

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Leader and Executive Member for Hampshire 2050 and Corporate Services
Date:	9 March 2023
Title:	Parish and Town Council Investment Fund - Approval of Larger Grants
Report From:	Director of Hampshire 2050

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Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to request approval from the Executive Member for Hampshire 2050 and Corporate Services for an application to the Parish and Town Council Investment Fund (PTCIF) from Church Crookham Parish Council.

Recommendation

2. That the Leader and Executive Member for Hampshire 2050 and Corporate Services approves the proposed grant application to the PTCIF as detailed in Appendix A.

Executive Summary

3. Details of the grant application, for which this paper seeks approval, are given in Appendix A. The total amount requested is £19,553.

Contextual Information

4. The Rural Programme supports the County Council's support of rural Hampshire and assisting Parish and Town Councils to respond to local priorities, including management of the [PTCIF grant scheme](#).

5. 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.
6. Hampshire County Council declared a Climate Emergency in June 2019. In November 2021 it was agreed that the PTCIF scheme guidance would be extended to include Energy Efficiency applications from Parish and Town Councils or Community Groups for improvements to the energy efficiency of community buildings, where it can be demonstrated that the improvements contribute to [HCC's climate change targets](#).
7. Each applicant to the PTCIF is required to submit a full business plan, to include rationale, costings, quotes, and measurements. For Energy Efficiency applications, this business plan needs to provide adequate information to the Climate Programme Team for them to evaluate the financial and carbon footprint benefits of the project. If these evaluations are favourable, and demonstrate a contribution to Hampshire County Council's Climate Emergency targets, then the project is supported by that team, and will be recommended for funding here.

Finance

8. This grant application can be met from the existing PTCIF budget.

Performance

9. These grants have been reviewed by the Climate Programme Team and the Rural Programme Team respectively, against the grant scheme criteria detailed via the link in Section 4, and approval is only sought following their recommendation to support.
10. The detailed assessment is provided in Appendix A.

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>
EMPR Report - Update on the Parish and Town Council Investment Fund and Associated Rural Issues	25.04.2019
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
HCC Climate Change Initiatives	13 July 2021

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: No negative impacts are anticipated.

Appendix A – Church Crookham Zebon Centre

Parish and Town Council Investment Fund 2022/23

Funding assessment form

Organisation name:	Church Crookham Parish Council
Project title:	Zebon Centre – Solar
Project location:	Church Crookham
Application reference:	CG00026073
Total project cost:	£20,353
Amount requested:	£19,553
<i>Match funding – cash:</i>	
<i>Match funding - volunteer hours:</i>	£800
<i>Match funding - in-kind:</i>	
Match funding – total value	£800
AMOUNT RECOMMENDED:	£19,553

Eligibility checklist	Yes/No
Is the applicant a Parish or Town Council, or a Local Community Group, directly benefitting the local community, with clear management structure within its constitution or suitable governance/terms of reference?	Yes
Does the project/activity deliver against the scheme priorities (to build community resilience and ease pressure on HCC Services)?	Yes
Does the application have support from the local community and Parish/Town Council?	Yes

Project summary
<p>Church Crookham Parish Council intend to capitalise on the fabric improvements already completed at the Zebon Centre and wish to install a solar PV and battery storage system to allow the building to enjoy energy independence from the self-generation of their electricity supply.</p> <p>They have adopted a fabric first approach with the following improvements already completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LED lighting installed throughout the centre – this will be reflected in a new EPC when we request one after this project is completed. • PIR sensors installed in main areas where lighting is likely to be left on by mistake - toilets in the main building and in the corridor, toilets and changing rooms of the pavilion end of the building. • After some accidental damage, we established that the top half (opening sections) of the windows in the 2 halls needed replacing. They were replaced with A-rated toughened glass • Old external timber cladding at the pavilion end of the building replaced with PVCu cladding in November 2021 • Smart meters installed to monitor Gas and Electricity supply

HCC – Officer feedback/comments (relevant Services)

Lisa Wood - Rural Programme Team:

Church Crookham Parish Council have already completed a number of energy-saving measures. This application seeks funding from the Parish and Town Council Investment Fund in line with HCC's energy efficiency grant funding. Their 'fabric first' approach has ensured that all elements of energy saving within the building have already been addressed.

Subject to review by Chris Dear I would support this application.

Chris Dear - Climate Emergency Dept:

Church Crookham Parish Council's Zebon Community Centre Energy project demonstrates their continuing commitment to the climate emergency, as declared by Hampshire County Council in 2019. Building on interventions already implemented to decarbonise the community centre, this application to install solar PV and a battery storage system is anticipated to further decarbonise the building. The project is set to achieve a substantial energy saving resulting in an annual financial saving of £1,758, in addition to an annual carbon saving of 1.43tCO₂e.

On that basis, the application is supported.

Cllr Tim Davies is aware of the application.

Officer comments and recommendation

Lisa Wood – Rural Affairs Programme Support Officer

I would recommend award of £19,553.