



WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Name and date of Committee	CABINET – 10 November 2021
Report Number	Agenda Item 9
Subject	COMMUNITY FACILITIES GRANT 2nd ROUND 2021/22
Wards affected	Ducklington, Filkins, Hailey, Stonesfield, and Witney
Accountable member	Cllr Jane Doughty, Cabinet Member for Customer Delivery Email: jane.doughty@westoxon.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Scott Williams, Business Manager - Contracts Tel: 01285 623654 Email: scott.williams@publicagroup.uk
Summary/Purpose	To consider applications for grant aid from the Community Facilities Grant Scheme.
Annexes	ANNEX A – Community Facilities Grant Applications 2021/22 – Round 2
Recommendation/s	<i>a) That Cabinet agrees to award grants in accordance with the recommendations set out in ANNEX A.</i>
Corporate priorities	Working with communities to meet the current and future needs and aspirations of residents.
Key Decision	YES
Exempt	No
Consultees/ Consultation	None

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. This report represents the second of two rounds of funding for the Community Facilities Grant scheme.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1. All Members are invited to submit additional information or comments in respect of any of the applications prior to or at the meeting.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. The Annual Budget allowance for this grant scheme is £200,000
- 3.2. In Round 1 of the Community Facility Grant scheme 2021/22 an allocation of £11,563 was made, leaving the sum of £188,437 available for Round 2.
- 3.3. The proposed costs arising from this report are detailed in ANNEX A. If all the grants are approved as recommended the total financial commitment will equal **£134,472** and all grants can be met from the remaining capital budget as shown in 3.2 of this report. There will be a closing balance of £53,965 in the scheme for 2021/22 if the proposals in this report are accepted.
- 3.4. All applications were scored against a matrix and funding allocations are proposed in line with this.
- 3.5. Detailed in the following table is the financial commitment if all applications are taken into account and the amounts recommended are approved:

Reference	Applicant	Recommended
CFG/2122/05	Stonesfield Playing Field Association	£6,250
CFG/2122/06	1 st Stonesfield Scouts	£36,750
CFG/2122/07	Witney Rugby Club	£50,000
CFG/2122/08	Ducklington Parish Council	£28,772
CFG/2122/09	Witney Mills Cricket Club	£2,700
CFG/2122/10	Filkins Village Centre	£10,000
Total Grant Allocation		£134,472

- 3.6. This grant award results in a total investment of **£573,774** into local schemes, with the leverage effect of the Council's grant being that for every pound grant aided **£3.27** of external or community funding is being released into the District's economy and cultural facilities infrastructure.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. None.

5. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 5.1. The main risk to the Council is allocating funding to these projects, while the applications to the various other funding partners are unsuccessful. In mitigation the Community Facilities Grant criteria states that the grant will only be paid following successful awards from funding partners.
- 5.2. Risk to the Council will be mitigated by making payment only on satisfactory completion of key stages of the project and upon the provision of relevant invoices and certification by the applicant.
- 5.3. Should Members decide not to grant fund these projects a gap will be left within the project funding which could affect the successful draw down of external grants which ultimately could cause the project to be cancelled.

6. EQUALITIES IMPACT (IF REQUIRED)

- 6.1. None

7. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS (IF REQUIRED)

- 7.1. The Council will request that projects maximise opportunities for energy efficiency and consider higher building standards in the works to mitigate Climate Change impacts and reduce ongoing utility bill costs.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 8.1. The Cabinet could choose to offer differing levels of grant aid than those proposed in ANNEX A, but within the budgets established for these purposes, although this may result in the projects not being viable due to insufficient funding.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1. None.

