

CABINET

3 FEBRUARY 2010

COMMUNITY CAPITAL GRANTS – CAPITAL AWARDS 2010-2011

REPORT OF HEAD OF PARTNERSHIPS, COMMUNICATION & IMPROVEMENT

Contact Officer: BERNICE HELLER Tel No: 01962 848582

RECENT REFERENCES:

[CAB 1780 – Community Capital Grants – 4 February 2009](#)

[WTF 142 – Community Grants – Capital Awards 20 January 2010](#)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report contains details of applications for capital grant aid in 2010/11 and recommends appropriate City Council awards based on agreed criteria and subject to the availability of resources. In addition to the proposals in this report the Town Forum approved capital grants amounting to £12,000 in 2010/11 to be funded by the Town Account (WTF142 refers).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Cabinet, in accordance with Financial Procedure Rule 6.4 (release of capital expenditure), **subject to Council approval of the 2010/11 budget:**

- 1 Approves a budget of £9,000 from the 2010/11 Capital Grants Budget to support the Council's Community Chest Small Grants Scheme.
- 2 Approves the following Community Capital Grants for 2010/11, subject to compliance with any conditions specified in Appendix 1:

(i)	Alresford & District Community Association	£5,000
(ii)	Hambledon Cricket Club	£6,000
(iii)	St. Faith's Parish Hall Committee	£4,000
(iv)	St. Peter's Church Hall, Bishops Waltham	£1,000
(v)	Waltham Chase Village Hall Committee	£6,000
(vi)	Wickham Community Association	£4,000
(vii)	Winchester Dramatic Society	£20,000
- 3 Approves an additional capital grant award for 2010/11 of £20,000 to Winchester YMCA to support the delivery of a dedicated Young Peoples Recreational Venue & Youth Cafe at St Johns House, Winchester. This award will be subject to compliance with the conditions detailed at 5.2, 5.3, and 5.4, below.
- 4 Approves the release of £65,000 from the Major Investment Reserve and the release of £10,000 from the earmarked Leisure, Arts and Cultural Grants Reserve to in order that all the awards in recommendations 1, 2, & 3 above can be met.
- 5 Expresses regret that it is unable to support the grant application submitted by the Weeke Community Association and All Saints Church Hall, Denmead.

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DETAIL:

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to give details of the community capital grant applications and other capital grant considerations for 2010/11 and to recommend appropriate levels of support.
- 1.2 The original application forms and supporting documents for community capital grants are held in the Partnerships, Communication & Improvement Team. Any Member wishing to view this documentation should contact Bernice Heller, Community Grants Officer, who will make the necessary arrangements for inspection.

2 Application Details

- 2.1 Details of the community capital grant applications are shown in Appendix 1. Each project has been subject to a rigorous evaluation to assess the level of community benefit, compliance with the relevant policies and criteria currently in force, the level of external funding already secured, and sustainability. The recommended grant levels reflect the results of these considerations and take account of the availability of resources to fund them.
- 2.2 Cabinet should note that the maximum level of City Council community capital grant aid available to each project is twice the contribution from the local Parish Council or the Winchester Town Account. There is an exception where the tax base for the Parish is 150 or below. This is not applicable to any of the applications received for 2010/11.
- 2.3 Three applications for community capital grant aid have been received from groups within the Winchester Town area. Two have been supported by the Town Forum. An application from Weeke Community Association has not been supported by the Town Forum and is therefore not eligible for an award from the City Council Capital Grant scheme.
- 2.4 Six applications for community capital grant aid have been received from parish based groups. Five have been supported by their respective Parish Councils. An application from All Saints Church Hall was not supported by Denmead Parish Council and is therefore not eligible for an award from the City Council Capital Grants Scheme.

- 2.5 In addition to the capital grant applications, through the normal process, the Chief Executive of Winchester YMCA has made a formal request to the Leader, and Portfolio Holder for Communities & Safety, that consideration be given to the award of a capital grant to support the creation of a 'Young Peoples Recreational Venue & Youth Café' at St John's House, Winchester.

This is a high quality project for which the YMCA has ringfenced a very substantial amount of its own reserves (circa £300K). Additionally the organisation has made significant progress with an ongoing appeal to meet a funding shortfall. Full details of the YMCA project and appeal can be viewed at: www.ymcawinchester.org.uk

Given that this project is entirely relevant to the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy and in particular in meeting objectives in the WDSP Children & Young Peoples Partnership Action Plan, it is considered that in the 'spirit of partnership working' the award of a WCC capital grant to support this worthy project would be appropriate. Furthermore this project will go a long way towards meeting the aspirations of Winchester's young people for a city centre recreational & social venue. This was articulated by representatives of Youth of Winchester when presenting a petition to a meeting of the Full Council on 22nd April 2009. It should be noted that plans for YMCA Youth Project have been drawn up after consultations with more than 500 young people and many will continue to be involved in the delivery.

