

Area North Committee – 24th September 2008

12. Area North Community Grants – Street Lighting in Hambridge (Executive Decision)

Head of Service: Charlotte Jones, Head of Area Development (North)
Lead Officer: Leslie Collett, Community Development Officer
Contact Details: Leslie.collett@southsomerset.gov.uk or (01458) 257427

Purpose of the Report

For Members to consider the request for a grant towards the installation of two street lighting units for Hundry Lane, Hambridge.

Recommendation

Members are asked to approve a grant of £2,286.50 to Hambridge and Westport Parish Council towards the installation of two street lighting units from the Area North Community Grants Programme subject to the standard terms and conditions for SSDC Community and Leisure Grants listed in Appendix A.

1. Application Details

Name of Applicant	Hambridge and Westport Parish Council
Project	Installation of two street lighting units
Project description	Installation of two street lighting units
Total project cost	£5,573.00 plus vat
Amount requested	£2,286.50 (40%)
Special conditions	Standard terms and conditions for SSDC Community and Leisure Grants listed in Appendix A
Application assessed by:	Leslie Collett, Community Development Officer (North)
Contact details:	Leslie.collett@southsomerset.gov.uk (01458) 257427

2. 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.

Category	Score	Maximum
A Eligibility	Y	
B Target Groups	3	6
C Project	4	5
D Capacity of Organisation	11	15
E Financial need	3	5
F Innovation	2	3
Total	23	34

3. Background information

Hambridge and Westport Parish Council have over the past few years installed new lighting units in the village when the community has identified the need and where the Parish Council has thought necessary. Previously the costing on the units has been between £1,200 and £1,500 per unit. Following requests from the community, the Parish Council received quotes from Somerset County Council approved installers and found there had been somewhat of a price increase to £5,020.05 + VAT for one unit and £5,573.01 + VAT for two units. The Parish Council decided to improve the lighting in the area by opting to install two units, which makes economical sense.

4. About the project

Hundry Lane meets the main road through Hambridge opposite to the village hall and the village school. Residents of all ages walk this road to attend the school and events at the village hall. There are no pavements in this part of the lane and it is on the grounds of road and community safety that the requests for lighting in this area has been made.

The Parish Council planned to install one unit at point (B) as illustrated in Appendix B as there is an existing wooden pole at this point, however, the main reason for the price rises are that it is no longer allowed to use power poles, each unit has to have a dedicated lamp standard. The unit at point (A) is the additional unit.

5. Hambridge and Westport Parish Plan

The Parish Plan, completed in 2006, identified highway issues as important to the village, the most important being speeding and a very successful speed watch group has been in operation for sometime. The provision of pavements throughout the village was also seen as a significant issue. In support of this, the addition of two lighting units in Hundry Lane will give pedestrians an added sense of security and a feeling of well-being.

6. Cost and match funding

Funding sources are as follows:-

Confirmed Funds

Parish Council	£ 2,786.50
SCC Councillor Grant	£500.00
SSDC Grant	£ 2,286.50 (subject to Member approval)
Total Project Cost	£ 5,573.00

7. Running and Maintenance Costs

Once the scheme is installed, Somerset County Council will adopt and maintain the street lights.

8. In Conclusion

The Parish Council in consultation with the community and supported by the Parish Plan have identified the need for the lighting units.

It is recommended that this project should be supported by a grant of £2,286.50.

Financial Implications

There is currently £21,414.64 remaining in the Area North Community Grants Programme. Awarding this grant of £2,286.50 will leave £19,128.14 for other community projects.

Corporate Priorities

Supporting local community projects help to meet the following corporate objectives:

1. Increase to 75% by 2012 the residents who feel the Council gives good value for money
2. Maintain above 75% the people satisfied with the way the Council runs the district
9. Identify and address the particular issues affecting rural areas
11. Work in partnership with others to improve the health prospects for all
15. Increase by 65% by 2010 the people who feel engaged in and can influence decisions that affect their communities
16. Maintain above 80% the people satisfied with their neighbourhoods as a place to live
18. 80% of residents and businesses satisfied with the quality of the local natural and built environment by 2012

Other implications

Supporting local community projects help to meet the following Area Priority:

- 1.2 Support the production, and delivery of parish plans, and other community led initiatives which aim to promote involvement and self-help for local communities
- 3.6 Support communities to maintain and develop facilities and activities
- 3.9 Promote and protect quality of the natural and environment.
- 4.2 Strengthen links between town /parish councils and SSDC

Background Papers: *Community Grant Application Number AN/07/037*