Community Facilities Grant Applications 2021/22 – Round 2
(Annual Grant Allocation £200,000 – unallocated grant balance after Round 1 £188,437)

Amount Requested	Total Scheme Cost	WODC Contribution		Rate Relief received	Applicant and Grant Use Additional notes and recommendations
£6,250	£25,000	£6,250 (3% of annual grant allocation)		n/a	CFG/2122/05 – Stonesfield Playing Field Association Installation of outdoor gym equipment
Funding Breakdown					<p>Stonesfield Playing Field Association have previously received funding from our capital grant schemes. The most recent being in 2001/02 for £18,615 towards the redevelopment of the village playground.</p> <p>The rationale for the development of this project is that the demand for outdoor sports facilities has increased in response to the pandemic. It will also provide a free of charge structured training facility for the thriving sports teams in the village.</p> <p>The project contributes to the Council's priorities and has a good level of local support and aims to promote good fitness and well-being for the whole community.</p> <p><i>An award will be made subject to achieving the required partnership funding.</i></p>
Funding Source		Status	Amount	% of Scheme Cost	
West Oxfordshire District Council			£6,250	25%	
Stonesfield Playing Field Association		Definite	£3,000	12%	
Blenheim Palace		Definite	£5,000	20%	
Stonesfield Community Trust		Definite	£5,000	20%	
Stonesfield Parish Council		Estimated	£2,000	8%	
Community Fundraising		Estimated	£3,750	15%	
Total			£25,000	100%	

Amount Requested	Total Scheme Cost	WODC Contribution	Rate Relief received	Applicant and Grant Use Additional notes and recommendations
£36,750	£147,000	£36,750 (18% of annual grant allocation)	n/a	<p>CFG/2122/06 1st Stonesfield Scout Group</p> <p>Rebuild of current Scout Hut to form a new Scout Hut and Outdoor Learning Centre.</p> <p>1st Stonesfield Scouts hasn't previously received any funding from our capital grant schemes.</p> <p>The previous scout hut was demolished in 2019 after it became unsafe.</p> <p>The Scouts are keen to help the community and want to rebuild a hut which provides a space for local group, including the school and pre-school to access Forest Schools in a natural woodland setting which has safe and easy access. Local wildlife groups will also be able to use the facility as a base for nature walks and talks, allowing the community to engage in the local ecosystem.</p> <p>The project contributes to the Council's priorities and has a good level of local support and aims to promote good physical and mental well-being for the whole community.</p> <p><i>An award will be made subject to achieving the required partnership funding</i></p>
Funding Breakdown				
Funding Source	Status	Amount	% of Scheme Cost	
West Oxfordshire District Council		£36,750	25%	
Stonesfield Parish Council	Estimated	£5,000	3%	
Blenheim Bursary 2021	Definite	£4,000	3%	
National Lottery	Estimated	£100,000	68%	
"Buy a brick" and local fundraising	Estimated	£1,250	1%	
Total		£147,000	100%	

Amount Requested	Total Scheme Cost	WODC Contribution	Rate Relief received	Applicant and Grant Use Additional notes and recommendations
£50,000	£235,884	£50,000 (25% of annual grant allocation)	80% (£1,532)	<p>CFG/2122/07 Witney Rugby Club</p> <p>Extension to existing clubhouse to accommodate the clubs growing membership base and to provide an indoor area for winter fitness training. The space will also be available for in house and external functions. Project also includes works to outside patio area.</p> <p>Witney Rugby Club have previously received funding from our capital grant schemes. The most recent being in 2009/10 for £2,800 towards perimeter fencing.</p> <p>The current club house is unable to accommodate the number of members at the club, with overcrowding becoming an issue, this has become more apparent during the pandemic and the impact of social distancing. The project will also allow for winter fitness training to take place inside during the colder months. The community will benefit from this project as it will provide a quality space that is available to hire for weddings, parties, local classes and meetings.</p> <p>The project contributes to the Council's priorities and has a good level of local support and aims to provide a local facility for the whole community.</p> <p><i>An award will be made subject to building regulation approval and planning permission being secured.</i></p>
Funding Breakdown				
Funding Source	Status	Amount	% of Scheme Cost	
West Oxfordshire District Council		£50,000	21%	
Applicant organisation	Definite	£20,884	9%	
Bartlett Taylor Trust	Definite	£15,000	6%	
Jim Cousins Trust	Definite	£10,000	4%	
RFU Grant	Definite	£40,000	17%	
RFU Loan	Definite	£100,000	43%	
Total		£235,884	100%	

