

Area South Capital Grant Request (Executive Decision)

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Purpose of the Report

For members to consider the request for a capital grant from Barwick and Stoford Parish Council.

Public Interest

Awarding grants is a key way that SSSC supports and helps to deliver community projects sponsored by parishes and voluntary community organisations in the town and villages across Area South.

Background

Area South Capital Budget applications are considered throughout the year. Members agreed to ring fence £25,000 from the Area South Capital budget towards large community capital projects in addition to the small revenue community grants fund.

Appendices A and B show the standard grants conditions used by SSSC and the policies under which all applications are assessed.

Recommendation

Members agree a contribution of up to £5,000 (21% of the total project costs) from the Area South Capital budget to Barwick and Stoford Parish Council towards the installation of new play equipment.

Barwick and Stoford Parish Council – Purchase and Installation of new play equipment

Barwick and Stoford Parish Council have applied for a grant towards a large feature item of play equipment at Barwick Recreation Ground.

Parish Precept information

Parish	Barwick
Parish population	1,221 (as per 2011 census)
No. of Households	551 (2011 census), 579 (parish precept info)
Precept 17/18	£33,290
Band D Charge 17/18	£80.51

The Project

Whitcross Recreation Ground in Barwick is a green space between the two settlements. It is used by the football team, dog walkers, the weekly children and families club and hosts the annual Fun Day as well as being used by many young people and families for informal play and socialising. Initially the land was leased to the Parish Council and later purchased by the Parish Council when the owner died. Play equipment was installed many years ago but this has now fallen into disrepair as it has aged and is in drastic need of redesign, repair and replacement.

The existing equipment design and usage is only suitable for younger children, but the Parish Council has recognised the need for facilities for young teenagers too. The Parish Council have spoken to local young people about what they would like and conducted consultation at the Fun Days in both 2015 and 2016 (with the support of South Somerset District Council).

Barwick Parish Council would like to redesign the play provision and install a number of new items to enhance and provide an exciting inclusive, safe and inviting play and recreation space within the parish. Funding is being sort for some of the smaller additional items in the park but the Parish Council and the Barwick Recreation Ground Trust volunteers feel a large feature climbing multi-unit is needed to be the main focus for the new enhanced provision. This will meet the needs of both younger teenagers and the children of the parish.

The multi-unit is a standard accessible item of play usable by a variety of age groups and abilities and is supported by SSDC Senior Play & Youth Officer. The piece of equipment meets EN1176 requirements and is '*kite marked*' (a quality standard that SSDC require to meet our grant conditions).

The Parish Council have also agreed to establish a sinking fund for maintenance and repairs for the play provision as part of the conditions of the community grant and to meet effective sustainable management standards for governance and ownership of play parks and recreational spaces.

The volunteers, families and children of the parish have worked hard alongside the parish council to make this project happen, fund raising either individually or supporting with external grant applications.

The project has been assessed against the agreed criteria and the following scores apply.

Category	Maximum score	Score
A Eligibility	Y/N	Y
B Equalities Impact	7	4
C Need for Project	5	4
D Capacity of Organisation	15	13
E Financial need	7	5
F Innovation	3	1
Total	37	27

Projects scoring above 22+ points are eligible for SSDC support under the current policies. The application scores well in terms of need, external financial contributions and volunteer support.

Funding Sources	% Funding of Total Scheme Cost	Amount of Funding	Status
Parish Council	21%	£5,000	Secured
Recreation Ground Trust (funds)	33%	£7,960.50	Secured
Yarlington Housing Group	4%	£1,000	Secured
Police Commissioners Trust	13%	£3,000	Secured
Tesco bag for life	8%	£2,000	Secured
SSDC (Area South)	21%	£5,000	This Application
Total Scheme Cost	100%	£23,960.50	

Financial Implications

If members agree recommendation 1 above, this will leave £20,000 remaining in the £25,000 allocation towards large community capital projects and a further unallocated £126,215 in the Area South Capital Budget.

Corporate Priority Implications

All projects help to support communities so that they identify their needs and develop local solutions and help people to live well by enabling quality cultural leisure, play, sport and healthy lifestyle facilities and activities. (Focus Four: Health and Communities)

Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications

Providing local access to a range of activities and services reducing the need to travel which therefore reduces carbon emissions.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The project helps enhance accessibility for all. The Neighbourhood Development Officer has advised the community group to obtain an access audit for the venue, providing them with expert advice on how to make their community facility more accessible and user friendly.