

Community Fund Grant Applications

Summary:

To consider grant applications to the Council's Community Fund Grant Scheme received by 30th June 2019.

Portfolio: Support and Safeguarding (Cllr Josephine Hawkins)

Date Signed Off: 30th July 2019

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 Heath scene magazine promoting recent successful awards.
- 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.
- 1.4 The Community Fund Grant Scheme is attached at Annex C for information.

2. Resource Implications

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 There are two submission deadlines each year namely 30 June and the 31 December. This report includes the applications received by 30th June 2019.

2.3 The Portfolio Holder reviewed four applications on the 30th July and recommended that all four applications are supported. An analysis of each of the bids is included in Annex A. Details the supported applications are located in Annex B.

2.4 The total amount requested from the four applications total £29,342. However, it is recommended a total spend of £16,480 is awarded from an existing reserve of **£210,000 as at 1st April 2019**. The summary information is included in Annex B. No payments are made until after evidence is submitted that the work is completed.

3. Options

3.1 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.

4. Proposals

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

5. Corporate Objectives and Key Priorities

5.1 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.

6. Equalities Impact

6.1 The Community Grant Fund has been equality impact assessed.

Annexes	Annex A – Summary of Bids Annex B – Proposed Grant Awards Annex C - Community Fund Grant Criteria
Background Papers	Application Forms
Author/Contact Details	Jayne Boitout - Community Partnership Officer jayne.boitout@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	✓	✓

Annex A – Summary of Bids

Applicant: Valley End Cricket Club (VECC)

Project: To contribute towards the costs of carpets and flooring within the newly finished pavilion.

Grant requested: £11,712

Project cost: £23,424 (inc VAT)

VECC purchased this land a few years ago in Woodlands Lane, Windlesham, and have worked hard to raise the necessary funds to construct a new pavilion at a cost of £920,000.

To date (July 2019) £850,000 has been raised through extensive fundraising from: Marathon Trust Award - £75,000. Windlesham Parish Council Award £10,000: ECB - £100,000 award, members donations £540,000, Sport England - £75,000 award, and ECB loan - £50,000, further applications are being made to other Surrey Authorities.

The new flooring are to be installed in the building: carpet in the entrance, lobby, scorer office and club room: poly safe standard safety vinyl to be fitted in the: officials changing room, 2 changing lobbies, 2 stores, 4 changing areas WC areas, 2 WCs, Kitchen, Bar Served.

The aim is to offer the facilities to the community during the week, and at the weekends the focus will be mostly cricket related. The Club are developing a day low cost membership rate to encourage further community inclusivity. The facilities will also be available to hire for private events, with local schools, clubs, and local groups being able to use together with the easy on-site parking. They will be running classes in: dancing, indoor bowls, yoga, indoor cycling - winter SPIN clubs, Valley End cycling/racing club - offering routes and cakes/coffee afterwards, Thai chi, darts, ballroom dancing and Windle Valley running club.

There are also plans to engage the following community groups to use the space themselves or for us to put on activities for: Camberley and District U3A, Alzheimer's Café (Camberley), Camberley Women's Institute, Bagshot Women's Institute, Sight for Surrey, Christopher's Smile, Windle Valley Youth Project, Bagshot Care, Eikon Youth Charity.

It is intended that the building will act as a conduit for a range of year-long activities outside of the traditional cricket season, with the building designed considering all abilities, to ensure of inclusivity.

The club has an existing membership of 342 with the vast majority living in Surrey Heath, the existing annual membership costs range from £30 - £175 which is dependent upon the age group and category.

The Club is working collaboratively with Active Surrey to ensure that facilities are open and accessible to local people and groups from the surrounding Surrey Heath area.

One previous community fund grant was paid to the VECC in 2008 of £5000 as a contribution to purchase this the new site in Woodlands Lane.

Recommendation and rationale:

The Council is supportive of this application and acknowledges the community benefits that can be accessed from both the direct cricketing facilities and the pavilion it is suggested that on this basis a recommendation of a grant of £10,000 is offered based upon the estimates provided.

Applicant: W.C.Lee's Alms-Houses, Windlesham

Project: To convert one of the two existing bedsit properties to a 1 bedroom property

Grant requested: £12,500

Project cost: £31,500

Lee's Court comprises of 6 alms-houses from which 4 are 1 bedroomed and the remaining 2 are both bedsits. This project aims to convert both bedsits to 1 bedroomed units. A considerable number of funding bids have been made to local companies, that include both Surrey County Council and Windlesham Parish Council the outcomes are unknown at this time.

The trustees have worked hard to raise the funds through various methods of obtaining grants, using reserves and interest free loans to raise funds to complete this project, to date (July 2019) approximately 75% of the overall costs have been secured. Many other applications have been made and decisions awaited, and the group are confident that the necessary funds required will be available, and they have a well-defined action plan to ensure achievement of this.

A contribution is sought from the Community Fund Grant scheme for the second property conversion only, as work commences in July for the first conversion and thereafter works for the second unit will start the end of 2019.

The project cost outlined above relates purely towards a single unit project costs, the total cost for both is estimated at £75,000 plus, as items such as storage facilities are to be provided, but are not included within these costs.

The properties were originally constructed in 1948, and since this time have provided accommodation to local, vulnerable people, it is appreciated that the numbers are restrictive due to there being a maximum of 6 at any one time, but a need is being met in providing affordable local homes.

Recommendation and rationale: It is suggested that the Executive supports an award of up to £3,000 in recognition of the long period of time (73 years) that W.C. Lee's Alms-houses have provided homes to local residents.

