

Joint Area Committee – East - 8 July 2009

**14. Community & Leisure Capital Grant Request – Milborne Port Church House and The National Trust (Lytes Cary) (Executive Decision, Excepted Business)**

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**Purpose of the Report**

For members to consider requests for capital grants received from The National Trust (Lytes Cary) and Milborne Port Church House.

**Background**

Community and leisure grant applications are considered twice a year in June (July 09 due to Election) and December, therefore, the next opportunity to consider applications will be at the Area East Committee meeting in December 2009.

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**A. Milborne Port Church House – Accessible Toilets**

**Purpose of the Report**

To seek Members' support for a contribution towards extending Church House to provide accessible toilets, storage space and an office.

**Recommendation**

Members are asked to agree a contribution of £9500 (11% of total project costs) from the Community and Leisure Capital budget, towards the cost of providing fully accessible toilets at Church House subject to the following conditions:-

- (1) The funding has been awarded based on the information provided on the application form for application number AE/09/05.
- (2) The SSDC Evaluation Form will need to be completed in full and returned to the Area Council Offices when the applicant returns the signed acceptance of the funding offer;
- (3) all other funding sources are secured;
- (4) SSDC is given prior notice of the date when work is to commence;
- (5) SSDC is acknowledged on any publicity and on any permanent acknowledgement of assistance towards the project;
- (6) the applicant will work, in conjunction with SSDC Officers, to monitor the success of the scheme and the benefits to the community, resulting from SSDC's contribution to the project;

- (7) should the scheme be delayed or unable to commence within six months from the date of this Committee, SSDC must be notified in writing; and
- (8) should the final cost be less than the estimate considered by the Committee, the funding will be proportionately reduced. However, if the cost exceeds that estimate, no further funding will normally be available.

## Background

Milborne Port Church House Management Committee has applied for a grant towards an extension and significant interior alterations to provide fully accessible toilets and additional storage space.

### Past support from SSDC

Funding Source & Project	Period	Amount
Area East Community & Leisure Capital – Heating improvements	07/08	£750

## Report

Church House is a well-used community hall in the centre of Milborne Port. It is owned by the Parochial Church Council of Milborne Port and is managed by a separate voluntary management committee.

This project is part of a phased improvement plan and the committee has already completed the kitchen refurbishment, installed a suspended ceiling, new heating and lighting. Hall usage has significantly increased due to the improvements carried out so far. The recent closure of the Red Cross building has also brought new users to the hall. Regular users include a local Active Living group, Cubs, Brownies, Beavers, Dance classes, Tai Chi and a choir. There is scope to increase the use but the building does not currently meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act. The organisation is not eligible for support through the District-wide village halls budget as it does not operate under a standard Village Hall constitution.

The proposed scheme will involve removing part of the existing building, completely rebuilding, extending and re-organising the internal space to create Male, Female and Disabled WC, baby changing facilities, an office and additional storage space. The total project cost is £85,300 and a significant amount has already been raised locally with two further funding applications pending.

Letters of support have been received from existing and potential users. The Parish Council fully supports the scheme and has given a grant but other significant projects are currently underway which has limited the level of financial support that can be given at this time.

There are a number of halls available for hire in Milborne Port but the location and size of Church House makes it particularly suitable for smaller meetings and group activities.

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>% Funding of Total Scheme Cost</b>	<b>Amount of Funding £</b>	<b>Status</b>
Own Funds/local fundraising	41%	35000	Secured
SDDC	11%	9500	Applied for
Parish Council	1%	500	Secured
Lottery	18%	15000	Applied for
Viridor	29%	25000	Applied for
<b>Total Scheme Cost</b>	<b>100%</b>	85,283	

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

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Maximum score</b>
A Eligibility	Y	
B Target Groups	5	7
C Project	3	5
D Capacity of Organisation	12	15
E Financial need	6	5
F Innovation	2	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>34</b>

### **Financial Implications**

If Members agreed the recommendation in Item 11, there is currently £25,000 available in the Community & Leisure Capital Budget.

If members agreed the above recommendation there will be £15,500 unallocated in the Community and Leisure Capital Budget.

