

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Hampshire 2050 and Corporate Services
Date:	24 October 2024
Title:	Awards from Community Grant Schemes
Report From:	Director of Hampshire 2050

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Purpose of this Report

1. The report considers twelve applications for grants from the Leader's Community Grant Fund (LCF), six applications from the Parish Town Council Investment Fund (PTCIF) and two applications from the Rural Communities Fund (RCF) for 2024/25.
2. The report also considers the proposed grant payment to Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) for 2024/25.

Recommendations

3. That the Executive Member for Hampshire 2050 and Corporate Services approves:
 - a) Twelve grants totalling £133,756 from the Leader's Community Grant Fund to cultural and community organisations in Hampshire, as set out in Appendix 1.
 - b) Six grants totalling £80,744 from the Parish and Town Council Investment Fund, as set out in Appendix 2.
 - c) Two grants totalling £9,750 from the Rural Communities Fund, as set out in Appendix 3.
4. That the Executive Member for Hampshire 2050 and Corporate Services approves the proposed grant payment to HALC of £51,300 for the financial year 2024/25, this being the final award to HALC under current partnership arrangements.

Executive Summary

5. The report considers the applications received, set out in Appendices 1 to 3, including twelve organisations to the LCF totalling £133,756, six organisations

to the PTCIF totalling £80,744 and two organisations to the RCF totalling £9,750.

6. Appendix 4 summarises Officer Decisions made for smaller grants below £5,000 and/or any minor administrative changes to grants previously awarded, approved by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Hampshire 2050.
7. A final grant to the Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) is also considered in this report.

Contextual Information

8. The purpose of the LCF is to fund projects which provide community benefit and help local communities thrive and/or to help local organisations become financially self-supporting and not reliant on public sector funding.
9. The priority of the PTCIF is to support partnerships between Parish and Town Councils or local community groups and the County Council. It provides investments to schemes which respond to local needs and aims to reduce pressure on County Council Services.
10. The RCF offers small grants to support Parish Councils, groups and organisations in rural Hampshire and small market towns. The overall priorities of the scheme are to build community resilience and encourage self-help.
11. Full details of each grant's eligibility criteria, including what the County Council can and cannot fund, are set out in Appendix 5.
12. In 2010 a Partnership Framework between Hampshire County Council and HALC was adopted by the County Council's Cabinet, together with grant funding to support the partnership objectives. The level of grant funding to HALC has reduced over time and, in November 2023, a decision was made to review the budget for this grant. Following this review and engagement with HALC, the award currently recommended for 2024/25 is the final award to be made under current partnership arrangements, after which the annual grant will cease. This marks the termination of the 2010 Partnership Framework with HALC. The County Council and HALC will continue to work in partnership and look to develop a new partnership agreement going forward.

Finance

13. The recommended awards can be met from within existing budget provision as per the following table:

Grant	No. of applications received	No. of applications rejected	No. of applications for consideration	Total requested amount	Total recommended amount
LCF	24	12 (not eligible or directed to Cllr grants)	12	£237,773 (of eligible applications)	£133,756
PCTIF	6	0	6	£84,076	£80,744
RCF	7	5 (not eligible)	2	£9,750	£9,750

14. Revenue budget provision is in place for grant funding for HALC for £51,300 for the year 2024/25.

Consultation and Equalities

15. A high-level Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken. The grants are intended to have a positive impact and advance equality.
16. The corporate terms and condition of grant require that any organisation in receipt of funding shall ensure that at all times it complies with the Equality Act 2010 if applicable and shall ensure that it does not discriminate against any person or persons on the basis of protected characteristics.

Climate Change Impact Assessment

17. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.
18. The carbon mitigation tool decision tree indicates it is not suitable for the assessment of a programme. The decisions in this report are financial decisions in relation to a programme of one-off grant opportunities. Therefore, the tool is not suitable for this Climate Change Impact Assessment and has not been used.

Other Key Issues

19. Legal Implications: Section 1 (1) of the Localism Act gives the County Council the power to do anything that individuals may generally do. This includes the power to make grants.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	yes

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
The Leader's Community Grant Fund – Revised Criteria	13 July 2023
Savings Programme to 2025 – Revenue Savings Proposals-2023-09-25-LEMH2050 Decision Day (hants.gov.uk)	25 September 2023
Medium Term Financial Strategy Update and Savings Programme to 2025 Revenue Savings Proposals Cabinet	10 October 2023
County Council Issue - items at meetings - Treasury Management - Mid-Year Report About the Council Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)	9 November 2023

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

A high-level Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken. The grants are intended to have a positive impact and advance equality.

Appendix 1

Applications to the Leader's Community Grant Fund – 2024/25

Summary Table

Applicant	Project Title	Amount requested	Amount recommended
Mercers Gym Community Project CIC	Half-term holiday camp	£8,560	£4,000
SOLENT Powerchair Football Club	Specialist sports powered wheelchairs	£25,000	£15,000
Rushmoor Voluntary Services (RVS)	Farnborough Rotary Access Garden	£22,875	£5,000
The Vine Centre	Digital Outreach programme	£18,225	£5,000
Off the Record	Youth counselling services for autistic young people	£24,999	£10,000
Unity	Community allotment	£9,374	£7,000
East Boldre Village Hall	Kitchen and Toilet refurbishment	£24,500	£24,500
Wonderseekers	'Our Place On Earth'	£25,000	£25,000
Gosport D-Day Fellowship	Memorial	£9,999	£4,000
Integr8 Dance	Move Well	£8,608	£4,804
Victoria Hall, Hartley Wintney	Cellar dampness resolution	£12,000	£5,452
Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus Committee	Electric Community Bus	£24,000	£24,000
	Total	£213,140	£133,756

