

Community Fund Grant Applications

Summary:

To consider grant applications to the Council's Community Fund Grant Scheme received by 31 December 2016.

Portfolio: Corporate (Cllr Josephine Hawkins)

Date Signed Off: 20 March 2017

Wards Affected: All

Recommendation

The Executive is asked to consider awarding a grant to the applicants from the Council's Community Fund Grant Scheme.

1. Key Issues

- 1.1 To qualify for a grant from the Community Fund, applications must meet the Council's objectives from our 5 Year Strategy and must demonstrate a benefit to the local community. All awards are made at the discretion of the Executive. Each of the applicants is a not for profit organisation. Each project recommended for a grant must be well planned with a sound financial basis.
- 1.2 Information on the Community Fund Grant scheme is provided on the Council's website and articles are regularly published in the Council's Heathscene magazine promoting recent successful awards. The scheme is further promoted by Voluntary Support North Surrey to ensure greater involvement and wider representation from voluntary groups in the Borough.
- 1.3 All decisions on grant awards rest with the Executive. The Executive can also add conditions to the awarding of any grants as it sees fit.

2. Surrey Community Buildings Grants Scheme

- 2.1 The Surrey Community Buildings Grant Scheme is managed by Surrey Community Action on behalf of Surrey County Council. Surrey Heath Borough Council has agreed to be part of the scheme whereby applicants can apply to both the Borough Council and County Council for three-way, equal match funding for the same project.
- 2.2 The application from West End Bowls Club included in this report seeks a funding award towards extending their club house. It is recommended that the application is deferred until two formal quotations for the works can be provided. The Surrey Community Buildings Grant Scheme has also rejected the bid in its current form.

3. Resource Implications

- 3.1 The Council has its own Community Fund from which it provides grants of up to £25,000 to assist local 'not for profit organisations' with the delivery of community projects. Total project costs of up to £2,000 can attract 75% funding and total project costs over £2,001 can attract up to 50% funding from the scheme.
- 3.2 There are two submission deadlines each year namely 30 June and the 31 December. This report includes the applications received by 31 December 2016.
- 3.3 The Member Panel met on 2 February 2017 and recommended two applications were supported and one was deferred. An analysis of each of the three bids is included in Annex A.
- 3.4 The total amount requested from the three applications total £33,734. However, the Panel recommends a total spend of £6,484 at this meeting. The summary information is included in Annex B. No payments are made until after evidence is submitted that the work is completed.

4. Options

- 4.1 4.1 The Executive has the option to;
- i. Fund the organisations in line with the proposed amount in Annex B;
 - ii. Fund the organisations to a greater or lesser amount of their requested sum;
 - iii. Not fund the organisations.

5. Proposals

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Executive agree the proposed awards set out in Annex B from the Community Fund Grant Scheme.

6. Corporate Objectives and Key Priorities

- 6.1 The funding of voluntary organisations allows the Council to meet its objectives to:
- Work in partnership with local organisations to provide support to the community and diverse open space and recreation facilities.
 - Understanding and supporting local voluntary groups.
 - Significantly contribute to civic pride through the provision of events and green spaces.

- Work in partnership with the voluntary and third sector to extend opportunities in the Borough.
- Encouraging greater involvement from local clubs and organisations including volunteering.

7. Equalities Impact

7.1 The Community Grant Fund has been equality impact assessed.

Annexes	Annex A – Summary of Bids Annex B – Proposed Grant Awards
Background Papers	Application Forms
Author/Contact Details	Sarah Groom, Transformation Team Manager sarah.groom@surreyheath.gov.uk
Service Manager	Louise Livingston - Executive Head of Transformation

CONSULTATIONS, IMPLICATIONS AND ISSUES ADDRESSED

Resources	Required	Consulted
Revenue	N/A	
Capital	✓	✓
Human Resources	N/A	
Asset Management	N/A	
IT	N/A	

Other Issues	Required	Consulted
Corporate Objectives & Key Priorities	✓	✓
Policy Framework		
Legal		
Governance		
Sustainability		
Risk Management		
Equalities Impact Assessment	✓	✓
Community Safety		
Human Rights		
Consultation		
P R & Marketing	✓	✓

Review Date:

Version:

Annex A – Summary of Bids

Applicant: Windlesham and Camberley Camera Club (W&CCC)

Project: To purchase a replacement Digital Projector

Grant requested: £1,484

Project cost: £2,969.65

The Windlesham and Camberley Camera Club was founded in 1935 as a constituted club and has a membership of 73 who meet weekly at St Pauls Church, Camberley.

