

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage
Date:	25 February 2019
Title:	Community Buildings Capital Fund 2018/19 (requests for £25,000 and under)
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. Recommendations

1.1. That the Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage:

- a) Approves grant funding of £128,360 from the Community Buildings Capital Fund 2018/19.
- b) Approves the transfer of £98,809 from the Community Buildings Capital Fund 2018/19 to the Recreation and Heritage Community Fund 2019/20.

2. Executive Summary

2.1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage for £128,360 of funding from the Community Buildings Capital Fund 2018/19.

2.2 It also seeks approval from the Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage to transfer the remaining £98,809 from the Community Buildings Capital Fund 2018/19 to the Recreation and Heritage Community Fund.

3. Summary of Grants:

3.1 Community Buildings Capital Fund 2018/19 applications

Organisation	District	Recommended
Alton Community Association	East Hampshire	£6,000
Community First Wessex, Leigh Park Community Centre	Havant	£9,880

Organisation	District	Recommended
Fordingbridge and District Community Association	New Forest	£0
Grayshott and Hindhead Institute and Village Hall	East Hampshire	£0
Recreation Ground, North Baddesley	Test Valley	£0
Sarisbury Athletic Cricket Club	Fareham	£16,000
Shedfield Reading and Recreation Rooms	Winchester	£0
Silchester Village Hall	Basingstoke and Deane	£3,040
St Paul's, Winchester	Winchester	£25,000
Valley Park Community Association, Baddesley	Test Valley	£15,000
Victoria Hall Charity, Hartley and Wintney	Hart	£21,300
Weeke Community Centre, Winchester	Winchester	£22,140
Whitehill Village Hall	East Hampshire	£10,000
Total		£128,360

4. Contextual information

- 4.1. The County Council works in partnership with specific community organisations, particularly Community Associations and Village Hall Trusts which seek to enable local people to meet the recreational, educational, social, cultural and environmental needs of their local communities. These organisations give local people an opportunity to participate in local activities and encourage local initiatives by people of all ages.
- 4.2. Partnership funding from the Community Buildings Capital Fund enables the voluntary and community sector to maintain the quality of Hampshire's village halls and Community Association buildings. This finance enables improvements to be made to those buildings and can assist with the development of new facilities where appropriate. The provision of these buildings by the voluntary and community sector enable local communities to access the services and facilities they need.
- 4.3. Thirteen organisations have applied for 2018/19 funding and details are set out in Appendix 2.

5. Budget position 2018/19

5.1

	£
Budget approval for 2018/19	125,000
Transfer from revenue grants 2018/19 (18 January 2018)	208,994
Remainder from 2017/18 funds at 5 March 2018	12,322
Contribution from Property Services (5 March 2018)	30,000
Unspent / returned funds at 9 July 2018	1,561
Unspent / returned funds at 3 September 2018	287
Transfer from revenue grants 2018/19 (3 September 2018)	15,000
Previously awarded (9 July 2018)	51,350
Previously awarded (3 September 2018)	114,645
Grants recommended for approval in this report	128,360
Remaining balance	98,809

5.2 As the Community Buildings Capital Fund is now closed, it is recommended the remaining balance and any future unspent/returned funds from projects yet to complete be transferred to the Recreation and Heritage Community Fund.

6. Criteria of grant

6.1. Criteria for the Community Buildings Capital Fund are set out in Appendix 1.

7. Other considerations

7.1. Legal Implications: The Council has wide powers under Section 19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to provide recreational facilities and to contribute by way of a grant or loan towards the expenses incurred by voluntary bodies in providing such facilities and activities.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Strategic Plan**

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	no
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

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.)

Document

Location

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equality Duty

1.1. 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 under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

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

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

1.1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

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

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. Not applicable.

Criteria for Community Buildings Capital Fund

What is funded?

The Community Buildings Capital Fund supports capital based projects including refurbishment and improvement of Hampshire community centres, village halls and charitable and voluntary organisations (which offer a full and varied open access community programme).

Hampshire County Council can fund up to a maximum of 50% of the total project costs not exceeding a maximum grant of £25,000.

The aim of this funding programme is to focus on projects which provide improvements that reduce running costs and develop facilities which support early intervention and prevention through helping people to stay safe, eat well, be active, access information and advice and connect with others.

Examples of eligible projects include:

- installation of insulation, new windows and a modern central heating system which could have a significant effect on heating costs as well as carbon footprint
- building of an extension onto an existing centre to accommodate the needs of other local community groups which were previously housed in an old, inadequate building with high maintenance and heating bills
- installation of a [Changing Place toilet](#) or improvements to access or facilities for people with disabilities to make community venues more inclusive. We would expect any applications for new buildings or large extensions to show consideration has been given to the development of a Changing Place even if it is not included in the final project.

