

Community Grant to Mudford Memorial Village Hall (Executive Decision)

Director: Netta Meadows, Director of Service Delivery
Manager / Lead Specialist: Tim Cook, Locality Manager
Lead Officer: Nathan Turnbull
Contact Details: Nathan.turnbull@southsomerset.gov.uk or 01935 462462

Purpose of the Report

Councillors are asked to consider the awarding of a grant of £3,781 towards replacing the roof and installing new insulation at Mudford Memorial Village Hall.

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 the district.

The Mudford Memorial Village Hall has applied to the Area East community grants programme for financial assistance with the costs of replacing the roof and installing new Insulation. The Locality Officer who is submitting this report to enable the Area East Committee to make an informed decision about the application has assessed the application.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Councillors award a grant of £3,781 to Mudford Memorial Village Hall, the grant to be allocated from the Area East capital programme and subject to SSDC standard conditions for community grants (appendix A) with a special condition added that the group set up a sinking fund for future maintenance of the hall.

Application Details

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Name of applicant: | Mudford Memorial Village Hall |
| Project: | Replacing Roof and installing new Insulation |
| Total project cost: | £8,402 |
| Amount requested from SSDC: | £3,781 |
| % funding requested | 45% |
| Application assessed by: | Nathan Turnbull |

Community Grants Assessment Score

The table below shows the grant scoring for this application. Applications must meet the minimum score of 22 to be considered for SSDC funding under Community Grants policies.

| Category | Score |
|---|----------|
| A Supports Council Plan/Area Chapter | 1 |
| B Supports Equalities & Diversity | 1 |
| C Supports Environment Strategy | 1 |
| D Need for Project | 8 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| E Capacity of Organisation | 12 |
| F Financial need | 6 |
| Total | 29 |

Background

Mudford Memorial Village Hall is an intrinsic part of local community life and used all year round by the villagers and local groups. The 19th century building is Grade 2 Listed.

The hall is regularly used for a variety of activities. Mudford Gardening Club, Pilates, Keep fit, Ballet classes, dog training club, The Mudford Players pantomime club, Parish Council meetings, Thursday cafe, music practice, Friends of St. Mary's Church, quiz nights etc.

The hall is available for private family parties, children's parties, funeral wakes, community fairs, wedding receptions, village social functions, etc.

Provision of the village hall is for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parishes of Mudford and Chilton Cantelo with Ashington, and is available to all without discrimination.

Parish information

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Parish* | Mudford |
| Parish Population | 696 |
| No. of dwellings | 127 |

*Taken from the 2011 census profile

The project

The flat 13 x 4m roof that joins the old and newer part of the building is leaking and the timber boarding is rotting, there is water damage to various parts of the fabric of the building and in some parts, it collects on the floor.

Due to the roof being unsafe to walk on, the quotes have been submitted in three parts, depending on the damage/state of the roof, which can only be established when building work starts.

Quote 1- basic fibreglass re-roofing,

Quote 2 - re-roofing + topping up of insulation

Quote 3 - re-roofing plus full insulation installation

The Grant amount that has been requested is for Quote 3, if the work needed is less (quote 1 or 2) then the same financial percentage will be allocated (45%) to reflect the overall cost.

Redecoration work also needs completing to walls and ceilings to repair water damage

Management Committee members will be involved with running the project having initially drawn up the specification. The prime contractor will be involved in the day-to-day management as part of the installation contract.

Local support / evidence of need

User groups have expressed their concerns at using the hall during the winter, due to water on the floor. There is also a need for adequate installation to help with heating and reduce heating costs. Users will not be able to hire the hall due to the poor conditions and this will then effect the running costs and financial impact on the hall

The project will be promoted on the village magazine and notices outside of the hall, when work is completed information will be put onto its website to promote the services available.

Project costs

| Project costs | Cost £ |
|--|---------------|
| Re- roofing plus full insulation (scenario 3 in Section 2) inc VAT | £7,812 |
| Redecoration to walls and ceilings to repair water damage | £400 |
| Building Control Fee | £190 |
| Total | £8,402 |

Funding plan

| Funding source | Secured or pending | Amount £ |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Parish/Town Council | Secured | £840 |
| Own Funds | Secured | £3,781 |
| Total | | £4,621 |

Conclusion and Recommendation

It is recommended that a grant of £3,781 is awarded.

Financial implications

The balance in the Area East Capital programme is £83,331. If the recommended grant of £3,781 is awarded, £79,550 will remain.

Grants are awarded subject to all other funding being secured before the commencement of the project and are on a % basis of the full project costs. Payment of the grant cannot exceed the grant award and is proportionally reduced if full project costs are under budget.

Council Plan Implications

Council Plan Themes and Areas of focus for 20/21

Healthy, Self-reliant Communities - To enable healthy communities which are cohesive, sustainable and enjoy a high quality of life we will:

- Embed social value into all processes and activities to ensure we maximise the support we give
- Work with partners to reduce the impact of social isolation and create a feeling of community
- Work with partners to support people in improving their own physical and mental health and wellbeing
- Enable quality cultural, leisure and sport activities

Environment - To keep South Somerset clean, green and attractive and respond to the climate emergency we will work in partnership to:

- Promote a high-quality built environment

Key Priorities for Area East – Area East Chapter

Healthy, Self-reliant Communities

- Support a range of improvements to community buildings

Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

Installation of insulation will help to increase energy efficiency and ultimately reduce the carbon footprint related to the running of this community space and building.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The project aims to provide for people across all age and interest groups in the local community.

Background Papers

None

Appendix A

Standard conditions applying to all SSDC Community Grants

The applicant agrees to: -

- Notify SSDC if there is a material change to the information provided in the application.
- Start the project within six months of the grant offer and notify SSDC of any changes to the project or start date as soon as possible.
- Confirm that all other funding sources have been secured before starting the project, if these were not already in place at the time of the application.
Acknowledge SSDC assistance towards the project in any relevant publicity about the project (e.g. leaflets, posters, websites, and promotional materials) and on any permanent acknowledgement (e.g. plaques, signs etc.).
- Work in conjunction with SSDC officers to monitor and share the success of the project and the benefits to the community resulting from SSDC's contribution to the project.
- Provide a project update and/or supply before and after photos if requested
- Supply receipted invoices or receipts which provide evidence of the **full** cost of the project so that the grant can be released.
- Note that they cannot apply for another community grant for the same project within a 3 year period of this award.

Standard conditions applying to buildings, facilities and equipment

- Establish and maintain a “sinking fund” to support future replacement of the building / facility / equipment as grant funding is only awarded on a one-off basis.
- Use the SSDC Building Control Service when buildings regulations are required.
- Incorporate disabled access and provide an access statement where relevant.

Special conditions