

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Culture and Recreation
<b>Date:</b>	21 January 2013
<b>Title:</b>	Community Buildings Fund 2012/13
<b>Reference:</b>	4579
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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#### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The County Council provides partnership funding from the Community Buildings Fund for capital projects to Community Associations, Village Hall Trusts and similar bodies as outlined in the fund's criteria. This enables the voluntary and community sector to maintain the quality of Hampshire's cultural assets, namely Community Centres and Village Halls, some of which are listed.
- 1.2 This report provides details of the financial position of the Community Buildings Fund in 2012/13 and details requests for partnership funding from this fund.

#### 2. Applications considered in this report:

Hall/ Centre	District	£
Colden Common Community Association	Winchester CC	4,948
Hordean Community Association	EHDC	1,334
Houghton Parish Hall	TVBC	6,588
Kingsclere Village Club	BDBC	1,372
Michelmersh and Timsbury Jubilee Hall	TVBC	2,264
Westside Community Association, South Ham	BDBC	3,050
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£19,556</b>

### **3. Contextual Information:**

- 3.1 The County Council works in partnership with specific community organisations, particularly Community Associations and Village Hall Trusts who 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.
- 3.2 Partnership funding from the Community Buildings Fund enables the voluntary and community sector to maintain the quality of Hampshire's cultural assets, namely their Village Halls and Community Association buildings, some of which are listed. 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.
- 3.3 By providing financial support to these organisations for the maintenance of their buildings the County Council is able to work in partnership with the community sector to achieve the Corporate Priority – Enhancing our Quality of Place.

### **4. Budget Position:**

- 4.1 A sum of £125,000 has been set aside in the 2012/13 capital programme for Culture, Communities and Business Services to support the Community Buildings Fund. A further £20,000 has been allocated from the rural fund to support this programme. Therefore the total funding set aside for this programme is £145,000. To date £89,688 has been allocated this year. This leaves an unallocated amount to date of £55,312 and if the recommendations in this report, which amount to £19,556 are approved then £35,756 will be available for the rest of the year.

### **5. Criteria for Grant:**

- 5.1 The partnership funding distribution criteria is set out in Appendix 1.
- 5.2 Projects listed in Appendix 2 meet fully the criteria and have been allocated a proposed level of partnership funding in line with the criteria.

### **6. Other Considerations**

- 6.1 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 grant or loan towards expenses incurred by voluntary bodies in providing such facilities.

## 6.2 Impact Assessment

Organisations applying to this scheme are by their nature defined as accessible to all members of the community. This is embodied within their charitable objects, therefore no groups or organisations should be excluded from any benefit arising from these decisions. Furthermore the application procedure includes equalities monitoring information as agreed as part of the corporate review of grants programmes and procedures.

## 7. Recommendation:

That partnership funding totalling £19,556 as listed below be approved for allocation from the Community Buildings Fund for 2012/13.

<b>Hall/ Centre</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>£</b>
Colden Common Community Association	Winchester City Council	4,948
Horndean Community Association	East Hants District Council	1,334
Houghton Parish Hall	Test Valley Borough Council	6,588
Kingsclere Village Club	Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council	1,372
Michelmersh and Timsbury Jubilee Hall	Test Valley Borough Council	2,264
Westside Community Association, South Ham	Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council	3,050
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>19,556</b>

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:****Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	No
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

**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**

Applications for financial assistance

Community Support Service  
 Department for Culture, Communities  
 and Business Services  
 Mottisfont Court, Winchester

### Criteria for these grants

The partnership funding distribution criteria for the Community Buildings Fund is as follows:

Partnership funding is granted for:

- Building repairs, extensions and refurbishments
- Health and safety issues
- Equipment to improve the buildings and increase usage
- Feasibility studies

Who can apply:

- Village Halls (not parish run halls)
- Community Associations
- Church organisations that have a separate community programme on their property

Funding criteria:

- For projects costing less than £15,000, the funding criteria is up to one third of the cost.
  - . A minimum project cost of £3,000 applies

- For projects costing more than £15,000, the grant is calculated at

50% of funding from sources other than the organisations own funding up to a maximum of 25% of the project costs or £12,500, whichever is the lesser.