After careful evaluation, a capital grant of £20,000 to support the delivery of the YMCA Youth Project is strongly recommended.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- 3 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN (RELEVANCE TO):
- 3.1 The priority areas for capital grant funding are in line with the Winchester City Council Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 3.2 The capital grants scheme helps to address many of the Council's priorities for the District and in particular the outcomes for Health & Wellbeing, and Inclusive Societies.
- 3.3 The provision of grants to village halls and recreational facilities is authorised by S 19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. Theatres can be awarded grants under S145 Local Government Act 1972 –promoting the Arts and grants for buildings of historic interest under S57 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 4.1 The Council's current capital programme includes an annual amount of £65,000 for capital grants. The Council's Capital Programme is being considered elsewhere on this agenda.
- 4.2 In accordance with Financial Procedure Rule para.6.4, inclusion in the capital programme does not constitute authority to spend. This report seeks authority to incur expenditure, subject to the Council approval of the Capital Programme and Budget in February 2010.
- 4.3 The recommendations in this report for capital awards in 2010/11 (excluding the Town Account) demand a total capital commitment of £75,000. It is proposed that this is funded by a release of £65,000 from the Major Investment Reserve and a release of £10,000 from the earmarked Leisure, Arts and Cultural Grants Reserve.
- 4.4 The City Council also operates a small grant scheme for community groups which offers awards of up to £500 for projects related to Carbon Reduction, Community Wellbeing (Community Chest), Community Planning and Twinning. For 2010/11 the proposed budgets to support these initiatives are:
- | | | |
|----|--|--------|
| a) | Carbon Reduction
(Partnership, Improvement & Communication Budget) | £3,000 |
| b) | Community Chest
(Capital Grants Budget – See Recommendation 1) | £9,000 |
| c) | Community Planning
(Partnerships, Improvement & Communication Budget) | £5,000 |
| d) | Town Twinning (Cultural Services Budget) | £1,000 |
- 4.5 Cabinet should note that the £20,000 grant recommended for the Winchester Dramatic Society in 2010/11 is the second stage payment of an agreement in principle for a total capital award of £60,000 over 3 years. A first stage payment of £20,000 was made in 2009/10. Consideration will be given to a third award in 2011/12 subject to funding being available.
- 4.6 An earmarked "Leisure, Arts and Cultural Grants" reserve is maintained in order that emergency grant aid requests and other awards, in exceptional circumstances (both capital and revenue), can be supported. The balance on the earmarked grant reserve at 31 March 2009 was £38,917. During 2009/10 a total of £4,971, previously allocated, was transferred to the grant reserve. Since 1 April 2009 a total of £15,500 has been released from this reserve to cover the following expenditure:

- a) PHD245 – One off grants of £7,500 to Winchester Citizens Advice Bureau and £3,500 to Bishops Waltham Citizens Advice Bureau to support additional debt advice work.
- b) PHD252 – A capital grant of £2,000 to Hampshire and IoW Youth Options to part fund building work at the King Alfred Youth Activities Centre in order to accommodate the Winnall Rock School there.
- c) PHD264 – An Emergency Community Capital Grant of £2,500 to Soberton Village Hall to part fund urgent roof repairs

At 30 January 2010 the Reserve Balance was £28,378.

- 4.7 Cabinet approval to release £10,000 from the Leisure, Arts and Cultural Grants reserve to fund the increase in the 2010/11 capital grant baseline budget will reduce the reserve balance to £18,378. This is considered to be an appropriate level for the grants reserve and sufficient to meet contingencies.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 5.1 It is a condition of grant that community applications are supported by the Parish Council/Town Forum as appropriate.
- 5.2 Every group and organisation in receipt of grant must comply with the standards laid down by the Charities Commission.
- 5.3 Every group and organisation in receipt of grant should have a constitution which includes a formal decision making process. The constitution must demonstrate that they have an open, fair and inclusive process for electing their management committee and that they have a charitable objective.
- 5.4 All capital grant awards are subject to:
- a) the signing of a funding agreement
 - b) grant recipients being responsible for ensuring that any relevant planning permission and/or other consents are in place and complied with.
 - c) monitoring by the Community Grants Officer.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

Completed grant application forms and supporting documentation are held in the Partnership, Communication and Improvement Team files.

APPENDICES:

Appendix I – Capital Grant Applications 2010/11.

