation</b>	Up to £2,600 as 50% of the combined District and Parish Council Contribution.								

<b>Name</b>	<b>Warnford Village Hall Trust</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	The local member is Councillor Felicity Hindson
<b>Project</b>	Internal redecoration
<b>Cost</b>	£1,476
<b>General Reserves</b>	£5,000
<b>Project Reserves</b>	£1,000
<b>Statement</b>	This is essential maintenance work
<b>Partnership Funding</b>	None
<b>Recommendation</b>	Up to £492 as one third of project cost

<b>Name</b>	<b>Winnall Community Association</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	The local member is Councillor Brian Collin
<b>Project</b>	To rectify and improve the safety of electrical wiring and sockets following an inspection report
<b>Cost</b>	£1,954
<b>General Reserves</b>	£1,000
<b>Project Reserves</b>	£1,302
<b>Statement</b>	The community centre is an extremely busy building used by a variety of groups both for young people and older residents. Safety is paramount and it is important that the trustees can be confident that all activities can be carried out safely.
<b>Partnership Funding</b>	None
<b>Recommendation</b>	Up to £652 as one third of project cost.