The club also supports local events such as the Surrey Heath Show and provides displays and information relating to techniques and examples of pictures from local talented photographers. The group also hold photographic competitions within the club, and have participated in and hosted inter-club competitions both in and for the South of England and nationally. Since the introduction of digital photography many of the competitions now involve the use of projected digital images.

The existing digital projector is now 6 years old and requires replacement as it has developed an unrepairable image misalignment issue. The club operates within the guidance and good practice of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB) who have recently changed the image specification which leads to the existing projector also being obsolete. The impact of this is that the club are unable to host competitions.

This application seeks a contribution of 50% towards the cost of a replacement digital projector together with a protective storage case.

Recommendation: To award a grant of £1,484.

Applicant: Chobham Village Hall Charity

Project: To rebuild and resurface the Car Park

Grant requested: £7,250

Project cost: £14,500

This Charity originated in 1988 to manage the popular traditional village hall which has kitchen facilities, a large hall, stage, smaller rooms, and car parking facilities for 52 cars. A wide variety of events are hosted both regularly and on an ad hoc basis, including Agricultural and Horticultural shows, weekly country markets, Women's Institute meetings, badminton, bridge clubs, weddings and other social events. On average the weekly usage numbers are 250.

This project focuses upon making the existing car park safe and free from flooding. The impact of this relating to increased business and user numbers will be minimal as it will be part of the overall improvement to this site. A funding application has been made to Chobham Parish Council, with the outcome unknown and with no further applications being made to contribute towards the project costs. The balance will be met from the existing Charity's reserves.

The applicant has confirmed that a serving trustee has the relevant experience and knowledge to project manage this work. If supported, the works are planned to be carried out in the summer of 2017.

Recommendation: To award a grant of £5,000.

Applicant: West End Bowls Club

Project: To extend the existing clubhouse to meet the increasing club membership numbers.

Grant requested: £25,000

Project cost: £210,000

West End Bowls Club is a lawn bowling club, located in Rosewood Way, with well-maintained facilities, bowling greens and a membership of approximately 95 bowlers and 40 social members. The club supports bowling at all levels from absolute beginners to skilled players that compete in Area, County and National Competitions.

The members share responsibility for the running, maintenance and upkeep of the club. The membership has increased and outgrown the club house since it started in 1996, when at that time it was designed to accommodate 50 people.

This application seeks a contribution towards extending the size of the club house to enable the increased membership to be accommodated. The outcome of this project would enable the club an opportunity to use the facilities for a full 12 months within the year, by the introduction of short mat bowls. At present the bowling greens are used only for 6 months of the year.

The club has approached local community groups to invite them to use the facilities, these include: U3A, Parish Council, and Gordon's School. At present Web care and Bisley Short Mat Bowls club use the club house to host meetings. It is estimated that 250 people use the facilities per month, with this expected to increase to 415 per month following the completion of this project.

The club have applied to a number of other funding streams which include: London Marathon Charitable Trust, £150,000: Surrey Community Buildings Scheme £36,000 (which is rejected as it does not meet the criteria): Sport England, and Biffa where applications are in process. An interest free loan is available from Bowls England for £20,000, and to date confirmed funds awarded from applications are: £1,000 from a SCC Councillor Award. The club are also working hard to raise funds, and have pledged £30,000 as goods in kind, but this is not substantiated at this time.

The £4,000 additional income results in a 50 year payback time.

Planning permission was awarded in 2016 with a project cost estimated at £210,000. The costs are not confirmed as the tender process is scheduled for spring 2017.

Recommendation: To defer the application until two quotations have been received.

Annex B – Proposed Grant Awards

Organisation	Project Details	Full Project Cost £	Amount Requested £	Amount Proposed £
Windlesham and Camberley Camera Club	To purchase a replacement digital projector	£2,970	£1,484	£1,484
Chobham Village Hall Charity	To rebuild and resurface the existing car park	14,500	£7,250	£5,000
West End Bowls Club	To extend the Clubhouse facilities	£210,000	£25,000	Deferred. Awaiting quotes
TOTAL		£227,470	£33,734	£6,484