

Yeovil Division Guide Headquarters Grant Application (Executive Decision)

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Purpose of the Report

To consider funding towards the provision of accessible toilets and a replacement porch and guttering.

Public Interest

Community grants are available in each area to voluntary and charitable organisations, not-for-profit groups, Parish or Town councils and other organisations that benefit the wider community. Applications are encouraged that meet a clearly identified local need.

Recommendation

That members consider this application for £4000 from the community grants budget.

Background

The group maintain and run the Yeovil Division Guide Headquarters for the benefit of Yeovil Division Guides, and anyone else who may wish to hire the hall.

Girlguiding is a leading charity for girls and young women in the UK. Guides are girls aged 10 to 14 who are given the chance to explore their individual skills and abilities and try out new challenges as part of a team. Guides can get involved in anything from adventure sports to performing arts, travel and taking part in community action projects.

Project

The project involves the installation of accessible toilets and improvements to the insulation and windows in this area of the building. The group began fundraising for the project in 2012 and has managed to raise over £14,000. However, since then the porch has begun to leak over the access ramp, so a replacement porch and new guttering are also now required in order to make the building completely accessible.

The new facilities will allow young people with disabilities to participate in Guide activities. The group has also received enquiries about daytime use by the community but the lack of accessible facilities has limited the use of the hall. Once the improvements have been made the group are planning to widely advertise their hall to other clubs and businesses, as the hall will be a fully accessible venue within easy reach of the town centre and associated transport links. This will both provide another good local community facility and ensure that the Guide Headquarters has a sustainable income in the future.

The NDO recommends approval of this application as it helps to achieve one of our key priorities around providing activities and facilities for young people. The reduction in heating bills and potential hire income will also help to make the guide hall more sustainable in the future.

Assessment Scoring

Below is the summary table from the grant assessment form. It is recommended that funding is only awarded to projects scoring 22 points or more.

Category	Score	Maximum score
A Eligibility	Y	
B Equalities Impact	6	7
C Evidence of Need	3	5
D Capacity of Organisation	13	15
E Financial need	6	7
F Innovation	1	3
<i>Grand Total</i>	29	37

Funding Breakdown

Funding Sources	% Funding of the Total Project Cost	Amount of Funding (£)	Status
Parish Council	15	3,250	Pending
Own Funds	66	14,200	Secured
SSDC Area South Grants	19	4000	This application
Total Project Cost	100%	21,450	

Financial Implications

The uncommitted 2015/16 grants budget stands at £5547. If members agree this award of £4000, it will leave £1547 in the budget for this year.

Corporate Priority Implications

The project contributes to the following Corporate Focus Area:
Focus Four: Health and Communities

Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications (NI188)

The new insulation and windows will help make the building more energy efficient.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The new toilets will be fully accessible.

Background Papers: None