The programme is not designed to be overly prescriptive and developed innovative ideas for projects are encouraged.

What isn't funded?

The following organisations are not funded under this scheme:

- Parish Councils
- Other local authorities
- Groups and organisations whose main priority is of an individual focus or single use e.g. playgroup, lunch clubs or youth groups
- Uniformed organisations
- School properties, including preschools
- Sports clubs or venues
- Theatres

The following projects are not funded under this scheme:

- The purchase of land.
- Equipment not directly attributable to the building i.e. we will fund fitted kitchen equipment and sound systems, but would not fund a television or hi-fi system. We will also not fund equipment intended for the use of a separate trading arm or commercial organisation using the premises.
- Capital works that have already been carried out. We cannot retrospectively fund projects; grants are awarded for works to be carried out in the future.

Organisations will not normally be awarded more than one grant per financial year and previously funded projects must be completed before a new application is made.

Grant criteria and eligibility

The Community Buildings Capital Fund is open to the following community based organisations who benefit a local community/local communities in Hampshire, support the priorities and outcomes of Hampshire County Council's [Serving Hampshire - Strategic Plan for 2017-2021](#) and improve the health and wellbeing for all, improving the quality of life for all, particularly those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged:

- Village halls (not parish-run halls)
- Community associations
- Charitable and voluntary organisations which offer a full and varied open access community programme.

These organisations must be properly constituted with clear and effective local governance and management structures.

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 charitable organisations are expected to have an agreed reserves policy that addresses their financial risk.

Grant criteria

Capital based projects must fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Building repairs, extensions and refurbishments
- Capital improvements that reduce running costs
- Health and Safety issues
- Equipment that will become a permanent fixture within the building which improves access and/or increases usage (the exception to this are tables, chairs and storage units which will also be funded)
- Capital based feasibility studies.

Organisations need to demonstrate:

- The provision of open access community programmes/activities from the community building for the benefit of the local community
- The impact the capital based project will make to the local community, the organisation and wider society (if appropriate)
- The local community has been involved in identifying the need for the project and support it.

Applicants will be expected to have obtained permission from the landlord to undertake the capital work. If required applicants will also be expected to have obtained (or engaged in the process of) planning permission and/or listed buildings consent (if appropriate) to carry out the works.

Where appropriate, depending on the grant sum requested, the organisation will be expected to submit supporting documentation. All documentation will be used, alongside the application form, to assess against the grant criteria.

Feasibility studies

In order to assist voluntary organisations apply for funds from other sources, Hampshire County Council may support the costs of feasibility studies. Applications will be considered for 50% of the costs of such studies up to a maximum of £500.

Community Buildings Capital Fund 2018/19
Application assessment summary

Each grant application has been assessed against the Community Buildings Capital Fund criteria (Appendix 1) using a standard template.

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Alton Community Association (East Hampshire/ Alton Town)	Building Works phase 5 (£26,000)	<p>Alton Community Association seeks funding towards the refurbishment of two rooms to accommodate youth club and day care and associated access and toilet improvements as well as heating, glazing, floors and kitchenette. The organisation has had considerable funding from the Council for the previous four phases of their building works.</p> <p>100 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit.</p> <p>The organisation has committed £2,000 of its own funds to the project and has applied for £6,000 from East Hampshire District Council (expected outcome 16/02/2019) and £5,000 from Awards for All (expected outcome 01/02/2019). Councillor Joy was invited to comment.</p> <p><u>Note:</u> The organisation was awarded Community Building Capital Fund grants totalling £77,000 towards phases one to four of its building works (decision dates 16/09/2014, 09/04/2015, 21/03/2017 and 03/09/2018)</p> <p>It is recommended that Alton Community Association is awarded up to 25% of project costs to a maximum of £6,000, matching the contribution from East Hampshire District Council, on condition that this is secured.</p>	£13,000	£6,000
Communities First Wessex (Havant/ North East Havant)	Leigh Park Community Centre Garden, Kitchen and Bar Refurbishment (£19,759)	<p>Communities First Wessex, which took over the management of Leigh Park Community Centre on the dissolution of Leigh Park Community Association, seeks funding towards the refurbishment of the centre garden, kitchen and bar areas. This work would enable income generation through function hire which is currently hampered by the poor condition of the facilities. The organisation also intends to develop a 'play cafe' linked to their supported volunteering project, including provision for children and young people with disabilities. The centre serves an area of high multiple deprivation and vulnerable groups.</p> <p>500 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit.</p> <p>The organisation has secured £5,000 from Big Lottery and has applied for £4,879.79 in small applications to various trusts and grants. Havant Borough</p>	£9,879	£9,880