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Mercers Gym Community Project CIC <i>(East Hampshire / Whitehill, Bordon & Lindford)</i>		£8,560	£4,000		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>This Community Interest Company (CIC), run by Mercers Gym, is in its first year and is looking to run a half-term Holiday Camp in October for 40 children aged 7-11 from low-income households. The Gym is in liaison with two local schools, that both have a two-week half-term break, to identify those children who would benefit from the experience. The Club will focus on boxing classes, helping the children to improve physical and mental wellbeing, learn social and communication skills as well as build confidence and self-esteem whilst also working to reduce feelings of anger, frustration and isolation, which can be a key feature for children experiencing poverty.</p> <p>The aim is to provide the sessions free of charge to help families who are struggling financially. The majority of the cost (£8,000) is for the coaches to provide the sessions. As the CIC is new, it is not yet eligible to apply for local community grants, such as those available through some supermarkets.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 40 children (and their families)				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£8,560	£8,560	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(Note previous funding awarded: 2024/25 - £1655 from a Councillor Grant 2024/25 towards computing and software)				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Tree strongly supports the application.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£4,000 towards the coaching costs				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
SOLENT Powerchair Football Club <i>(Winchester / Meon Valley)</i>		£25,000	£15,000		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Solent Powerchair Football Club, based at Swanmore College, is Hampshire's only powerchair football club, attended by children living across the county with severe restrictive, life limiting disabilities, such as Cerebral Palsy, SMA, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Many also have additional complications. Being able to play a sport with other young people experiencing similar life challenges gives individuals meaning and purpose. The Club liaises with local NHS community liaison officers and wheelchair service providers across the region who help to raise awareness of the Club and what it provides. The team were recently promoted to the top division in the south east, playing other teams across the region.</p> <p>The Club wish to buy 4 specialist sports powered wheelchairs to replace the 20-year-old chairs that are no longer fit for purpose. Most players make do with very old sports chairs that are falling apart or have to swap in/wait to play. There are 6 other club chairs that all need new parts and significant repairs. Spare parts are hard to find and costly, and as disability costs soar for many families the Club can't ask for additional contributions from players. This limits their ability to grow and currently there is a waiting list of people wanting to join but the club have had to restrict numbers because of the lack of suitable chairs. Player subs go towards training hall hire, small repairs and battery replacements and insurance.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Benefits approx. 10 per week currently (which will increase with the additional equipment)				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£44,910	£24,910	£20,000 (National Lottery)	Nil	Nil
	(Note previous funding awarded: Nil)				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Wallace strongly supports this application.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£15,000				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Rushmoor Voluntary Services (RVS) <i>(Rushmoor / Farnborough South)</i>		£22,875	£5,000		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>The project is to create a sustainable site in the Farnborough Rotary Access Garden (FRAG) at Cove Green Allotments in Farnborough to host both Blooming Marvellous and Blooming Minds, supported volunteering programmes for adults who are struggling with mental health.</p> <p>RVS have managed the Blooming Marvellous programme since 2004, supporting adults living with mental ill health. Using evidence from service users, knowledge, experience and research, RVS are expanding their support to offer the Blooming Minds 10-week Green Social Prescribing programme. This programme delivers personalised support to engage in a nature-based community activity to improve mental and physical health. This concept is supported by the NHS nationally and locally. Redeveloping the FRAG garden includes improving access to the allotment for all users, which has now been completed, followed by refurbishing and improving the interior of the FRAG garage, so that it is a safe and welcoming workshop space which can be used all year round, and also install a dry compost toilet. This funding request is for the workshop improvements and toilet installation.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 30 per programme				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£51,751.98	£22,875	£28,876	Nil	£900 (Cllr grant)
	(Note previous funding awarded: 2019/20 – Cllr Grant £437 towards Blooming Marvellous trip; Cllr Grant £500 towards RVS Forum; 2020/21 – Cllr Grant £800 towards ORCA Support Programme; 2021/22 – Cllr Grant £350 towards Blooming Marvellous Project; Cllr Grant £950 towards a community garden; Demand Management and Prevention: Place Based Grant £4998 towards Digital Skills; Covid-19 Getting Going Again Grant £22,436 towards community gardening; 2022/23 – Leader’s Community Grant £4998 towards Ukrainian response in Rushmoor; 2023/24 – Cllr Grant £1000 towards provision of IT equipment)				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Jackman is aware of this application.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£5,000				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
The Vine Centre <i>(Rushmoor / Aldershot North)</i>		£18,225	£5,000		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>The Centre works with vulnerable and disadvantaged adults and families, offering opportunities to learn and to move towards sustained independence and improve their quality of life. Helping adults who are socially isolated, unemployed, homeless or poorly housed, suffering with their mental health, addiction or learning difficulties find specialist support. Current services are oversubscribed, and the Centre is finding it difficult to dedicate the time required to the people that want to improve or get started on learning digital skills. Previously run outreach digital projects, specifically for over 65's in their home, were well used and obtained good outcomes for those who participated.</p> <p>The Centre wants to pilot a Digital Outreach programme, visiting vulnerable people in their homes or place of their choice, to help improve their digital skills. They would have access to further support - light touch mental health with the support worker or be referred for more intensive support at the Centre. This would help encourage individuals to develop the confidence to visit the Centre and reduce isolation. In addition, provision of a Digital Cafe with both a drop-in service and booked appointments for those wishing to learn or practice using laptops, tablets or smart phones. This would include access to a variety of technologies and online courses - such as online safety, learning how to email and how to use an internet browser. Funding would pay for delivery of the programme, provision of technology - such as laptops, tablets, phones, portable data and data cards and a small contribution to the Centre's overheads. If the pilot is successful, the Centre will seek alternative funding to keep the service going.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 20 weekly in Aldershot and Farnborough				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£24,225	£18,225	£6,000	Nil	Nil
