

# Surrey Heath Borough Council

## Executive

17<sup>th</sup> October 2023

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### Local Community Improvement Fund Bids

<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Councillor Alan Ashbery , Sustainable Transport & Planning
<b>Strategic Director/Head of Service</b>	Gavin Chinniah, Head of Planning
<b>Report Author:</b>	Steven Appleby, Community Infrastructure Levy Delivery Officer
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No
<b>Date signed off by portfolio holder</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	Mytchett & Deepcut, Frimley Green, Town, Watchetts

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#### Summary and purpose

To consider bids received for funding from the Local Community Improvement Fund for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023 as detailed in Annex 1.

#### Recommendation

The Executive is advised to RESOLVE that, in line with the CIL bids detailed in Annex 1,

- (i) £1,500 be awarded to High Cross Church for the installation of a Bike Repair Point (Bid 1);
- (ii) £3,744 be awarded to Frimley Village Hall for the restoration of the Village Hall floor (Bid 2);
- (iii) £10,462 be awarded to The Well Community Centre for the refurbishment of the Community Centre (Bid 3);
- (iv) £20,800 (net) be awarded to Frimley Green Recreation Ground for the installation of an outdoor gym and 2 picnic tables (Bid 4); and
- (v) £12,400 be awarded to Deepcut Neighbourhood Forum for the installation of signage and planters (Bid 5).

The Executive is advised to RECOMMEND to Full Council that £20,800 be added to the Council's Capital Programme for the installation of an outdoor gym and 2 picnic tables at Frimley Green Recreation Ground.

#### 1. Background and Supporting Information

- 1.1 In October 2020 the Executive agreed to pool the non- parish Neighbourhood CIL contributions to allow wards that don't deliver new development but that do experience its impact to have access to CIL funding and also to allow the

community to bid for funding. Funding is only for small scale local capital projects and is at the discretion of the Councils Executive subject to availability of funding. Councillors, local groups and stakeholders can apply to this fund.

- 1.2 Information on the Fund bidding process is published on the Councils website. There are two funding bid rounds each financial year and this is the first bidding round to be considered by the Executive for 2023/24.
- 1.3 The scheme was opened for bids on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 and the bidding window closed at midnight on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023.
- 1.4 This report has been prepared following consultation with the Community Partnership Officer.

## **2. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 2.1 The infrastructure that CIL will support in the Borough of Surrey Heath is listed in the adopted Strategic Infrastructure Spending Priorities. The priorities are set out in Annex 3. The bids accord with the spending priorities.

## **3. Proposal and Alternative Options**

The Executive has the option to

- 3.1 Approve the bids in line with the recommendations set out in Annex 1 (funding bids) or
- 3.2 Not to approve the options outlined in Annex 1

## **4. Contribution to the Council's Five Year Strategy**

- 4.1 Health & Quality of Life – To nurture the strong sense of community across the whole borough, fostering a sense of respect and consideration. To promote active and healthy lives for all and a rich programme of cultural and community events. Ensuring the borough is a safe place to live for all sectors of our community.
- 4.2 Environment – To enhance and improve access to the boroughs cherished green spaces and natural environments for the enjoyment of generations to come.
- 4.3 Economy - To invest in our towns, villages and communities, supporting existing businesses and attracting new ones.

## **5. Resource Implications**

- 5.1 The funding for this is the local ward element of the CIL contributions received from developers.

- 5.2 In accordance with the Executive agreement in October 2020 to pooling Ward funding for projects, the costs of these projects can be distributed across other wards.
- 5.3 A schedule of non-parish wards of CIL funds available and funds allocated is appended to this report. (Annex 2)
- 5.4 As of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023, the ward balances were as follows;

Mytchett & Deepcut £0	Frimley £0
Frimley Green £35,301	Heatherside £8,537
Old Dean £0	Parkside £10,656
St Michaels £0	St Pauls £44,806
Town £386,175	Watchetts £10,339

- 5.5 High Cross Church (Bid 1) will be responsible for the installation and maintenance of the bike repair point and there would be no revenue costs.
- 5.6 Frimley Village Hall (Bid 2) confirm that there would be no revenue costs, the work would provide protection for the floors for at least another 20 years.
- 5.7 The Well Community Centre (Bid 3) confirm that there would be no revenue costs. Councillors Lisa and Kel Finan-Cooke have stated a declaration of interest as they run a support group that uses the hall at the Community Centre.
- 5.8 Frimley Green Recreation Ground (Bid 4) is owned and managed by Surrey Heath Borough Council. VAT would be reclaimed and the ongoing maintenance would be carried out by the Borough Council.
- 5.9 Deepcut Neighbourhood Forum (Bid 5) confirm that there will be no revenue costs, any maintenance (cleaning) of the new signs will be carried out by the Forum. Councillor David Whitcroft has stated a declaration of interest having previously been a member of the Deepcut Neighbourhood Forum.

## 6. Section 151 Officer Comments:

- 6.1 No matters arising.

## 7. Legal and Governance Issues

- 7.1 CIL monies can be used to fund a wide range of infrastructure in accordance with section 216(2) of the Planning Act 2008 and regulation 59 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010. The law allows the levy to be used to fund a very broad range of facilities such as play areas, open spaces, parks and green spaces, cultural and sports facilities, healthcare facilities and other community safety facilities.

## **8. Monitoring Officer Comments:**

8.1 No matters arising.

## **9. Other Considerations and Impacts**

### **Environment and Climate Change**

9.1 No matters arising

### **Equalities and Human Rights**

9.2 No matters arising

### **Risk Management**

9.3 The key risk is that projects are not delivered. For this reason supporting evidence is required

### **Community Engagement**

9.4 The Local Community Improvement fund and bidding process is promoted and updated on the Council's website and publicised through Social media.

9.5 All Councillors for the ward in which the funding bids have been received have been notified of the bids. All responses received have been noted in annex 1.

## **Annexes**

Annex 1 - Bid summaries

Annex 2 – Table of Funding

Annex 3 - Strategic Infrastructure Spending Priorities

## **Background Papers**

See annexes – 1, 2 and 3.