

Community & Leisure Capital Grant Request (Executive Decision)

<i>Ward Members:</i>	<i>Cllr Tim Inglefield Cllr William Wallace</i>
<i>Strategic Director:</i>	<i>Rina Singh, Place & Performance</i>
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Purpose of the Report

For members to consider requests for capital grants from Abbas & Templecombe 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 towns and villages across Area East.

Background

Community and Leisure Capital Grant applications are considered twice a year in June and December. The next opportunity to consider applications will be at the Area East Committee meeting in June 2015.

Requests from community organisations for non-capital works are now restricted to small grants with the upper limit recently reviewed and increased to a maximum of £1000. A minimum amount of £100 has also been agreed. Capital projects requiring grants of between £500 and £1000 can be dealt with at any time and are subject to Ward Member agreement.

The standard grants conditions used by SSSC and the policies under which all applications are assessed are attached to this agenda as part of the Items for Information

Recommendation

That Members agree a contribution of £2,738 (50% of the total project costs) from the Community & Leisure Capital Budget to Abbas and Templecombe Parish Council towards improvements to the entrance and lobby area of the Village Hall.

Abbas & Templecombe Parish Council – Templecombe Village Hall Improvements to entrance and lobby area

Abbas & Templecombe Parish Council has applied for a grant towards some essential work to improve the entrance and lobby area of the Village Hall. This is the first phase of a programme of work which will include the provision of new toilets and kitchen improvements.

Parish Precept information

Parish	Abbas & Templecombe
Parish population	1560 (based on 2011 Census)
No. of Households	746
Precept 14/15	£18,103
Band D Charge 14/15	£34.53

The Project

Templecombe Village Hall is owned by Abbas & Templecombe Parish Council and run by a local management committee. The hall provides a base for a number of local organisations and a space for activities. The hall is regularly used by the short-mat bowls club, a very popular Pilates group and the school PTA weekly coffee mornings. A local band has also started using the hall as a practice space. The parish council and management committee is keen to develop the use of the hall which is the main reason for the proposed programme of work.

Recently, work was undertaken to remove a metal staircase from the front of Templecombe Village Hall. It's removal has allowed the proposed Phase 1 work to proceed.

The first phase of the improvements involves the removal of the external attic door and dormer, together with removal of the existing porch roof and the fitting of a new lean-to roof. This work is largely cosmetic but will also alleviate some problems encountered from rainwater that has been leaking into the hall way causing water damage. It is expected that the work will improve the appearance of the hall and increase bookings.

An access audit has been commissioned for the hall and other planned work includes the refurbishment of the kitchen and improved toilet facilities.

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

	Score	Maximum score
A Eligibility	Y	
B Equalities Impact	4	7
C Evidence of Need	2	5
D Capacity of Organisation	13	15
E Financial need	4	7
F Innovation	1	3
Grand Total	24	37

Projects scoring above 22 points are eligible for SSDC support under the current policies.

Funding Sources	% Funding of Total Scheme Cost	Amount of Funding	Status
Parish Council	50%	£2,738	Secured
SSDC	50%	£2,738	Applied for
Total Scheme Cost	100%	£5476	

The Council has plans to improve the toilet facility and kitchen which will attract grant funding from external sources. The Area East contribution will be used to demonstrate local support for other funding bids.

Financial Implications

There is currently £10,000 unallocated within the Community & Leisure Capital budget. If Members agree the above recommendations, a sum of £7,262 would be available for allocation in June or for smaller delegated grants.

Corporate Priority Implications

The project helps to 'maintain and enhance the South Somerset network of leisure and cultural facilities, optimising opportunities for external funding to promote healthy living.'
(Focus Four: Health & 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 has been subject to an assessment in terms of accessibility.