	(Note previous funding awarded: 2019/20 - Place Based Grant £10,000 Shoulder to Shoulder project; 2020/21 – Cllr Grants of £5,000 towards Covid 19 Response; 2021/22 Cllr Grants of £4,290 towards various activities; 2022/23 - Waste Prevention Community Grant £2,500 towards The Community Cupboard, Cllr Grants of £1915 towards various activities; Leader's Community Grant £4998 towards refugee support, Place Based Grant £28,207 towards the Stepping Out programme; 2024/25 Cllr Grant £1,500 towards The Cosy Hub)				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Crawford supports this application.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£5,000				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Off the Record South East Hampshire <i>(Havant / North West Havant)</i>		£24,999	£10,000		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Off The Record (OTR), based in Leigh Park, supports young people (YP) aged 11-25 across southeast Hampshire, achieve emotional health & wellbeing, through unconditional free at point of access services to youth work, group work, parent courses and supporting young carers aged 8-18.</p> <p>OTR wants to adapt their youth counselling services to better support autistic young people. This project involves developing comprehensive autism training for staff and volunteers, ensuring that provision is tailored to meet the unique needs of autistic young people. In addition, they will revise their intake, risk assessments and planning processes to support autistic clients better. The aim is to provide a more inclusive environment for autistic young people, one that understands how they might perceive and interact with the world. Mandatory training will equip existing qualified counsellors and their supervisors to work therapeutically, and person-centred in a way best suited to the needs of the individual. This pilot is a key first step in demonstrating the effectiveness of adapted counselling provision for autistic YP. By using evidence of successful outcomes, OTR hope to secure additional funding to continue to expand their services.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 49 weekly				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£50,000	£25,000	£25,000 (pending)	Nil	Nil
	(Note previous funding awarded: 2019/20 - 0-19 Children's Services Grant £6,000 expanding range of groupwork offered to clients; 2021/22 - Cllr Grant £1,457 Counselling and Support; 2023/24 - Cllr Grant £1,000 Counselling and Support; 2024/25 - Cllr Grants x 2 totalling £1,125 towards Managing Emotions Group Work Course)				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Fairhurst is aware of this application.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£10,000				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Unity <i>(Test Valley / Andover South)</i>		£9,374	£7,000		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Unity is the infrastructure organisation for the community and voluntary sector in Test Valley. They have two pieces of land used to grow food to support local people with the cost of living, and to promote a healthy diet in the interests of physical and mental wellbeing, through their “grow, cook, eat” service. Produce from both plots are distributed via Unity’s travelling pantry and they also run a “plant to plate” programme which teaches people how to grow food and provides recipes for them to try at home.</p> <p>Unity wants to rationalise the plots to make best use of the land and the environmental conditions. The allotment will become the source of vegetables, herbs etc, while the farmland will be turned into a community orchard. This initial funding will help buy equipment, fruit trees and bushes for the community orchard. One section has already been planted (with the help of a grant from the Tree Council).</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 500 residents weekly				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£19,874	£9,374	£10,500	Nil	Nil
	(Note previous funding awarded: 2019/20 - £38,520 Supporting Families Transition Grants towards two projects; 2020/21 – £9820 Covid-19 Emergency Fund & £500 Cllr Grant for a helpline; 2021/22 - £19365 Supporting Families Transition Grant towards social prescribing for young people, £46,000 Covid-19 Getting Going Again Grant towards Test Valley Restart Service & £150 Cllr Grant towards the Jubilee Volunteer Awards; 2023/24 - £6022 Waste Prevention Grant for a Rural Book Swap; 2024/25 – Cllr Grant - £400 towards volunteer training and some gardening equipment)				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr P North is aware of this application.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£7,000				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
East Boldre Village Hall <i>(New Forest/Brockenhurst)</i>		£24,500	£24,500		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>East Boldre Village Hall, situated in the New Forest National Park, was built by the RAF as a Concert Hall in 1918 and is the only remaining building from the RFC Beaulieu WW1 airfield. Extensions and alterations over time have made the building unattractive and resulted in an awkward internal layout, poor natural lighting and ventilation and unnecessary storage space impacting on useable floor space. A diverse range of the local community uses the hall, including the Parish Council, local farmers and businesses, therapists, interest clubs, music bands, exercise classes, parent and toddler groups, coffee mornings and film showings.</p> <p>The organisation is undertaking a major redevelopment of the Hall. This includes pitching the north and south-facing flat roofs, timber cladding part of the urban brickwork (restoring the original shape and look of the concert hall), reconfiguring the internal layout to increase the useable space, connecting the two halls (access currently being via the toilets), enhancing and modernising hall facilities and measures to reduce the hall's carbon footprint and generally future-proofing the building. The estimated cost for the entire project is approx. £350,000 and works are expected to start next spring and conclude by August 2025.</p> <p>This application is for funding towards the refurbishment of the kitchen and toilets to make them fit for purpose, together with the installation of AV equipment and CCTV and the purchase of replacement chairs. The upgrade will make the Hall more appealing to users and attract additional groups and activities in the Hall. The CCTV will also help to reduce incidences of anti-social behaviour and improve safety and security for Hall users and the caretaker.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx.1500 people				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£58,620	£24,500	£31,800	£2,320	£500
	<i>(Note previous funding awarded: 2023/24 - Cllr Grant awarded for - New Forest Romani Heritage - £401; 2024/25 - Cllr Grant awarded for Village Hall Redevelopment Project - £500)</i>				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Mans is aware of this application.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£24,500				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Wonderseekers/Winchester Science Centre <i>(Winchester / Itchen Valley)</i>		£25,000	Up to £25,000 towards shortfall		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Wonderseekers is an independent educational charity, based at Winchester Science Centre, delivering an extensive schools, industry and community outreach/volunteer programme to widen access and participation in science, technology, engineering and maths.</p> <p>The provision of a new learning zone, 'Our Place On Earth', is the first project of a wider Masterplan, supporting children aged 6 –12 to use scientific methods to explore local biodiversity, meet the region's environmental scientists and develop conservation skills through five interlinked themes (inspired by the South Downs landscape). The overall cost of this is in the region of £900,000. This part of the project is to create a new, interactive environmental science learning zone. It will allow children, schools, and families to connect with the South Downs and engage in local climate action. By utilizing the newly acquired South Downs chalk grassland around the Centre and leveraging science engagement expertise, Wonderseekers will offer accessible opportunities for local children to strengthen their bond with nature and develop skills for local climate and biodiversity initiatives. The learning zone is envisioned as an inspiring, versatile, and accessible space, providing families and schools with opportunities to engage in informal, relatable environmental activities. A key focus will be collaborating with local teachers and children to introduce a new on-site schools programme about South Downs biodiversity. This programme will support teachers in using the local landscape for curriculum-linked learning and offer free, repeat engagement workshops and activities in schools and communities for those unable to visit the Centre.</p> <p>Grant applications have been made to several organisations towards the whole project, and the outcomes are not yet known.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 166,000				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£125,454	Not yet known	yes	Nil	Nil
	<i>(Note previous funding awarded: 2016/17 - £920 Cllr Grant awarded for a Parent & Daughter STEM event.)</i>				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Councillor Porter supports the application.				
