Chief Executive Decision

Community Grant - Upgrade to High Ham Parish Council's Play Area

Executive Portfolio Holder Adam Dance, Chairman of Area North Committee

Director: Kirsty Larkins, Director (Service Delivery)

Lead Officer: Adrian Moore (Locality Officer)

Contact Details: adrian.moore@southsomerset.gov.uk

Purpose of the Report

To confirm the recommendation of members of Area North Committee relating to a Community Grant application for a play area upgrade at the High Ham playing field, following consideration at a meeting of Area North Committee (Informal) on 22 June 2022.

Public Interest

At the meeting of Full Council on Thursday 15 April 2021 it was agreed to make the following changes to the Council's Constitution:

- a) To continue to enable members to hold remote, virtual meetings using available technology;
- b) To amend Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions) of the Council's Constitution to allow those remote meetings to function as consultative bodies and delegate decisions, including Executive and Quasi-Judicial decisions, that would have been taken by those meetings if the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 had continued in force to the Chief Executive (or the relevant Director in the Chief Executive's absence) in consultation with those meetings and those members to whom the decision would otherwise have been delegated under Part 3 of the Constitution;
- c) The delegated authority given under (b) will expire on 31 July 2021 unless continued by a future decision of this Council;

Further to the above, at the meeting of Full Council on 8 July 2021, it was agreed to continue to enable members to hold remote, virtual meetings using available technology and to extend the delegation given on 15 April 2021 for a further 6 months, to 08 January 2022. At the Council meeting of 16 December 2021, a further extension to 8 July 2022 was agreed and at the Full Council meeting of 16th June a further extension to 21 July 2022 for all SSDC meetings apart from Full Council.

Decision Taken

The Chief Executive, following a consultative meeting of Area North Committee on 22 June 2022, made the following decision;

That a grant of £9,462 be awarded to High Ham Parish Council, towards the upgrade of the play area at High Ham playing field, the grant to be allocated from the Area North capital programme and subject to SSDC standard conditions for community grants (appendix A to the agenda report).

Reason

To consider a grant funding request for upgrading the play area at High Ham playing field.

Background

To enable the decision making process to continue, it was agreed that Councillors continue to receive decision-making reports. They will form a view which will be communicated to the Chief Executive. The decision will be formally made by the Chief Executive (or relevant Director) during the current coronavirus restrictions.

Financial Implications

Prior to consideration of this grant the balance in the Area North Capital programme was £35,356 As the recommended grant of £9,462 has been awarded, £25,894 will remain.

Grants are awarded subject to all other funding being secured before the commencement of the project and are on a % basis of the full project costs. Payment of the grant cannot exceed the grant award and is proportionally reduced if full project costs are under budget.

Background Papers

Officer Report - Community Grant - Upgrade to High Ham Parish Council's Play Area (Executive Decision)

Agenda for Area North (Informal) on Wednesday 22nd June 2022, 2.00 pm (southsomerset.gov.uk)