

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside
<b>Date:</b>	18 September 2017
<b>Title:</b>	Community Buildings Capital Fund 2017/18 (requests for £25,000 and under)
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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### 1. Executive Summary

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside for £43,730 of funding from the Community Buildings Capital Fund 2017/18.

### 2. Summary of grants:

2.1 Community Buildings Capital Fund 2017/18 applications

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>£</b>
Barton Stacey Village Hall	Test Valley	£2,490
Bighton Village Hall	Winchester	£5,000
Crondall Village Hall	Hart	£25,000
Eastleigh Youth and Community Trust	Eastleigh	£6,440
South Wonston Village Hall	Winchester	£2,000
St James' Church Hall	Eastleigh	£2,800
<b>Total</b>		<b>£43,730</b>

### **3. Contextual Information**

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 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. Details of the grant criteria are set out in Appendix 1.
- 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.
- 3.4 Six organisations have applied for 2017/18 funding and details are set out in Appendix 2.

### **4. Ineligible Applications for Community Buildings Capital Fund**

- 4.1 A further one application was received which was clearly ineligible and as such was rejected by Officers in discussion with the Executive Member. This application is summarised below and Officers have signposted the organisation to alternative sources of advice and funding.
- 4.2 YIP Yuchi Independent Publisher (based in Southampton, countywide proposal) has applied for £10,000 towards fixtures and fittings for a bus to be toured around schools as a creative writing club, which was not considered to fall within the purpose of this fund.

### **5. Budget Position**

#### **5.1 2017/18**

	£
Budget approval for 2017/18	125,000
Transfer from revenue grants 2017/18 (6 December 2016)	150,320
Remainder from 2016/17 funds at 21 March 2017	67,667

Unspent / returned funds since 21 March 2017	2,887
	<hr/> 345,874 <hr/>
Awards approved at 15 June 2017	136,210
Grants recommended for approval in this report	43,730
Remaining balance for allocation in 2017/18	<hr/> <b>165,934</b> <hr/>

## **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 a grant or loan towards the expenses incurred by voluntary bodies in providing such facilities and activities.

## **7. Recommendations**

- 7.1 That the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside:
- i) Approves grants for £43,730 from the Community Buildings Capital Fund 2017/18.

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

<b>Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:</b>	yes
<b>People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:</b>	no
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:</b>	yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:</b>	yes

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Grant Funding for Culture and Community Organisations in Hampshire 2017/18	7924	6 December 2016
Community Buildings Capital Fund 2016/17 (requests for £25,000 and under)		21 March 2017
Community Buildings Capital Fund 2017/18 (requests for £25,000 and under)		15 June 2017
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	

**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	

## **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.

### **1.2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

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

### **2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

2.1 Not applicable.

### **3. Climate Change:**

a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

Not applicable.

b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

Not applicable.

### 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 primarily on projects which provide improvements that reduce running costs. By way of example at one end of the scale, the installation of insulation, new windows and a modern central heating system could have a significant effect on heating costs as well as carbon footprint. At the other end of the scale would be the merging of two self-standing facilities into one. An example could be the 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 very high maintenance and heating bills.

The programme is not designed to be over 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 i.e. playgroup, lunch clubs or youth groups
- Uniformed organisations
- School properties
- Sports clubs
- 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. If an organisation requires an emergency request outside of the above dates please contact [CCBSgrants@hants.gov.uk](mailto:CCBSgrants@hants.gov.uk).

#### 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 [Strategic Plan 2013-17 'Shaping Hampshire: modern, public services for the future'](#)  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 cost of such studies up to a maximum of £500.

**Community Buildings Capital Fund 2017/18**  
**Application assessment summary**

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

Project funding requests:

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount recommended capital fund 2016/17
Barton Stacey Village Hall  (Test Valley / Test Valley Central)	Replacement of all windows and doors and redecoration  (£4,982)	<p>The organisation seeks funding towards the replacement of rotten windows and doors with double-glazed units and some redecoration. The facility is used by a club for older people, a playgroup, WI, music, martial arts and special interest groups.            1,000 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit.            The organisation has applied to Test Valley Borough Council for £2,491 (awaiting outcome).            Councillor Gibson supports the application.</p> <p><u>Note 1:</u> This application was deferred at the last decision date (15/06/2017).  <u>Note 2:</u> Desk research suggests this is the only community hall in Barton Stacey. Halls in neighbouring villages within 5 miles have previously been supported through this fund (The Colonel Jenkins Memorial Hall, Wherwell, £10,135, decision date 25/09/2013; Chilbolton Village Hall, £1,994, decision date 06/07/2012).</p> <p><b>It is recommended that Barton Stacey Village Hall is awarded up to 50% of project costs to a maximum of £2,490 on condition that a Reserves Policy is developed.</b></p>	£2,491	£2,490
Bighton Village Hall  (Winchester / Itchen Valley)	Improvements to surface water drainage  (£12,146)	<p>The organisation seeks funding towards the repair and improvement of drainage to cope with run off from a neighbouring car park. Currently flood water seeps under the hall through air bricks and risks causing significant and costly damage to flooring. The project costs have increased since the need was initially identified and the organisation's fundraising is no longer sufficient to meet these costs. Work is planned to take place in November 2017 and a 'without prejudice' letter has been granted to enable the contractor to be booked before a decision is made on this application. The facility is used by several fitness classes, badminton group, children's activities, Winchester Mediation Services, a village book swap and social events.</p>	£5,000	£5,000



Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount recommended capital fund 2016/17
<i>Bighton Village Hall, cont.</i>		<p>320 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has committed £7000 of its own funds to the project. Councillor Porter was invited to comment.</p> <p><u>Note 1:</u> The organisation was awarded £7,600 Community Buildings Capital Fund 16-17 (decision date 04.10.2016) towards roofing repair.</p> <p><u>Note 2:</u> Desk research suggests this is the only community hall in Bighton, although there are halls available for community hire in neighbouring villages within five miles. These have not been supported by this fund within the last five years.</p> <p><b>It is recommended that Bighton Village Hall is awarded up to 42% of project costs to a maximum of £5,000 on condition that a Health and Safety Policy is developed.</b></p>		
Crondall Village Hall  (Hart / Odiham and Crook)	Crondall Village Hall  (£169,302)	<p>The organisation seeks funding towards a side extension including modernising the kitchen, increasing storage and office space, installing double glazing and upgrades to heating and lighting. The hall provides a venue for several sports, dance and fitness activities for children and adults as well as brownies, WI, special interest groups and first aid classes. 2160 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit.</p> <p>The organisation has raised £49,000 locally, secured £10,000 from Awards for All and applied to the Parish Council (£50,000) and various Trusts (£35,000). Work is planned to be completed in 2018. Councillor Glen fully supports the application.</p> <p><u>Note:</u> Desk research suggests this is the only community hall in Crondall. Halls in neighbouring villages within 5 miles have previously been supported through this fund (Froyle Village Hall, £3,998, decision date 27/09/2012 and £1,002, decision date 25/04/2013; Cross Barn, Odiham, £2,000, decision date 16/09/2014 and £14,950, decision date 15/06/2017).</p> <p><b>It is recommended that Crondall Village Hall is awarded up to 15% of project costs to a maximum of £25,000.</b></p>	£25,000	£25,000
Eastleigh Youth and Community Trust  (Eastleigh / Eastleigh South)	Improving Provision  (£19,193)	<p>The organisation seeks funding towards installation of LED lighting, car park improvements and landscaping, chairs, tables and redecorating. These works will bring the original facility in line with the extension funded through a large project Community Buildings Capital Fund award 2013-14, completing the improvements. The hall provides a venue for 42 regular community groups and the organisation delivers a range of services</p>	£6,438	£6,440

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount recommended capital fund 2016/17
<i>Eastleigh Youth and Community Trust, cont.</i>		<p>including inclusive activities for people with additional needs. It is supported by a team of 60 volunteers. 3000 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has committed £5,415 of its own funds and secured £7,340 from Eastleigh Borough Council. Councillor Irish was invited to comment.</p> <p><u>Note 1:</u> The organisation was awarded £173,280 Community Buildings Capital Fund (large projects) 13-14 (decision date 06/03/2014). <u>Note 2:</u> Desk research shows a number of established community venues in Eastleigh, reflecting the local population density.</p> <p><b>It is recommended that Eastleigh Youth and Community Trust is awarded up to 34% of project costs to a maximum of £6,440.</b></p>		
<p>South Wonston Village Hall</p> <p>(Winchester / Winchester Downlands)</p>	<p>Replacement of heating boiler</p> <p>(£4,044)</p>	<p>The organisation seeks funding towards the replacement of its boiler which is over thirty years old, unreliable and increasingly difficult to fix. The hall is used for weekly sports, fitness and special interest clubs, fortnightly craft activities and club for older people, a monthly community cinema and a village book swap. 500 Hampshire residents are expected to benefit. The organisation has committed £2000 of its own funds. Councillor Warwick supports the application.</p> <p><u>Note 1:</u> The organisation was awarded £2,980 Community Buildings Capital Fund 16-17 (decision date 21/03/2017) towards roof repair and £7,500 Community Buildings Capital Fund 15-16 (decision date 15/09/2015) towards the installation of a disabled toilet. <u>Note 2:</u> Desk research suggests this is the only community hall in South Wonston. Halls in neighbouring villages within 5 miles have previously been supported through this fund (Northbrook Hall, £25,000, decision date 04/12/2013 and £14,180, decision date 16/05/2015; Crawley Village Hall Trust, £5,300, decision date 04/12/2013; Sparsholt Memorial Hall, £5,000, decision date 15/06/2017).</p> <p><b>It is recommended that South Wonston Village Hall is awarded up to 50% of project costs to a maximum of £2,000.</b></p>	£2,000	£2,000

## Appendix 2

Organisation (District / Division)	Project Title (Total project costs)	Proposal	Amount Requested	Amount recommended capital fund 2016/17
St James' Church Hall  (Eastleigh / Hedge End and West End South)	Warm Welcome Project  (£41,430)	<p>The organisation seeks funds to refurbish the hall kitchen, to enable user groups to cater for up to 60 people and to support the development of a drop-in café and weekly lunch club. The venue is used by a range of groups including mothers and babies, social group for older people, guiding, fitness and special interest groups.</p> <p>The facility serves a sizeable, urban community.</p> <p>The organisation has committed £4,000 of its own funds, secured £850 from a County Councillor grant and £33,778 from Biffa.</p> <p>Councillor Craig was invited to comment.</p> <p><u>Note 1:</u> This application was deferred at the last decision date (15/06/2017).</p> <p><u>Note 2:</u> The organisation was awarded £850 County Councillor grant 2016-17 towards this project.</p> <p><u>Note 3:</u> Desk research shows a number of established community venues in West End, reflecting the local population density.</p> <p><b>It is recommended that St James' Church Hall is awarded up to 7% of project costs to a maximum of £2,800.</b></p>	£2,802	£2,800
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£43,731</b>	<b>£43,730</b>