

## Grant to Compton Dundon Parish Council (Executive Decision)

*Service Manager:* Helen Rutter, Communities  
Sara Kelly, Area Lead (North)  
*Lead Officer:* Chereen Scott, Neighbourhood Development Officer (North)  
*Contact Details:* chereen.scott@southsomerset.gov.uk or (01935) 462 123

### Purpose of the Report

Councillors are asked to consider the awarding of funding towards the costs of a bus shelter in Compton Dundon.

### Public Interest

Community grants are available in each area to voluntary and charitable organisations, not-for-profit groups, Parish or Town councils and other organisations that benefit the wider community. Applications are encouraged that meet a clearly identified local need.

Compton Dundon Parish Council has applied for financial assistance from the Area North community grants programme. The application has been assessed by the Neighbourhood Development Officer who has submitted this report to allow the Area North Committee to make an informed decision on the application.

### Recommendation

That Councillors consider this application for a grant of £3,941 to Compton Dundon Parish Council. The grant to be allocated from the Area North capital programme, subject to SSDC standard conditions for community grants (appendix A).

### Application Details

Name of applicant	Compton Dundon Parish Council
Project	Compton Dundon Bus shelter
Total project cost	£9,883
Amount requested from SSDC	£3,941
Recommended special conditions	The grant only to be awarded subject to all necessary statutory permissions and licences in place.
Application assessed by	Chereen Scott, Neighbourhood Development Officer

### Community Grants Assessment Score

The table below shows the grant scoring for this application. In order to be considered for SSDC funding under the Community Grants policies, applications need to meet the minimum score of 22.

Category	Actual Score	Maximum score possible
A Eligibility	Y	Y
B Equalities Impact	5	7
C Need for project	3	5
D Capacity of Organisation	11	15
E Financial need	5	7
F Innovation	3	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>37</b>

## Background

The village of Compton Dundon is served by the bus 77 route, which is every hour. As the bus service is every hour, users have to be at the bus stop in good time. There are currently two bus stops but neither has a shelter.

The bus service is important to the village as it is a key connection to Wells and Yeovil and ultimately the buses to Bath, Bristol and the train service from Yeovil Junction. Without the shelter there is no protection from the elements for those waiting for a bus, particularly in times of heavy rain. A shelter may help to encourage more people to use public transport in adverse weather conditions.

The project is being run by Compton Dundon Parish Councillors and the Parish Clerk.

## Parish Information

Parish*	Compton Dundon
Parish Population*	705
No. of dwellings*	315

\*Taken from the 2011 census profile

## The project

This project is to provide a bus shelter at the Cross, which is in the middle of Compton Dundon on the B3151. Currently there is no bus shelter for 2 bus stops. A shelter can only be provided at one of the bus stops, for buses travelling in the direction of Yeovil, as there is no available land on the opposite side of the road.

The shelter will be constructed of wood to match the surroundings and fit the narrow site. The existing Jubilee and Parish Council noticeboards will be relocated in the shelter to protect them from the weather. A light will be provided inside the shelter operated by a movement sensor. An electricity supply is currently provided within the redundant phone kiosk and the power will be transferred to the bus shelter. The Parish Council will acquire and pay for the electricity supply when it is installed in the shelter.

The shelter could also be used by schoolchildren and students travelling to school and college in Street. A number of rambler groups pass through the village so the shelter may offer them some protection.

## Consultation

As the location for the bus shelter falls within Public Highway the project team has worked closely with the Somerset Highways area officer to discuss the scope of the works at various stages of the project. A legal licence is required and at the time of writing this report the Parish Council was making application to the County Council's Road Records team and is consulting with the nearby landowners / residents as part of the licence process.

The project team is to confirm with SSDC planning whether this work falls within permitted development.

The plans for the bus shelter have been on the Parish Council minutes for some months and was also mentioned at the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

## Project Costs

Provision of shelter	£6,124
Ground work	£1,321
Relocation of electric supply to shelter	£438
Fee for disconnecting electric supply in redundant phone kiosk	£1,000
Refurbishment and relocation of 2 notice boards	£1,000
<b>Total project cost</b>	<b>£9,883</b>

## Funding Plan

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Funds secured</b>
Parish Council	£4,942
Anonymous donation	£1,000
<b>Total secured</b>	<b>£5,942</b>
Amount requested from SSDC	£3,941

## Consents and permissions

A licence with County Highways road record team is currently at application stage.

Awaiting confirmation from the project team whether the works fall within permitted development.

## Conclusion and Recommendation

This application is for £3,941 representing 40% of the project cost. The Parish Council is yet to receive outcome of the formal licence application therefore a special condition should be attached to the award of any grant that it is subject to the necessary consents being in place.

It is recommended that this application for £3,941 is supported subject to all necessary statutory permissions and licences in place.

## Financial Implications

The balance in the Local Priority Project – enhancing facilities and services budget is £21,720. If the recommended grant of £3,941 is awarded, £17,779 will remain. The Area North Capital Programme also has an uncommitted balance of £154,655.

## Council Plan Implications

The project supports:

Council Plan: Health & Communities: Support at least 50 community projects

Area North Development Plan priority: Self-help and community facilities

The views of the Transport Officer have been sought. Increasing accessibility for all residents through enhancements to public and community transport facilities reflects the Council Plan aims and priorities to improve the economy, the environment and build healthy communities.

## **Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications**

Encouraging people to use public transport, including installation of bus shelter and better access to information, offer the potential to reduce the number of car journeys and thereby reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

## **Equality and Diversity Implications**

The views of the Third Sector and Equalities Co-ordinator have been sought and the project will have no negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics.

**Background Papers:** Grant file

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## Appendix A

### Standard conditions applying to all Community Grants.

This grant offer is made based on the information provided in application form no. AN17/06 and represents 40% of the total project costs. The grant will be reduced if the costs of the total project are less than originally anticipated. Phased payments may be made in exceptional circumstances (e.g. to help with cash-flow for a larger building project) and are subject to agreement.

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 this 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 if this was not already in place at the time of the application and before starting the project.
- 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.

### 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 where buildings regulations are required.
- Incorporate disabled access and provide an access statement where relevant.