### **Implications for Corporate Priorities**

This project contributes towards ensuring safe, sustainable and cohesive communities. 4.19, 4.21, 4.25

### **Other Implications**

None

**Background Papers:** Grant Application files.

## **B. The National Trust (Lytes Cary) – Provision of Allotments and Community Gardening Project**

### **Purpose of the Report**

To seek Members' support for a contribution towards establishing 40 allotments on National Trust Land.

### **Recommendation**

Members are asked to agree a contribution of £3000 (28% of total project costs) from the Community and Leisure Capital budget, towards the costs of establishing a community allotment project at Lytes Cary, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) the funding has been awarded based on the information provided on the application form for application number AE/09/03;
- (2) the SSDC Evaluation Form will need to be completed in full and returned to the Area Council Offices when the applicant returns the signed acceptance of the funding offer;
- (3) all other funding sources are secured;
- (4) SSDC is given prior notice of the date when work is to commence;
- (5) SSDC is acknowledged on any publicity and on any permanent acknowledgement of assistance towards the project;
- (6) the applicant will work, in conjunction with SSDC Officers, to monitor the success of the scheme and the benefits to the community, resulting from SSDC's contribution to the project;
- (7) should the scheme be delayed or unable to commence within six months from the date of this Committee, SSDC must be notified in writing
- (8) should the final cost be less than the estimate considered by the Committee, the funding will be proportionately reduced. However, if the cost exceeds that estimate, no further funding will normally be available.
- (9) lease agreement must be on the basis of a term of at least 10 years in line with our current grant policy

### **Background**

Lytes Cary is an intimate Manor House with Arts and Crafts style gardens owned and managed by the National Trust which attracts over 40,000 visitors a year.

The National Trust has applied for a grant towards establishing a community allotment project.

## Report

The National Trust aims to make its sites as accessible as possible and local participation at Lytes Cary is very good with 120 volunteers helping with house stewarding, gardening, wardening, research, archaeology, photography and handyman duties.

Anecdotal evidence that allotments are needed led to a feasibility study which confirmed the need for a total of up to 40 allotment plots. The majority of the plots will be for use by local individuals but a small number will be retained and used as part of a broader community education project. This project will enable visitors, allotment holders, schools and community groups to participate in growing and learning about local food. Consultation with groups and schools has been done and is ongoing and a regular newsletter is being circulated to promote the scheme and the opportunities to get involved. It is expected that 15 local community groups will participate in growing food through regular visits and a further 5 will benefit through one-off projects over an 18 month period. A lot of effort has been made to address key issues of access to those without transport and sustainability. Transport by minibus will be provided but it is hoped that over time a community transport solution could be developed.

### Site Ownership and Management

Land will be leased to Charlton Mackrell Parish Council, who will be responsible for managing the list of applicants and allocating plots to individuals. An allotment committee, supported by the Head Gardener will be established to directly manage the project. This group will be made up of allotment tenants, volunteers and staff with two places reserved for representatives from schools and community groups. Allotment holders will have access to site facilities (car parking, toilets etc) and storage will also be provided.

An application has been submitted to the Big Lottery Fund's Local Food Scheme and local match funding will be essential to demonstrate local support. Charlton Mackrell Parish Council has been involved in the project development, is committed to managing the allotment list and has contributed financially.

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>% Funding of Total Scheme Cost</b>	<b>Amount of Funding £</b>	<b>Status</b>
Own Funds/local fundraising	16%	1742	Secured
Parish Council	5%	500	Secured
SSDC	28%	3,000	Applied for
Big Lottery	79%	8,500	Applied for
<b>Total Scheme Cost</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>10742</b>	

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

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Maximum score</b>
A Eligibility	Y	
B Target Groups	6	7
C Project	4	5
D Capacity of Organisation	14	15
E Financial need	5	7
F Innovation	3	3
Grand Total	<b>32</b>	<b>37</b>

### **Financial Implications**

If Members agreed the recommendation in item A, there is currently £15,500 available in the Community & Leisure Capital Budget.

If Members agree the above recommendation of £3,000 this will leave £12500 unallocated in that budget for allocation in December.

### **Implications for Corporate Priorities**

This project contributes towards :-

Enhancing the environment, address and adapt to climate change. 2.2, 2.5

Improving the housing, health and well-being of our citizens. 3.26, 3.30

Ensure safe, sustainable and cohesive communities. 4.1, 4.19, 4.22

### **Other Implications**

None

**Background Papers:** *Grant Application files.*