

Hardington Mandeville Parish Council Grant Request (Executive Decision)

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Purpose of the Report

For members to consider the request for a community grant from Hardington Mandeville Parish Council towards a new accessible parking bay.

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.

Recommendation

That members consider this application for up to £1,925 from the community grants budget.

Background

Hardington Mandeville is a rural village 4 miles south west of Yeovil. The 2011 census states the population as being 585. The village is in the centre of farming country and there are a number of working farms in the parish.

Project

The project is to turn a wet, muddy lay bay section besides the highway next to St. Mary's Church into parking bays for people with mobility concerns. At present the area is not officially adopted by Somerset County Council and is used for its location at the rear of the church due to an accessible footpath supporting people with disabilities and mobility concerns. There are other parking facilities at the front of the church which supports car parking for both the church and the village hall but this area is not suitable for people with disabilities and mobility concerns (as highlighted in a recent access review from Access for All) due to its stepped entrance and narrow path.

The new bay will enable up to 3 cars to park next to the church and easy access the rear path to the church. The building is not only used for worship but also for social groups such as bell ringing, choirs, wedding, funerals, events and community meetings.

Somerset County Council have agreed to support on completion of the project under their maintenance responsibilities (accepted in their 171 licensing process) providing long term sustainability for the project investment.

Ward Member Comments

Ward Members are supportive of this project. The ward member commented that this extra parking bay will deliver a safe and easy access to both much used Village Community venues.

Assessment Scoring

Below is the summary table from the grant assessment form. It is recommended that funding is only awarded to projects scoring 22 points or more.

Category	Score	Maximum score
A Eligibility	Y	
B Equalities Impact	6	7
C Evidence of Need	2	5
D Capacity of Organisation	10	15
E Financial need	3	7
F Innovation	2	3
<i>Grand Total</i>	23	37

Funding Breakdown

Funding Sources	% Funding of the Total Project Cost	Amount of Funding (£)	Status
Parish Council	25	1000	Secured
Anonyms donor (grant)	7.5	300	Secured
Church & local fundraising	17.5	650	Pending
SSDC Area South Grants	50	1925	This application
Total Project Cost	100%	3,950	

Financial Implications

The uncommitted 2017/18 grants budget stands at £10,230. If members agree this award of £1,925, it will leave £8,305 remaining in the budget.

Grant Conditions

The grant would be subject to all the standard grant conditions.

The grant offer would be made based on the information provided in the application form and would represent up to 50% of the total project costs (the final payment may be reduced if the costs of the total project are less than originally anticipated, however payment will not exceed the grant amount approved at committee).

Corporate Priority Implications

Health and Communities

To build healthy, self reliant, active communities we will:

- Help people to live well by enabling quality cultural, leisure, play, sport and healthy lifestyles facilities and activities.

Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications (NI188)

None.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The project is all about providing more accessible and safe parking for vulnerable people living in and visiting the parish.

The project will establish a new parking area for people with accessibility concerns to be able park, and access local community facilities such as the church and the community hall.

The project has had an access audit from Access for all and they are very supportive of the project.

Background Papers: None