

Area North Committee – 27th August 2008

9. Area North Community Grants – Play Equipment for Ash & Montacute (Executive Decision)

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Sylvia Seal, Leisure & Culture
Head of Service: Steve Joel, Head of Sport, Arts & Leisure
Lead Officer: Adrian Moore, Play & Youth Facilities Officer
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Assessing Officer: Adrian Moore

Purpose of the Report

To consider two applications made to SSDC for financial support under the SSDC Community Grants Programme from Ash and Montacute Parish Councils for the installation of play equipment on their Recreation Grounds.

Recommendation

Members are asked to approve:-

1. a grant of £8,500 to Ash Parish Council, subject to the standard SSDC Community Grants Conditions and special conditions for play areas as detailed in Appendix A to this report, from the Area North Capital Programme.
2. a grant of £6,199.07 to Montacute Parish Council, subject to the standard SSDC Community Grants Conditions and special conditions for play areas as detailed in Appendix A to this report, from the Area North Capital Programme.

1. Application Details – Ash Parish Council

Name of Applicant	Ash Parish Council
Project	Refurbishment of the Ash Play Area
Project description	Large Junior Multi Play Unit, 3.3m Cone Climber Roundabout and a Spring Rider.
Total project cost	£20,687
Amount requested	£8,500 (41%)
Special conditions	See Appendix A
Application assessed by:	Adrian Moore, Play & Youth Facilities Officer
Contact details:	Adrian.moore@southsomerset.gov.uk (01935) 462409

Community Grants Assessment Score

The table below shows the grant scoring for this application. In order to be considered, applications need to meet the minimum score of 20 required for SSDC funding under the Capital Grants Scheme.

Ash has successfully scored 20 points.

Category	Score	Maximum
A Eligibility	Yes	
B Target Groups	3	6
C Project	4	5
D Capacity of Organisation	10	15
E Financial need	3	5
F Innovation	0	3
Total	20	34

Background information

The first phase of the play area refurbishment was completed in 2004. The SSDC grant awarded was £4,000 (26.4%) towards a total project value of £15,183.

The requirement focussed on rustic play equipment that would blend with the rural aspect of the location. This led to the installation of junior and toddler swings, a toddler multi play unit, a spring rider and picnic benches. These were supplied and installed in 2004 by Playdale Playgrounds at a total cost of £15,183.

Other play and youth provision on this site also includes the half Multi Use Games Area and BMX Track.

About the project

Despite the very high quality of equipment already installed on this site it has now been identified through recent consultation carried out by the Parish Council that there is a further need for junior equipment providing stimulating play for older children.

It is the aim of Ash Parish Council to address the identified shortfall in junior play provision by installing suitable play equipment to meet the recognised needs of the young people in their community.

The Play and Youth Facilities Officer has met with Ash Parish Council and parishioners and it has been concluded that the following equipment is best suited to meet the identified needs of the young people in the parish:

- Large Multi Play Unit
- Large Cone Climber Roundabout
- Spring Rider

Having received three quotations from play equipment suppliers, the project total is £20,687. This price includes VAT, supply, delivery, installation charges and post installation inspection.

Cost and match funding

59% of the funding for this project is already secure. A full breakdown of the funding secured is detailed in the following table.

Funding Source	Amount £	Percentage %	Secured
Awards for All	5,000	24.17%	Secured
Somerset County Council Area Working Panel	2,750	13.29%	Secured
Co-op Dividend Fund	500	2.42%	Secured
Martock Charity Shop	500	2.42%	Secured
Ash Parish Pavilion Fund	500	2.42%	Secured
County Council Community Chest	350	1.69%	Secured
Private Donation	25	0.12%	Secured
Ash Parish Council	2,562	12.39%	Secured
SSDC, Community Grant	8,500	41%	Applied for
Total	20,687	100%	

In Conclusion

Where possible Ash Parish Council has adopted the principals and embraced 'The Seven Play Provision Objectives' and 'The Criteria for an Enriched Play Environment' as set out in the SSDC Play Policy and Strategy.