<i>Recommendation/conditions</i>	Up to £25,000 towards shortfall				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Gosport D-Day Fellowship <i>(Gosport / Leesland & Town)</i>		£9,999	£4,000		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>The aim of the Fellowship is to ensure the memory of events in Gosport and its environs that led up to D-Day, 6 June 1944, are maintained.</p> <p>Stokes Bay is already a destination for local, national and international visitors alike, however the heritage of the area is not immediately apparent despite having received regular international media attention. Therefore, the Fellowship have planning permission for the building of a memorial and will bring together other relevant memorials to one site. They will also enhance the setting with the provision of accessible seating, present the history and stories of the events regarding the D-Day landings, providing a place for contemplation, reflection and remembrance alongside numerous heritage assets in Stokes Bay recorded within the Gosport Heritage Action Zone, connected to D-Day and Operation Overlord. This will enhance understanding and significance of the local area, bring awareness and interpretation to its diverse cultural heritage and financial benefit to Gosport and Hampshire through tourism and visits by groups and educators.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 35 per visit				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£30,093	£10,989	£8,493 (including £5,000 from Gosport BC)	£10,611	£1,000
	(Note previous funding awarded: 2017/18 Cllr Grant - £950 towards presentation of D-Day history to groups and schools; 2024/25 Cllr grants x 2 towards this project totalling £1,000.)				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Meenaghan supports the application. Cllr Huggins has not commented due to her association with the organisation as a Borough Councillor.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£4,000				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Integr8 Dance <i>(Winchester/Eastleigh)</i>		£8,608	£4,804		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Integr8 Dance is a dance company, based in Winchester and Portsmouth, covering south Hampshire. They work with all sections of society, from young to old and focus on the benefits of dance for all people, such as confidence, getting fit and bridging communities. The company has self-funded a small-scale not-for-profit wellbeing programme called 'Move Well', facilitating wellbeing sessions to over 60 children as part of a case study to gain feedback on how dance and movement can impact children's emotional, physical, and mental wellbeing within the school environment. Gaining funding for this project will help deliver the programme to more children and create resources for children and teachers to help improve the current mental health and wellbeing issues experienced by young people.</p> <p>The overall aims of the project, to build resilience and confidence through creative approaches to exploring movement, dance, teamwork and wellbeing in primary schools, are devised from a child-centred approach to better support the lives of children when engaged with school. The programme offers a 6-week block of sessions at schools selected specifically for their high numbers of pupil premium children. Research shows these children are less likely to access support for their mental health. Strategies on how to reduce stress and anxiety will be included. If successful, the funding will pay for resources needed to deliver the project in 3 schools, collect data on a larger scale and create resources that can be used in other schools in Hampshire. Costs include art supplies, Worry Monsters (to help the children talk about what is worrying them), journals, mats for meditation, working with a videographer to document the project, as well as create resources which can be used indefinitely by schools themselves.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 180 children				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£9608	£8608	Nil	£1,000	Nil
	(Note previous funding awarded: 2019/20 - £7,344 Short Breaks for Children with Disabilities and Additional Needs Grant & £4921 Short Breaks Exception Fund; 2020/21 – £4,999 Waste Prevention Community Grant towards Trashmouth project; 2021/22 £16,844 Short Break Activities Programme for Children with Disabilities)				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Councillor Hiscock supports this application.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£4,804				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Victoria Hall, Hartley Wintney <i>(Basingstoke & Deane / Hartley Wintney & Yateley West)</i>		£12,000	£5,452		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Victoria Hall is a busy community facility which hosts a variety of clubs and events each week. The basement area of the Hall has been subjected to periodic incidents of water ingress with water pooling and accumulating on the floor area, preventing use of the space for reliable storage. The wall areas are affected by dampness with general deterioration, defective renders and evidence of mineral salt contamination.</p> <p>At present, a large number of hirers store equipment in the cellars. This includes the box for the prepared Rest Centre. The equipment is getting damp and sometimes develops mildew, which then means the equipment has had to be destroyed. This has caused some hirers to store their equipment elsewhere and also look at moving their hirings away from the Hall. Also, on wet weather days there is a strong smell of damp in the hall. The project will overcome this and give hirers and customers a better environment to operate in.</p> <p>Improvement works include removing existing defect dense renders to walls and provide a termination lap, install mesh reinforced lap detail termination with concrete slab, prepare and apply a multicoat tanking render system and install new twin pumping system, pipework, non-return valves and high-water alarm.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 500-700 weekly				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£21,452	£5,452	£5,000	£11,000	Nil
	<i>(Note previous funding awarded: 2018/19 – Cllr Grant - £500 towards car park bollards; 2018/19 – Community Buildings Capital Fund - £21,300 towards new toilets; 2021/22 – Rural Community Fund - £589 towards installation of a BT line)</i>				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Davies is aware of this application				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£5,452				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus Committee <i>(Test Valley / Test Valley Central)</i>		£24,000	£24,000		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>This Community Bus, running since 1980, provides regular bus services to Salisbury, Romsey, Southampton, Winchester and Andover. Services allow passengers, who are mainly elderly, to travel from rural communities to local towns to go shopping, attend appointments, visit banks and libraries etc. There is no other viable form of public transport available locally. The Committee is a not-for-profit charity, run entirely by volunteers. The bus is regularly maintained and undergoes regular safety checks. The bus is now 8 years old, and following recent mechanical problems, it is considered appropriate to replace it so a reliable service can continue to be provided. The Committee wish to purchase an electric vehicle. Broughton community is very focused on decarbonisation and there are now suitable models of electric vehicles of this size available, with a reasonable operating range. HCC's Climate Change team have confirmed their support for this project, stating that using an electric bus can reduce carbon emissions by 70% when compared to diesel. In this instance this would equate to over 26 tonnes of carbon reduction over its lifetime, which is very favourable.</p> <p>In 2023, the bus carried out over 2000 passenger journeys. Although passenger numbers are down about 15% on pre-pandemic levels, numbers are increasing and up by 9% in the first 9 months of this year compared to the same period last year, with a projected annual mileage of 10,000 miles. Along with scheduled service runs, during the summer, excursions to popular local destinations such as Weymouth, Swanage and the New Forest, are provided. These trips are well attended. Transport services for local community groups are also provided, and services are widely publicised. HCC's Community Transport team state that this Community Bus provides an excellent service in the Broughton and Mottisfont and wider area and have done for decades without support from HCC. We do not have the funding to support this service so therefore without this organisation, residents in these areas would have no access to public transport.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 2500 passenger journeys in 2024				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£68,000	£24,000	£25,000 (District & Parish)	£19,000	Nil
	(Note previous funding awarded: £10,000 in 2016 from Community Challenge Fund to support purchase of last bus – total cost £30,000)				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Drew is aware of this application.				
<i>Recommendation/conditions</i>	£24,000 – conditional on confirmation of secured match funding				