Applicant: Camberley Alzheimer Café CIO

Project: To support the Man and Pan Initiative course in June 2020

Grant requested: £4,650

Project cost: £18,600

The 'man and a pan' courses have been run at St Mary's Church hall since September 2017 and are designed for older men taking on the cooking role in their homes. It could be they are isolated and lonely from either looking after, or having lost a partner for many years.

The Camberley Alzheimer Café group realised the need within our community for these classes and developed a project to address the issue for this hard to reach group.

The initial funding had been sourced from the Lottery scheme of £47,310 in 2017 and this is now exhausted.

In order to meet the need, the applicant is seeking funding to provide courses that run from September 2019 – June 2020. A myriad of other local funders are being approached to enable its continuation, and to date (July 2019) funding has been secured for the September, November and part of the January 2020 course, with the June 2020 course being completed unfunded at the present time and this is the specific focus of this application.

Referrals are made through churches, doctors, self-referrals, adult social care etc. with the registration being managed by the applicant. The courses are offered with no charge, which aims to be fully inclusive and available to all within our community.

The classes allow for 6 men to attend a 5 week course that meets for a day each week with a reunion for all at a later date. The costs comprise of hall hire, food, and a Chef Robin Van Creveld, who is experienced in working in this area. During the period of the course they learn to prepare delicious, stress-free, affordable and healthy meals, with other key benefits such as being part of a group learning together, developing friendships and the improvement of the general health and well-being from reducing the isolation and loneliness.

All excess meals are donated to local good causes and those in need, via the churches, and other local organisations.

Recommendation and rationale: The Council is supportive of the Camberley Alzheimer Café and this initiative, and would like to suggest a grant of up to £3,000 towards the delivery of the June 2020 course.

Applicant: St Francis Church Hall

Project: To purchase a new cooker for this well used and supported hall

Grant requested: £480.00

Project cost: £639.97

The Frimley Parochial Church Council would like to purchase a replacement cooker to be for the St Francis Church Hall, it is a well-used and supported facility; local groups such as WI, Brownies, and Guides amongst many others use the hall.

Recommendation and rationale: The Council is supportive of the organisation and the benefits that it provides to the community and would recommend that the award is offered at £480.00.

Annex B – Proposed Grant Awards

Applicant	Project Details	Project Cost £	Amount Sought £	Amount Proposed £	Suggested Conditions
Valley End Cricket Club	New flooring and carpeting for the pavilion	23,424	11,712	10,000	SHBC to be acknowledged of the Community Fund Grant Award, and apply to SCC for funding.
W.C.Lee Alms-Houses	Convert a bedsit to a 1 bedroomed property	£31,500	£12,500	£3,000	SHBC to be acknowledged of the Community Fund Grant Award.
Camberley Alzheimer Café	To run the man with pan course in June 2020	£18,600	£4,650	£3,000	SHBC to be acknowledged of the Community Fund Grant Award, with the Hope Hub to be added to the donations of any surplus meals
St Francis Church Hall	To purchase a new cooker	£640.00	£480.00	£480.00	SHBC to be acknowledged of the Community Fund Grant Award
TOTAL		£72,164	£ 29,342	£16,480	

N.B. All Grants to be subject to a general rule that SHBC is acknowledged by the recipient as having awarded the grant.

Annex C – Community Fund Grant Scheme

SURREY HEATH BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY FUND GRANT SCHEME FOR GRANTS UP TO £25,000

About the scheme

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.

To qualify for a grant from the Community Fund applications must fit with the Council's objectives from our 2020 Strategy (a copy of which is available from our website at the following link <http://www.surreyheath.gov.uk/council/councilinformation/corporateplan.htm>) and must demonstrate a benefit to the local community or a section of it.

Any non-profit making community/voluntary organisation serving all or part of Surrey Heath can apply for a community fund grant. Organisations not based in the Borough may also be eligible to apply for a grant where the project significantly benefits Surrey Heath residents.

Grants are available for amounts up to £25,000. The Council will pay up to 75% of a project that does not exceed £2,000 in total and will pay up to 50% of project costs for projects that cost between £2,001 and £25,000 in total.

The grant scheme is the Council's own. There is no legal requirement for the authority to have such a scheme in place; therefore all grants are awarded at the Council's discretion and there is no right of appeal if an application is refused.

No retrospective applications will be considered.

Grants will be considered for

- Equipment purchase
- One-off events
- Building projects
- Start-up costs

Grants will not be considered for

- General running costs
- Endowments
- Loan payments
- Activities promoting specific religious or political beliefs
- Salaries, wages, honoraria

Grants will not be made to

- Statutory Authorities or Schools/Colleges
- Trading/profit making companies
- Individuals or funds set up to benefit an individual

Assessment

In assessing the grant application, the Council will have regard to the amount of funding applicants have endeavoured to raise from other sources and will expect to see evidence of this.

In particular, there is a need to demonstrate a wider public benefit to the community over time with regard to the following:

- The existing funds/fundraising ability of the applicant;
- The sustainability of the project, for example the provision being made by the applicant for future repair and maintenance;
- The extent of support for the project in the local community;
- The extent to which the project recognises diverse needs and social inclusion.

Applications must be from properly constituted bodies/organisations that are not for profit groups.

Applications will be determined twice a year with deadlines for receipt being 30th June and 31st December. Applications received outside of these dates will not be considered until the next round. All grants will be determined by the Council's Executive Committee.