Amount requested £8,500 - Officers recommendation £8,500

2. Application Details – Montacute Parish Council

Name of Applicant	Montacute Parish Council
Project	Refurbishment of the Montacute Play Area
Project description	New roundabout and safety surfacing, spring rider and surfacing and self-closing gate.
Total project cost	£12,398.15
Amount requested	£6,199.07 (50%)
Special conditions	See Appendix A.
Application assessed by:	Adrian Moore - Play & Youth Facilities Officer
Contact details:	Adrian.moore@southsomerset.gov.uk (01935 462409)

Community Grants Assessment Score

The table below shows the grant scoring for this application. In order to be considered, applications need to meet the minimum score of 20 required for SSDC funding under the Capital Grants Scheme.

Montacute has successfully scored 20 points

Category	Score	Maximum
A Eligibility	Yes	
B Target Groups	3	6
C Project	4	5
D Capacity of Organisation	10	15
E Financial need	3	5
F Innovation	0	3
Total	20	34

Background information

The play area in Montacute sits in an idyllic location opposite the main gates to Montacute House and at the foot of St. Michael's Tower the site of a Motte and Bailey Norman Castle neighbouring Ham Hill. The play area is always maintained in excellent condition through the efforts of the parish and is regularly used by parishioners and also attracts regular visitors from neighbouring villages.

About the project

Montacute Parish Council have worked very hard in order to bring their play area up to the required standards and the project has been well planned. It has now been identified that the old roundabout and small climbing frame are worn out and need to be removed. It has also been recognised to relocate the existing pedestrian access gate to a safer position away from the busy road. The old gate is to be replaced with a new dog proof self-closing easy access gate specifically suitable for children and people of all abilities including the popular modern mobility vehicles. The need for a robust picnic table for the use of carers, families and young people has also been identified.

The Play and Youth Facilities Officer has met with Montacute Parish Council and parishioners. It has been concluded that the following equipment is best suited to meet the identified needs of the young people in the parish and to meet with current recommended safety guidelines and good practice:

- Roundabout and safety surfacing
- Spring Rider and safety surfacing
- Self closing easy access gate
- Metal picnic table

Having received three quotations from play equipment suppliers, the project total is £12,398.15. This price includes VAT, supply, delivery, installation charges and post installation inspection.

Cost and match funding

50% of the funding for this project is already secure. The total cost of the work is £12,398.15

Applied for funds

Funding Source	Amount £	Percentage %	Secured
Montacute Parish Council	£ 6,199.07	50%	Secured
SSDC, Community Grant	£ 6,199.07	50%	Applied for
Total	£12,398.15	100%	

In Conclusion

Where possible Montacute Parish Council have adopted the principals and embraced 'The Seven Play Provision Objectives' and 'The Criteria for an Enriched Play Environment' as set out in the SSDC Play Policy and Strategy.

Amount requested £ 6,199.07 - Officers recommendation £ 6,199.07

Financial Implications

Both grants are already allocated within approved budgets (Area North Capital Programme).

Corporate Priorities

Play supports the following Corporate Aims: -

- Aim Three - Improve the health and well-being of our citizens
- Aim Four - Ensure safe, sustainable and cohesive communities
- Aim Five - Promote a balanced natural and built environment

Play supports the following Corporate Objectives: -

- Objective 11 – Work in partnership with others to improve the health prospects for all.
- Objective 14 – Maintain above 90 per cent the people who generally feel safe in their communities.
- Objective 15 – Increase to 65 per cent by 2010 the people who feel engaged in and can influence decisions that affect their communities.
- Objective 16 – Maintain above 80 per cent the people satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live.
- Objective 18 – 80 per cent of residents and businesses satisfied with the quality of the local, natural and built environment by 2012.

Play relates to the following Critical Activities of the Corporate Plan: -

- (Relating to Objective 11) Develop by the end of 2007 a strategy, which supports parishes and town councils in the provision of opportunities and facilities (e.g. sport, play areas and village halls) that promote the health and well being of local communities.
- (Relating to Objective 16) Provide with partners one new facility or activity each year for young people from 2005/06.

- (Relating to Objective 18) Development and implementation of management plans for countryside, open spaces and associated assets, with clear intended outcomes, by 2nd quarter 2007.
- (Relating to Objective 18) Promote, on average, one new community-based wildlife conservation project or one new built environment enhancement/conservation project each year from 2005 to 2012.

Background Papers: *Area North Committee Report: 25th July 2007*