Appendix 2

Applications to the Parish Town Council Investment Fund (PTCIF) – 2024/25

Summary Table

Applicant	Project Title	Amount requested	Amount recommended
Yateley Town Council	Tythings Community Buildings and Council Offices – Solar	£22,035	£22,035
Wield Village Hall	Energy efficiency works	£8,000	£7,991
Andover Trees United (ATU)	Diamond Wood partnership	£14,177	£14,177
Heckfield Parish Council	Energy efficiency works	£15,576	£15,576
Ringwood Town Council	Carver's Clubhouse – Solar	£18,323	£15,000
Liss Parish Council	Energy efficiency works	£5,965	£5,965
	Total	£84,076	£80,744

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Yateley Town Council <i>(Basingstoke & Deane/Hartley Wintney and Yateley West)</i>		£22,035	£22,035		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Yateley Town Council has invested in a building energy audit and net zero strategy which show that their Council Offices and Tythings Community Buildings are prime candidates for reducing their carbon output by installing solar PV and battery storage.</p> <p>The applicant has selected Brit Solar as it provides the best value for money, has the shortest payback, and projects the most CO2e savings. The project predicts a financial saving of £4618/yr according to their current fixed price electricity contract. This calculates to a favourable overall repayment period of 4-5 years.</p> <p>Match funding is not a requirement of the fund, but Yateley TC have committed £2,950 of their own funds, equating to approx. 12%.</p> <p>Support from Climate Change team - Yateley Town Council's application supports Hampshire County Council's climate change targets. The installation would provide an annual saving of 2.30 tonnes of CO2, contributing favourably to the goal of carbon neutrality by 2050, and a short payback period. It can be recommended that this proposal is supported.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 2000 residents				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£24,985.00	£22,035	£0	£2,950	£0
	<i>(Note previous funding awarded: N/A)</i>				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Councillor Davies is aware of the grant.				
<i>Recommendation/conditions</i>	£22,035				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Wield Village Hall <i>(East Hampshire/Alton Rural)</i>		£8,000	£7,991		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Wield Village Hall embarked on an ambitious energy improvement project in 2022, which was partially funded by HCC.</p> <p>At that time, planning permission was not required to install new double-glazed windows, but during the course of the project, EHDC newly classified the village hall as a Heritage Building and therefore they needed to change the specification of the windows.</p> <p>They now require an additional £7991 to complete the project as originally specified. Combined with the previous grant this equates to a total of £29,892, which remains within the total £30k amount available to each applicant. The applicant has selected Allwood to supply the remaining windows and door, as it provides the best value for money whilst adhering the new requirements of EHDC.</p> <p>The completed works to date have already allowed them to increase their use of the hall during last Winter, which was previously too cold and expensive to run during colder months.</p> <p>Climate Change Team support - Wield Village Hall's application supports Hampshire County Council's climate change targets, in particular the target to be carbon neutral by 2050, with favourable carbon reduction benefits. It can be recommended that this proposal is approved.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 25/day.				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£8,511	£7,991	£0	£520	£0
	<i>(Note previous funding awarded: £21,901, PTCIF in 2022)</i>				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Councillor Kemp-Gee is very supportive of the project.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£7,991				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Andover Trees United (ATU) <i>(Test Valley/Test Valley Central)</i>		£14,177	£14,177		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Andover Trees United (ATU) manage Andover's Diamond Wood, a permissive open space of 14 Ha. The site was planted in 2013 and managed by the Countryside Service, with informal support from ATU. From 2021 ATU agreed to enter a partnership and lease agreement to manage the whole wood on HCC's behalf in order to allow them to apply to this fund.</p> <p>ATU runs weekly volunteer conservation workdays, monthly weekend workdays, monthly citizen science events and, through an internship programme for young graduates, carries out weekly field data collection to build up a picture of the ecology of the site. Educational, therapeutic and practical sessions are run for young people and families, local schools, the home-schooling community, vulnerable and at-risk children and young people within the wood and in the purpose-built education building in the dedicated area known as Harmony Woods.</p> <p>This application deals with training and equipment costs for delivery of the partnership, to ensure that the site will continue to benefit the whole community and that it will continue to grow in biodiversity, being managed for the benefit of wildlife, for education and training and for responsible access by the community. The project also incorporates the additional responsibility of managing customer enquiries, H&S management and risk assessment. The majority of this work is carried out by volunteers equating to approx. 5000 hours throughout the year which forms part of their match funding. HCC Countryside Service are supportive of the project and grant award, subject to confirmation by both parties of their Management Principles document.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 50 Daily				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£15,677	£14,177	£0	£1,500	£0
	<i>(Note previous funding awarded: N/A)</i>				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Drew is aware of the grant.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£14,177 Conditional as recognition of one-off set up costs, and on agreement of Management Principles being drafted by HCC Countryside Service.				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Heckfield Parish Council <i>(Basingstoke & Deane / Hartley Wintney & Yateley West)</i>		£15,576	£15,576		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Following the completion of a comprehensive Energy Efficiency audit at Heckfield Memorial Hall, funded by the PTCIF and completed in 2023, Heckfield Parish Council now wish to proceed with some of the recommendations made.</p> <p>They are focussing on the works which are most easily deliverable, not requiring planning permission or listed building consent, whilst also delivering the most favourable energy/CO2 savings.</p> <p>The works include changing all lights to LED, installing secondary double glazing, and installing destratification fans to circulate warm air down from the vaulted ceiling.</p> <p>Climate Change Team support - This application supports Hampshire County Council's climate change targets, in particular the target to be carbon neutral by 2050. The results of their energy efficiency audit demonstrate that completing these works will achieve a favourable annual saving of 15,570 kW/h equating to 3.9 tonnes of CO2 annually. It can be recommended that this proposal is supported.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 250/month				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£19,470	£15,576	£3,894 (ACRE)	£0	£0
	<i>(Note previous funding awarded: PTCIF - £1,495 in 2023 to fund their energy efficiency audit.)</i>				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Davies is aware of the grant.				
<i>Recommendation/conditions</i>	£15,576				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Ringwood Town Council <i>(New Forest / Ringwood)</i>		£18,323	£15,000		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Ringwood Town Council declared a Climate Emergency in October 2019, following the lead of HCC, building plans for carbon reduction into their Neighbourhood Plan. The clubhouse was built in 2015, and complies with our eligibility criteria of being as efficient as possible prior to solar installation with a current energy rating of B. The installation of solar PV panels will make Carvers Clubhouse net zero in terms of carbon footprint.</p> <p>Ringwood Town Council's Carvers Clubhouse, at the heart of the recreation ground, is used by all age groups to meet each other or take part in an activity. Carvers Clubhouse provides a location where children and young people can take part in activities to enable them to have the best possible start in life, also providing free activities and meals for the most vulnerable. A wide range of community groups use the facilities regularly including young carers, Under 1's club, breast feeding and home schooling groups. Free or low-cost events and activities are arranged throughout the year including girl's cricket, Kids Crafting, Skate Jam, and Art Workshops.</p> <p>There will be an income generation from selling excess energy to the grid during summer months. This will be used to increase opening hours and to put on more free community activities. There is a demand for longer opening hours allowing access for refreshments, toilet facilities, and a wider range of weekend activities for all age groups. Some of the income will be retained to fund maintenance of the panels. It is estimated that the income generated from excess energy will be in the region of £1450 in the first year. Support from Climate Change team - This application supports Hampshire County Council's climate change targets. The installation is estimated to deliver a favourable annual 6.1 tonnes Co2 saving, with a payback period of 5 years. It can be recommended that this proposal is supported.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 7000 annually				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£18,323	£15,000	£0	£3,323	£0
	<i>(Note previous funding awarded: N/A)</i>				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Thierry is aware of the grant.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£15,000				

