Community Capital Grant Request (Executive Decision)

Service Manager: Tim Cook, Area Development Team Lead (East)
Lead Officer: Tim Cook, Area Development Team Lead (East)
Contact Details: tim.cook@southsomerset.gov.uk or (01963) 435088

Purpose of the Report

For members to consider a request from Bruton Town Council for a capital grant towards a new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).

Public Interest

Awarding grants is a key way that SSDC supports and helps to deliver community projects sponsored by parishes and voluntary community organisations in the towns and villages across Area East.

Background

Community Capital Grant applications are normally considered twice a year in June and December. Applications can be considered at other times with the agreement of the Area Chair

Requests from community organisations for non-capital works are restricted to small grants with the upper limit of £1,000. A minimum amount of £100 has also been agreed. Capital projects requiring grants of between £500 and £1,000 can be dealt with at any time and are subject to Ward Member agreement.

Appendices A and B show the standard grants conditions used by SSDC and the policies under which all applications are assessed.

Recommendation

1) Members agree a contribution of £5000 towards the purchase and installation of a new Multi Use Games Area, a new path and planting.

Bruton Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

Bruton Town Council has applied for a grant towards the installation of a new Multi Use Games Area, a path and planting.

Parish Precept information

Parish	Bruton
Parish population	2907
No. of Households	1226
Precept 17/18	£79,630
Band D Charge 17/18	£86.73

Justification for consideration outside of the Community Grants Cycle

Bruton Town Council had nearly all the funding in place and applied to Viridor Credits for the last element. They found out at the beginning of July that the application was unsuccessful. The Town Council has re-profiled spend allocated to other elements of Jubilees Park in order to reduce the shortfall to the requested amount. Delay could potentially increase costs and would result in the Netball team needing to make alternative arrangements for the start of the season.

The Project

The proposal is to construct a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) on the site of the existing tennis court. The MUGA will provide a larger, free, open access, all-weather, floodlit and fenced area for a variety of sporting activities, including netball, 5 aside football, basketball and tennis.

The current facilities have insufficient capacity to meet the demand and they are in a poor state of repair. If the project was not undertaken the ability to inspire the people of Bruton and surrounding villages to be active and healthy would be significantly reduced.

The MUGA will benefit the whole population by providing a free open access facility that encourages the people of Bruton and surrounding areas to participate in sport and leisure activities, such as netball, 5 aside football, basketball and tennis. Following consultation in Jan 17 with Access for All the MUGA design includes a footpath for disabled access and seating.

The Town Council will provide maintenance and insurance support on an ongoing basis. A 10 year repairs and maintenance plan, including sinking fund arrangements has been submitted to and approved by SSDC in order to discharge one of the 106 offer conditions.

The project has been assessed against the agreed criteria and the following scores apply.

Category	Maximum score	Score	
A Eligibility	Y/N	Y	
B Equalities Impact	7	6	
C Need for Project	5	4	
D Capacity of Organisation	15	14	
E Financial need	7	5	
F Innovation	3	2	
Total	37	31	

Projects scoring above 22 points are eligible for SSDC support under the current policies.

Funding Sources	% Funding of Total Scheme Cost	Amount of Funding	Status
Bruton Town Council	22%	£20478	Secured
SSDC (Area East)	5%	£5000	Applied for
SSDC Community Health & Leisure	37%	£35000	Secured
Local Fundraising by the Bruton Community Partnership (BCP)	21%	£20000	Secured
S106 Ref 08/04305/FUL	3%	£2803	Secured
S106 Ref 06/03915/out	12%	£10221	Secured
Total Scheme Cost	100%	£93502	

The project is ready to proceed with all other funding secured. A significant amount has been committed by the Town Council and raised locally.

Financial Implications

There is currently £17934 remaining in the Community Capital Budget. If members agree the above recommendation, there will be £12934 in the Community Capital budget for allocation in December.

Corporate Priority Implications

The project help to support communities so that they identify their needs and develop local solutions and, help people to live well by enabling quality cultural leisure, play, sport & healthy lifestyle facilities and activities. (Focus Four: Health and Communities)

Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications

Providing local access to a range of activities and services reducing the need to travel which therefore reduces carbon emissions.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The project helps enhance accessibility for all. The applicant has obtained an access audit for the site and the project, providing them with expert advice on how to make their community facility more accessible and user friendly.

Background papers: None.