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
		<p>Council funds the maintenance of the fabric of the building, does not charge rental income and offers full discretionary business rate relief.</p> <p>Councillor Branson supports the application.</p> <p>It is recommended that Communities First Wessex is awarded up to 50% of project costs to a maximum of £9,880.</p>		
<p>Fordingbridge & District Community Association</p> <p><i>(New Forest/ Lyndhurst and Fordingbridge)</i></p>	<p>Re-roofing the Main Community Centre Building</p> <p><i>(£38,400)</i></p>	<p>Fordingbridge & District Community Association seeks funding towards re-roofing. The organisation is in talks with the Conservation Officer to find out if their preferred method for re-roofing is acceptable and if planning permission would be required. Estimates have not been provided and it is not clear if the project costs are realistic. As such, the project is not fully developed. The organisation has not applied for funding from their local district, town or parish council.</p> <p>7000 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit.</p> <p>The organisation has committed £18,000 of its own funds to the project and has secured £1,200 from Fordingbridge Rotary Club.</p> <p>Councillor Heron was invited to comment.</p> <p><u>Note:</u> The organisation was awarded £3,000 County Councillor Grant 2017/18 towards minor refurbishment works and equipment (decision day 01/03/2018).</p> <p>As the proposed project is not fully developed and the organisation has not approached its local council for support, it is recommended the application is not supported.</p>	£19,200	£0
<p>Grayshott and Hindhead Institute and Village Hall</p> <p><i>(East Hampshire/ Liphook, Headley and Grayshott)</i></p>	<p>Replacement Roof Windows</p> <p><i>(£25,200)</i></p>	<p>Grayshott and Hindhead Institute and Village Hall seeks funding towards replacing roof windows in its studio space. It has not actively sought funding from any other sources, including local district, town or parish councils.</p> <p>600 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit.</p> <p>The organisation has committed £12,600 of its own funds to the project.</p> <p>Councillor Mitchell was invited to comment.</p> <p>As the organisation has not actively sought funds from any other sources, it is recommended the application is not supported.</p>	£12,600	£0

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Recreation Ground, North Baddesley (Test Valley/ Baddesley)	Refurbishment of Community Centre to expand and enhance projects and use (£49,999.99)	The Charity Commission lists this charity as 'part of North Baddesley Parish Council (working name)' and therefore the organisation is not eligible under the scheme criteria, which excludes Parish Councils. In addition, the application is under-developed, the business plan incomplete and the level of evidence of community need not proportionate to the scale of the project. 7000 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has applied for £25,000 from Test Valley Borough Council (expected outcome date unknown). Councillor Dowden was invited to comment. As the organisation is not eligible to apply under the scheme criteria, it is recommended the application is not supported.	£24,999.99	£0
Sarisbury Athletic Cricket Club (Fareham/ Fareham Sarisbury)	Reconfiguration of the Clubhouse (£48,000)	Sarisbury Athletic Cricket Club seeks funding to reconfiguration of its facilities, including improvements to changing rooms and toilets, relocation of bar and more accessible doors. This will enable the facilities to be used by a wider range of community groups. A 'without prejudice' letter was provided to enable the organisation to commence project works in advance of the decision day in order to minimise disruption to planned activities. Estimates and plans were not submitted and should be a condition of grant. 300 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has committed £5,000 of its own funds to the project, has secured £16,000 from Fareham Borough Council and expects to meet the remaining shortfall through income generation and sponsorship. Councillor Woodward supports the application. It is recommended that Sarisbury Athletic Cricket Club is awarded up to 34% of project costs to a maximum of £16,000 on condition that estimates and plans are submitted.	£16,000	£16,000
Shedfield Reading and Recreation Rooms (Winchester/ Meon Valley)	Overhaul of clay tiled roof (£36,000)	Shedfield Reading and Recreation Rooms seeks funding towards roof replacement. It has not actively sought funding from any other sources, including local district, town or parish councils. 700 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has committed £18,000 of its own funds to the project. Councillor Huxstep supports the application. As the organisation has not actively sought funds from any other sources, it is recommended the application is not supported.	£18,000	£0