Organisation (District/Division)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Liss Parish Council (East Hampshire/Petersfield Hangars)		£5,965	£5,965		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Liss Village Hall is a registered charity that is managed by Liss Parish Council. It is regularly used by the community for events from exercise classes, parties and local clubs such as Liss Model railway society. The Liss Parish Council office is also on Village Hall land owned by the Liss Village Hall charity.</p> <p>Liss Parish Council, and the charities it manages, aim to become carbon neutral by 2050 in line with the target set by Hampshire County Council and national government. In July 2024 Liss Parish Council carried out an energy audit to inform on the best approach to achieve this target.</p> <p>One of the most pressing and effective improvements to the building is to improve roof insulation which will serve to reduce emissions, the main recommendation which is highlighted in their supporting EPC, and their energy audit.</p> <p>Match funding is not a requirement of this fund, and with low reserves only covering 1 month of running costs, Liss PC do not have any match funding.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 6500 annually				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£5,965	£5,965	£0	£0	£0
	(Note previous funding awarded: PTCIF - £4,990 July 2024, to inform this and future projects)				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Oppenheimer is very supportive of this grant application.				
<i>Recommendation/conditions</i>	£5,965				

Appendix 3
Applications to the Rural Community Fund (RCF) – 2024/25

Summary Table

Applicant	Project Title	Amount requested	Amount recommended
Boldre Parish Council	Health & Wellbeing equipment	£4,750	£4,750
Ingham's Nurseries	Business expansion	£5,000	£5,000
	Total	£9,750	£9,750

Organisation (District/Division)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Boldre Parish Council (New Forest / Lymington & Boldre)		£4750	£4750		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Introduction of new health and wellbeing equipment suitable for children over 8 and adults at Boldre Recreation Ground. Includes table tennis table (both the table and installation costs), resurfacing of existing basketball court and line marking, sheltered seating, climbing frame/balance beam/somersault bars and balance stones/sitting pole. They have set up a focus group of the target age group and have been regularly consulting them with plans. Upon grant approval, and once the final equipment has been shortlisted, they plan to consult the parish as a whole and move forward with the preferred option. This would be online and a face-to-face consultation meeting at the local hall.</p> <p>They improved their play facilities for younger children in 2022, part funded by £2000 grant support from Cllr Dunning, and wish to expand availability of sports recreation to a wider audience in their area. For this project, £23,250 of eligible costs (not including resurfacing of basketball court), and with substantial match funding, they are seeking approx. 20% of the total cost (£4,750).</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 2000				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£29,250	£4,750	£19,500	£5,000	£0
	(Note previous funding awarded: 2022/23 Cllr Grant - £2,000 towards provision of new children's play area equipment)				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Dunning is aware of the grant.				
<i>Recommendation/conditions</i>	£4,750 conditional on confirmation of match funding				