Priority Criteria:

1. Health and safety issues that could result in the building being closed or activities seriously curtailed if the work is not carried out.
2. The work is absolutely essential in order to meet the terms of the Disability Discrimination Act. (It has been widely publicised that These types of buildings will not be closed provided reasonable steps have been taken to meet the terms of the Act)
3. The project is part of a phased development and this element is essential to it's overall completion.
4. Non priority work.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Colden Common Community Association</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	Cllr P. Mason has been consulted
<b>Project</b>	Purchase of a steel container to use for storage purposes
<b>Statement</b>	The provision of the storage unit will provide the main building with additional usable space especially the small meeting rooms that are required to work with young people. Access to tables and chairs should be easier for users of the centre.
<b>Cost</b>	£14,842
<b>Amount organisation has for project</b>	£1,500 committed
<b>Funding from other sources</b>	Parish Hall Trust £7,000 Colden Common Drama Group £1,400
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>£4,948 as 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the project costs</b>

<b>Name</b>	<b>Horndean and District Community Association</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	Councillor S. Darragh supports the application
<b>Project</b>	Refurbishment of the exterior of the first floor of Merchistoun Hall
<b>Statement</b>	The work will protect the integrity of the building ensuring it continues to function as a fully operational and well used community venue
<b>Cost</b>	£4,003
<b>Amount organisation has for project</b>	£2,669
<b>Funding from other sources</b>	Non
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>£1,334 as 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the project costs</b>

<b>Name</b>	<b>Houghton Parish Hall</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	Councillor Andrew Gibson is very supportive of the application. The Village Hall is central to village life.
<b>Project</b>	Refurbishment of the cloakroom
<b>Statement</b>	The provision will be 4 General use cubicles and a disabled/ baby change facility. This will enable improved used of the hall
<b>Cost</b>	£26352
<b>Amount organisation has for project</b>	£6,588
<b>Funding from other sources</b>	Test Valley Borough Council £9,882 Parish Council £3,294
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>£6,588 as 50% of funding from other sources up to a maximum of £12,500</b>

<b>Name</b>	<b>Kingsclere Village Club</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	Cllr K. Chapman has been consulted
<b>Project</b>	Damp proofing the entrance hall
<b>Statement</b>	The entrance hall is suffering from rising damp, smells of decay and is unwelcoming. The building is used by the community in Kingsclere and the surrounding area and is an access point for the local police officer.
<b>Cost</b>	£4,115.20
<b>Amount organisation has for project</b>	£3,000
<b>Funding from other sources</b>	Nil
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>£1,372 as 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the project costs</b>

<b>Name</b>	<b>Michelmersh and Timsbury Jubilee Hall</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	Councillor Andrew Gibson is very supportive of the application. The Village Hall is central to village life.
<b>Project</b>	Replacement of the boiler
<b>Statement</b>	The trustees wish to replace an oil fired boiler with a newer gas fired one and minimise the costs of running the hall and reduce the CO2 footprint.
<b>Cost</b>	£6,791.58
<b>Amount organisation has for project</b>	£2,244
<b>Funding from other sources</b>	Test Valley Borough Council £1,462 Parish Council £850
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>£2,264 as 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the project costs</b>

<b>Name</b>	<b>Westside Community Association</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	Councillor R. Hussey fully supports the application.
<b>Project</b>	To upgrade the lighting system
<b>Statement</b>	This is the final phase of an energy efficient refurbishment. The trustees wish to upgrade the lighting system to a retro fitting system to make it more efficient. The saving would be £3,515 per annum
<b>Cost</b>	£9152
<b>Amount organisation has for project</b>	
<b>Funding from other sources</b>	BDBC £6,865
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>£3050 as 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the project cost</b>