

## Grant to Long Sutton Village Hall (Executive Decision)

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### Purpose of the Report

Councillors are asked to consider the awarding of a grant of £4,347 towards the costs of improved security doors and a new Closed Circuit Television System (CCTV) for The Village Hall at Long Sutton.

### 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 Long Sutton Village Hall Committee has applied to the Area North community grants programme for financial assistance with the costs of replacement doors and new CCTV System at The Village Hall, Martock Rd, Long Sutton, Langport TA10 9NT. The application has been assessed by the Locality Officer who is submitting this report to enable the Area North Committee to make an informed decision about the application.

### Recommendation

It is recommended that Councillors award a grant of £4,347 to Long Sutton Village Hall, the grant to be allocated from the Area North Capital Programme and subject to SSDC standard conditions for community grants (Appendix A)

### Application Details

Name of applicant:	Long Sutton Village Hall and Recreation Ground
Project:	Replacement doors and new CCTV System
Total project cost:	£8,847
Amount requested from SSDC:	£4,347
Application assessed by:	Adrian Moore

### 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	Actual score	Maximum score possible
A Eligibility	Y	Y/N
B Equalities Impact	6	7
C Need for project	4	5
D Capacity of organisation	13	15
E Financial need	5	7
F Innovation	2	3
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>37</b>

## Background

Long Sutton Village Hall Committee is a sub-committee of Long Sutton Parish Council charged with the day-to-day running and administration of Long Sutton Village Hall and Recreation Ground (LSVH), a registered charity. Long Sutton Parish Council are the Trustees of the LSVH charity.

Over the past 18 months LSVH has suffered a spate of vandalism culminating in two break-ins and a robbery affecting the Hall and the Pavilion. There is ongoing unsocial behaviour within the vicinity and a continued threat of further break-ins. Outside lighting has been upgraded to provide a further deterrent and an internal security system has now been installed at a cost in excess of £4,000, funded by LSVH themselves.

The current door is only locked by a strong magnetic lock and it is intended to upgrade the two doors at the front of the building to provide additional security. On Police guidance the committee were also advised to install a CCTV system as a further deterrent.

The Committee have obtained independent quotations for each of the two projects, the doors and the CCTV.

## Parish information

Parish*	Long Sutton
Parish Population	833
No. of dwellings	387

\*Taken from the 2011 census profile

## The project

To continue to provide a safe recreational and community facility for the benefit of all residents of the Long Sutton Parish by upgrading the two doors and therefore improving the security at the front of the building and to install a CCTV system to act as a deterrent.

## Local support / evidence of need

The hall occupies a large site in the village and it has a 200 car capacity car-park which is used daily by up to 80 'school-run' cars dropping children off at the neighbouring Long Sutton Primary School.

The village hall is used for many events including WI, Yoga, Short mat bowls, Tea-dancing, Pilates, Sewing group, Long Sutton Cricket Club which fields 6 teams each weekend from Juniors to Seniors. The Hall is also used for SSDC meetings and is an identified hall for emergency use within the SSDC Civil Contingencies plan. It was used for this reason in recent years to shelter the refugees discovered hidden in a lorry on the A303.

In the Long Sutton Parish Plan the Village Hall and the Recreation Ground feature prominently where the Parishioners considered the Church, Shop, Primary School and Village Hall to be at the heart of the community.

## Project costs

<b>Project costs</b>	<b>Cost £</b>
<i>Replacement Doors</i>	3,600
<i>CCTV System</i>	5,247
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,847</b>

As a registered charity LSVH are able to reclaim the VAT.

### Funding plan

Funding source	Secured or pending`	%	Amount £
Parish Council	Yes	11.3	1,000
Own funds	Yes	39.6	3,500
Other funding	Pending	0	0
SSDC Community Grant	Pending	49.1	4,347
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>8,847</b>

Other funding has been applied for and therefor if secured will lessen the requirement for the SSDC community grant contribution. However, LSVH have recently sought funding from elsewhere to support the resurfacing of the play area and so are limited to who they can seek further funds. They have also installed a new alarmed security system within the hall and made upgrades to the outside lighting. These recent works have solely come out of their own funds.

### Conclusion and Recommendation

It is recommended that a grant of £4,347 is awarded.

### Financial implications

The balance in the Area North Capital programme is £166,337. If the recommended grant of £4,347 is awarded, £161,990 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

#### Health and Communities - To build healthy, self-reliant, active communities we will:

- Support communities so that they can identify their needs and develop local solutions
- Help people to live well by enabling quality cultural, leisure, play, sport & healthy lifestyle facilities & activities

### Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

None from this project

### 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.

#### **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**