Organisation <i>(District/Division)</i>	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended		
Ingham's Nurseries <i>(Basingstoke and Deane / Whitchurch & The Cleres)</i>		£5000	£5000		
<i>Application summary</i>	<p>Ingham's Nurseries is a Ltd Company based in Kingsclere, with a greenhouse and a small shop to sell vegetable plants seasonally, encouraging the community to grow and eat their own food.</p> <p>Private businesses are eligible to apply to the Rural Retailers scheme of the Rural Communities Fund. This scheme seeks to boost the rural economy and local employment opportunities. Ingham's are seeking funding to landscape a new area (1acre) adding fruit trees and bushes for sale and improving the site for biodiversity.</p> <p>'We have had an overwhelmingly great reception from local residents, and we hope to continue providing what is an important addition to the community in terms of positive mental health (encouraging getting out in the garden or allotment), money saving (growing their own food) and carbon reduction (grown on site in Hampshire).'</p> <p>The project will include building raised and sunken beds, landscaping for tree planting, and creation of pathways suitable for wheelchair/pushchair access. Their business plan provides details of sustained growth of the business, including a forecast threefold increase in turnover in year 3 and potential for an additional 10 part time locally employed people. In the future, as the business grows, they plan to add a cafe and outdoor area for use by the community - featuring a children's play area and nature garden.</p> <p>As per the requirements of the fund, 50% match funding comes from the business.</p>				
<i>Reach</i>	Will benefit approx. 5000				
<i>Funding</i>	Total Project Costs	Shortfall	Match funding from other organisations sought	Own funds committed	HCC already committed
	£10,470	£5,000	£0	£5,470	£0
	<i>(Note previous funding awarded:)</i>				
<i>Match scheme criteria</i>	Yes				
<i>Local Member Comments</i>	Cllr Thacker is supportive of the grant award.				
<i>Recommendation/ conditions</i>	£5,000				

Appendix 4

Summary of Officer Decisions made in 2024/25

Organisation	Project	Grant Fund	Grant Approved	Date Approved
Youth and Families Matter	'Family Foundations' pilot programme	LCF	£2,700	10/10/2024
Army Flying Museum	Bike rack	LCF	£1,500	10/10/2024
Liss Parish Council	Energy Efficiency Audits – 3 buildings	PTCIF	£4,990	22/07/2024
West End Parish Council	Energy Efficiency Audits – 2 buildings	PTCIF	£3,390	07/08/2024
Martin Club	Energy Efficiency Audit	PTCIF	£2,100	20/09/2024
Petersfield Town Council	Energy Efficiency Audit	PTCIF	£1,650	10/09/2024

Appendix 5

Leader's Community Grants - Guidance

1. What is funded?

The purpose of the scheme is to fund **one-off, time limited projects** which:

- provide community benefit and help local communities thrive; and
- help local organisations become financially self-supporting and not reliant on public sector funding.

Proposals will be particularly welcomed where they can demonstrate how they:

- respond to the [Climate Emergency](#), as declared by the Council in June 2019;
- provide or enhance digital engagement for the benefit of a whole community; and
- reduce demand for Council services.

Proposals must support the priorities and outcomes of Hampshire County Council's [Serving Hampshire - Strategic Plan for 2021 - 2025](#). It forms the cornerstone of all strategies and plans across directorates and service areas. It features four key aims:

- Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity;
- people in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives;
- people in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment; and
- people in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities.

Applications can be made for over £1,000 up to a maximum of £25,000 and may be for activity costs, a specific project and/or capital costs. Applications must demonstrate the value for money that will be delivered with the requested funding, in relation to the proposed outcomes and the Council's strategic objectives. Supporting evidence should be provided, where possible.

Applications with secured match funding, or that show clear evidence of having sought match funding, are more likely to be more successful. Organisations are expected to have also applied to local District or Parish Councils where local funding opportunities exist.

Self-help by organisations is encouraged, and therefore grants are normally up to 50% of the sum required to complete a project. If other County Council funding is contributed to the same project, e.g. through a County Councillor grant, this will be taken into account and the total sum given will not exceed 50%.

Supporting documentation will be required for all applications.

2. Who can apply?

- Organisations wishing to apply must be properly constituted with clear and effective governance and management structures.

- They must be delivering activities or services that benefit Hampshire residents.
- Organisations will not normally be eligible for grants where they hold unallocated reserves in excess of one year's running costs. Where it is judged that unallocated reserves are unreasonably in excess of what is required or not allocated for legitimate purposes, those organisations may receive a reduced grant.
- All organisations are expected to have an agreed reserves policy that addresses their financial risk.

The following organisations **are not funded** under this scheme:

- individuals;
- services provided solely within the unitary authority areas of Portsmouth City Council and/or Southampton City Council;
- other local authorities, including District, Parish and Town Councils (Parish and Town Councils may be able to apply for grant funding from the [Parish and Town Council Investment Fund](#));
- commercial/profit making organisations;
- schools, including pre-schools and colleges;
- large, national organisations or 'household name charities', including local branches;
- political parties or groups affiliated with a political party or from lobbying/campaigning organisations;
- applications will only be considered from faith groups who can demonstrate their facilities are open and used by the local community other than for worship-related activities and then only for works in relation to the Disability Discrimination Act;

3. What is not funded?

The following projects are **not** funded under this scheme:

- applications for £1,000 or less - where relevant, these should be directed to the [County Councillors Grants Scheme](#)
- the purchase of land;
- retrospective projects; grants are awarded for works to be carried out in the future;
- maintenance, repair or improvements of building, facilities or land for which functional responsibility is held by another local authority (including a local District, Borough or Parish Council)
- general running costs of organisations - these grants are not intended to replace shortfalls in service delivery budgets or replace funding for other support you may be able to obtain, or that you have obtained from us in the past;
- activities that form the core provision of the organisation
- ongoing/predictable building maintenance or IT infrastructure costs – organisations are expected to have made provision for such costs
- ongoing staff costs - we may fund a fixed-term member of staff or consultant to carry out a time-limited piece of work;
- repeat applications to cover previously funded activities/annual applications for the same activities;
- profit-making or fund-raising activities, or onward distribution of funds;

- projects which are better suited to other Hampshire County Council grant schemes - where relevant, applications may be transferred to more appropriate schemes;

All organisations in receipt of a grant will be expected to complete and submit an evaluation, demonstrating the value that the grant has added to the community through the funded activity/project/capital work.

Organisations will not be awarded more than one grant per financial year and previous levels of Council funding will be taken into account when assessing any new applications.