Capital Grant Applications 2010/2011

Name of Organisation	Alresford & District Community Association
Parish Council	New Alresford
Tax Base & Precept (Band D)	Tax Base: £2,295.90 Precept: £107.58
Project Details	Replacement of large windows above main entrance door. The condition of current windows is insecure and is creating a health an safety risk.
Comments (if any)	Recommended
Total Project Cost	£12,500
Parish Council Contribution	Awaiting confirmation
Amount Requested from WCC	£8,000
Recommendation	£5,000
Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> subject to minimum Parish Council funding of £2,000

Name of Organisation	Hambledon Cricket Club
Parish Council	Hambledon
Tax Base & Precept (Band D)	Tax Base: £498.33 Precept: £24.08
Project Details	Demolish remaining section of existing pavilion. Install new hut containing home and away changing rooms, toilets and showers for players, ladies and gents toilets, and two storage cupboards.
Comments (if any)	Recommended
Total Project Cost	£48,000
Parish Council Contribution	£3,000
Amount Requested from WCC	£10,000
Recommendation	£6,000
Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> subject to Parish Council funding

Name of Organisation	St. Faith's Parish Hall Committee
Parish Council	Winchester Town
Tax Base & Precept (Band D)	Tax Base: £14,005.38 Precept: £57.68
Project Details	Upgrade of urinals. Upgrade of 5 gas heaters. Will improve facilities as well as reducing the carbon footprint of the building.
Comments (if any)	Recommended
Total Project Cost	£14,677
Town Forum Contribution	£2,000
Amount Requested from WCC	£10,274
Recommendation	£4,000
Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> subject to minimum Town Forum funding of £1750

Name of Organisation	St. Peter's Church Hall
Parish Council	Bishops Waltham
Tax Base & Precept (Band D)	Tax Base: £2,682.03 Precept: £119.29
Project Details	Major refurbishment project which includes routine maintenance as well as new flooring, fencing, storage, replacement windows, PA system, and additional chairs. Will improve facilities including better storage and more secure environment.
Comments (if any)	Recommended
Total Project Cost	£25,831
Parish Council Contribution	£500
Amount Requested from WCC	£1,000
Recommendation	£1,000
Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> subject to minimum Parish Council funding of £500

Name of Organisation	Waltham Chase Village Hall Committee
Parish Council	Shedfield
Tax Base & Precept (Band D)	Tax Base: £1,613.50 Precept: £61.56
Project Details	Make good potholes and resurface car park. Remove carpet tiles in committee room and replace with polysafe vinyl floor covering. Installation of 3 new external doors.
Comments (if any)	Car park will be safer for pedestrians. New flooring will be safer and more hygienic for preschool. New doors will improve security and help address issues of damp.
Total Project Cost	£13,997
Parish Council Contribution	£3,499
Amount Requested from WCC	£6,998
Recommendation	£6,000
Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> subject to minimum Parish Council funding of £2500

Name of Organisation	Weeke Community Association
Parish Council	Winchester Town
Tax Base & Precept (Band D)	Tax Base: £14,005.38 Precept: £57.68
Project Details	To complete ongoing project to provide disabled toilet facilities and improved ladies toilet facilities.
Comments (if any)	Ineligible for funding from general budget as unsupported by Town Forum.
Total Project Cost	£6,375
Town Forum Contribution	Nil
Amount Requested from WCC	Nil
Recommendation	Nil
Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NOT supported by Town Forum

Name of Organisation	Wickham Community Association
Parish Council	Wickham
Tax Base & Precept (Band D)	Tax Base: £1,717.90 Precept: £52.47
Project Details	Conversion of back room into a kitchen/servery, with new direct access to the function suite. Installation of kitchen units and gas and electricity supplies for equipment. This will improve catering facilities for functions and increase revenue from bookings.
Comments (if any)	Recommended
Total Project Cost	£11,000
Parish Council Contribution	£2,500
Amount Requested from WCC	£5,000
Recommendation	£4,000
Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> subject to minimum Parish Council Funding of £1750

Name of Organisation	Winchester Dramatic Society (Chesil Theatre)
Parish Council	Winchester Town
Tax Base & Precept (Band D)	Tax Base: £14,005.38 Precept: £57.68
Project Details	To build an extension to the Chesil Theatre including acquisition of land. Will improve facilities and enable Youth Theatre to expand
Comments (if any)	This organisation is requesting a total grant of £90,000 over 3 years, and was awarded a total grant of £30,000 in 2009-10 (£10,000 from Town Forum and £20,000 from the General Budget). A further application for similar funding will be submitted for 2011-12.
Total Project Cost	£1,151,000
Town Forum Contribution	£10,000
Amount Requested from WCC	£30,000
Recommendation	£20,000
Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to Town Forum funding