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Silchester Village Hall (Basingstoke and Deane/ Calleva)	Chair Project (£6,079.21)	Silchester Village Hall seeks funding towards replacement chairs as the current ones are old and uncomfortable. This follows a major programme of refurbishment projects and will mean the furniture meets the standard of the building, supporting increased use. 1225 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has committed £1,039.61 of its own funds to the project and has secured £1,500 from the Silchester Association and £500 from the Silchester Players. Councillor Vaughan was invited to comment. It is recommended that Silchester Village Hall is awarded up to 50% of project costs to a maximum of £3,040.	£3,039.61	£3,040
St Paul's Winchester (Winchester/ Winchester Westgate)	Building for Life project (£910,000)	St Paul's Winchester seeks funding towards a significant remodelling project which will result in fully accessible facilities for community use to include new meeting spaces, community kitchen, toilets, utility/craft room, lift, improved heating, redesigned dais with extended staging for arts performances. The venue supports good levels of community use, particularly for activities for children and adults including dance schools, fitness activities, music concerts and language classes. 10,000 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has committed £218,750 of its own funds to the project and has secured £127,000 from trusts and foundations and £318,600 from local community and business donations. It has applied to further trusts and foundations and continues to fundraise locally for the remaining shortfall. Councillor Tod strongly supports the application. Councillor Tod declared a personal interest as a member of the Friends of St Matthew & St Paul which is also fundraising towards this proposal. It is recommended that St Paul's Winchester is awarded up to 2.75% of project costs to a maximum of £25,000.	£25,000	£25,000
Valley Park Community Association (Test Valley/ Baddesley)	Refurbishment of Community Centre to expand and enhance projects and use	Valley Park Community Association seeks funding towards the refurbishment of meeting rooms, corridor, toilets, lights and floors and to improve disabled access. The organisation holds 15 months reserves but has not committed any of own funds into this project. 250 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has applied for £25,000 from Test Valley Borough Council	£24,911.27	£15,000

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
	(£49,911.27)	(expected outcome 01/02/2019). Councillor Dowden fully supports the application. It is recommended that Valley Park Community Association is partially supported and awarded up to 30% of project costs to a maximum of £15,000, reflecting the high level of reserves.		
Victoria Hall Charity (Hart/ Hartley Wintney and Yateley West)	New Toilets in Foyer (£42,605)	Victoria Hall Charity seeks funding towards new toilets in a foyer that serves complex of halls and meeting rooms managed by the organisation. Accounts show a surplus last year, which the organisation is investing into a sinking fund for future roof replacement. The organisation has requested more than the 50% of project costs normally available through this grant scheme. It is not clear from the application how many Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has committed £6,000 of its own funds to the projects and has secured £8,000 from Hartley Wintney Parish Council. It has applied for £4,605 from the Lottery Fund, (expected outcome 01/03/2019). Councillor Simpson fully supports the application. It is recommended that Victoria Hall Charity is awarded up to 50% of project costs to a maximum of £21,300.	£24,000	£21,300
Weeke Community Centre (Winchester/ Winchester Downlands)	Urgent building works (£44,296)	Weeke Community Centre seeks funding towards repairs to a leaking roof, replacement of flooring, emergency lighting, double glazing and accessible door and towards decoration of its small hall. Most proposed works are to address safety issues such as trip hazards, inadequate lighting and poor egress. The organisation serves an area of high multiple deprivation and activities support vulnerable groups. 9000 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has committed £1,500 of its own funds to the project. It has applied for £4,800 from North Winchester Community Church, (expected outcome 28/02/2019), £500 from Weeke Social Club (expected outcome 28/02/2019), £5,000 from Screwfix Foundation and will apply for the remaining £9,652 from Winchester City Council or other trusts and foundations. Winchester City Council has confirmed it will be offering some funding towards the urgent elements of the works. In addition, the organisation has been awarded up to £50,000 Community Investment Levy through Winchester Town Forum towards other capital works. Councillor Warwick supports the application.	£22,140	£22,140

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
		It is recommended that Weeke Community Centre is awarded up to 50% of project costs to a maximum of £22,140.		
Whitehill Village Hall (East Hampshire/ Whitehill, Bordon and Lindford)	Extension for storage at Whitehill Village Hall (£61,493)	Whitehill Village Hall seeks funding towards a single storey extension to provide storage for groups. Recent building improvement has led to increased hires and means the organisation cannot accommodate existing or prospective user groups needs. The organisation submitted limited estimates with its application but is inviting four contractors to tender for the full project. 1130 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has committed £2,495 of its own funds to the project and has secured £49,999 S106 Developer's Funding through East Hampshire County Council. Councillor Carew supports the application. It is recommended that Whitehill Village Hall is awarded up to 16.3% of project costs to a maximum of £10,000, on condition that tenders are submitted.	£9,999	£10,000
TOTAL			£222,768.87	£128,360