Rural Communities Fund – Guidance

1. What is funded

The Fund provides support under the following four areas:

- Climate Change Resilience (to include Flood Alleviation) – we want to help rural communities deliver solutions to Climate Change in their local areas to benefit both people and property responding to the [Climate Emergency](#), as declared by the Council in June 2019
- Countryside – we want to help rural communities improve their local natural environment, increase access to the countryside or enhance biodiversity
- Rural Economy and Business (to include Rural Retailers) – we want to help all Rural Businesses and Community Enterprises grow, increase their productivity and ultimately improve the services that are offered to communities in rural areas
- Other – we are keen to support other projects or initiatives that will help build community resilience and/or encourage self-help in rural areas e.g. supporting vulnerable and older people; supporting innovative transport solutions to access services

Proposals must support the priorities and outcomes of Hampshire County Council's [Serving Hampshire - Strategic Plan for 2021 - 2025](#). It forms the cornerstone of all strategies and plans across directorates and service areas.

It features four key aims:

- Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity;
- people in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives;
- people in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment; and
- people in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities.

Applications should meet all of the following criteria in order to be considered. It is a competitive process, so grants will be approved on their merits.

Projects/activities must deliver measurable results against the priorities of the Fund

The project/activity must take place in rural Hampshire, a small market town, or directly benefit rural communities

Applications must be able to demonstrate support from the local community and Parish/Town Council

2. Who can apply

- Applicants must have a clear management structure within its constitution or suitable governance/terms of reference
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate that without support from Hampshire County Council the project/activity would not be able to proceed at all or to the extent outlined in the application

- Applicants with significant funds in place or higher levels of reserves must demonstrate why funding from Hampshire County Council is needed
- Applications must include a project plan, business plan or specification (where applicable)
- If the application is successful, it is expected that you will have a plan to continue the project/activity after the end of the funding period
- Successful applicants must provide appropriate reporting and/or monitoring for their projects/activities
- Successful applicants must acknowledge the support of Hampshire County Council in all publicity and media coverage relating to the project, and in the organisation's next annual audited statement of accounts
- Applicants must have appropriate policies, procedures and insurance in place
- Applications for rural retailer and community enterprise schemes must adhere to the detailed scheme guidance (contact us for the necessary details)

3. Financial eligibility

- Organisations will not normally be eligible for grants where they hold unallocated reserves in excess of one year's running costs. In cases where reserves held exceed this level, a reduced level of funding may be agreed.
- All charitable organisations are expected to have an agreed reserves policy that addresses their financial risk
- We typically fund up to a maximum of £5,000.
- Organisations seeking funding of less than £500 are generally recommended to look at [County Councillor grants](#)
- This is a 50% match funded scheme, though match funding of less than 50% may be considered in some circumstances. An element of match funding can be 'in-kind', e.g. through volunteer time (excluding Community Service Payback Teams).
- For commercial businesses, the match funding cannot be sourced from any other grant making authority. For community enterprises, the match funding can be sourced from other grants

4. What is not funded?

- Projects that receive funding from other Hampshire County Council sources (except for County Councillor grants)
- General maintenance or renovation projects for Community Buildings. Improvement projects will be considered where a strong community benefit can be demonstrated
- Individuals

- Profit making events/activities (with the exception of applications for rural retailer and community enterprise schemes)
- Projects or activities solely within the unitary authority areas of Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council
- Non-constituted organisations
- Projects/work that has already been carried out, you must apply for a grant and receive an offer from us before starting any work or making any purchases
- General/core running costs of an organisation

Parish and Town Council Investment Fund – Guidance

Hampshire County Council recognises the significant value Parish and Town Councils bring to the lives of Hampshire's residents. Their local knowledge and expertise on the needs of their neighbourhoods makes them very well placed to drive local initiatives forward.

The priority of this fund is to support partnerships between local communities and the County Council. It will provide pump priming investments to pilot new schemes which respond to local needs and the growing pressure on County Council Services.

The Fund is available to Parish and Town Councils (PTC's) and properly constituted local Community Groups who are working in partnership with County Council Services.

1. What can the Fund support?

There are three primary areas available for investments:

- Capital Funding:

£1,000 to £30,000 for schemes which enhance existing or provide new infrastructure and equipment to support a local community

Energy Efficiency Grants: Improvements to Community Buildings to address carbon reduction and climate change resilience in line with HCC's declaration of the [Climate Emergency](#) in June 2019.

- Revenue Funding:

Meeting local needs: Usually for investments of £1,000 to £30,000 in schemes that enable local communities to be more resilient. For example, schemes which encourage 'neighbourliness' in tackling social isolation or in the management of community assets.

- Training:

Investments up to £10,000 provide appropriate training in the local community. This could cover a broad range of schemes, for example training from specialist skills for Parish Clerk through to local path wardens looking after their rights of way

Note: The amounts above are intended as guidelines and each scheme will be judged on its own merits. Schemes looking for investment of less than £1000 are generally advised to look at [County Councillor Grants](#).

2. Fund criteria and eligibility:

To secure investment from the Fund, the local partnership should ensure:

- They include representatives from both the relevant PTC/s or CG and the relevant County Council service
- The scheme will deliver measurable results against the priorities of the Fund
- The scheme has a project or business plan along with any additional documentation deemed necessary by the County Council service involved. For example,

safeguarding measures for schemes engaging social isolation, or design standards for rights of way projects. Templates and support will be provided as necessary

- Clearly defined roles and responsibilities for all members in the local partnership
- Clear demonstration that without support from the Fund the scheme would not be able to proceed at all or to the extent outlined in the application
- Applicants with significant funds in place or higher levels of reserves must demonstrate why investment from the Fund is needed
- It is recognised that applicants will have varying levels of resources and reserves, therefore some flexibility will be permitted in terms of the amount of match funding required. Schemes will be assessed upon the value and financial saving the scheme will create to the community and in support of County Council services
- If the scheme is ongoing, how it will remain sustainable after the initial investment has been made
- An effective monitoring and reporting process are in place, including a final review of the benefits of continuing and/or variability of wider roll out of the scheme to more communities

3. What can't be funded

- Projects that receive funding from other Hampshire County Council sources (except for County Councillor grants)
- Individuals and non-constituted organisations
- Profit making events/activities (except for applications for local community enterprise schemes)
- Projects or activities solely within the unitary authority areas of Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council
- Projects/work that has already been carried out, you must apply and receive an offer from us before starting any work or making any purchases
- General/core running costs of an organisation