Amount Requested	Total Scheme Cost	WODC Contribution	Rate Relief received	Applicant and Grant Use Additional notes and recommendations
£30,000	£115,090	£28,772 (14% of annual grant allocation)	n/a	<p>CFG/2122/08 Ducklington Parish Council</p> <p>Improvement to Playground and installation of MUGA(multi-use games area)</p> <p>The existing playground equipment is old and dangerous items of equipment have had to be removed. The remainder of the equipment is also becoming unserviceable. The proposal is to improve the well-used playground to meet current standards and also to upgrade the existing tennis court to a MUGA.</p> <p>Local consultation has identified the need for new equipment and the provision of a MUGA to meet the needs of a broad range of children. The improvements will create a safe space for families and children to be able to get free and easy access for play and socialising. Design consideration has been given to accessibility by providing easy access to the re-surfaced MUGA as well as play equipment including accessible swings and a low level roundabout.</p> <p><i>An award will be made subject to achieving the required partnership funding</i></p>
Funding Breakdown				
Funding Source	Status	Amount	% of Scheme Cost	
West Oxfordshire District Council	Applied	£28,772.75	25%	
Ducklington PC	Definite	£20,560.00	18%	
Ducklington PC s106	Definite	£10,758.24	9%	
FCC Community Grant	Applied	£55,000.00	48%	
Total		£115,090.99	100%	

Amount Requested	Total Scheme Cost	WODC Contribution	Rate Relief received	Applicant and Grant Use Additional notes and recommendations
£2,700	£10,800	£2,700 (1.4% of annual grant allocation)	Yes –100%	CFG/2122/09 Witney Mills Cricket Club
Funding Breakdown				Purchase of new Outfield Mower
Funding Source	Status	Amount	% of Scheme Cost	<p>Recently the mower which is used to mow the cricket outfield has broken down and a replacement is required in preparation for next season.</p> <p>The mower is required to provide a suitable playing surface for Cricket to be played.</p> <p>The Club has three Adult teams and Junior teams ranging from the age of 5 to 19 years old. There are approximately 50 Adult members and over 100 Junior members who will all benefit from the replacement equipment.</p> <p><i>An award will only be made subject to achieving the required partnership funding</i></p>
West Oxfordshire District Council	Applied	£2,700	25%	
Applicant Organisation	Definite	£8,100	75%	
Total		£10,800	100%	

Amount Requested	Total Scheme Cost	WODC Contribution	Rate Relief received	Applicant and Grant Use Additional notes and recommendations
£10,000	£40,000	£10,000 (5% of annual grant allocation)	Yes – 80%	CFG/2122/10 Filkins Village Centre
Funding Breakdown				Filkins Village Playground Refurbishment.
Funding Source	Status	Amount	% of Scheme Cost	<p>Over time, the existing play area has become tired and equipment has had to be removed either for safety reasons or due to damage. This has left the play area unappealing to the local community.</p> <p>The project will revive the play area to create a vibrant community space that will be used by children as well as their parents, grandparents, and carers.</p> <p>The layout has been guided by Colvin Moggridge, who have experience of designing inclusive landscapes. They state that; “The design seeks to amplify the expanse of the area, whilst making full use of what is at present a hard and relatively barren playground. Most importantly the intention of enriching play for children of all ages with varying capabilities is reflected in the layout; disjointed existing elements are brought into a sequence with proposed ones with disabled access in mind”.</p> <p><i>An award will only be made subject to achieving the required partnership funding</i></p>
West Oxfordshire District Council	Applied	£10,000	25%	
Applicant	Definite	£6,000	15%	
Lottery Fund	Estimate	£10,000	25%	
Donations	Definite	£2,000	5%	
Princes Countryside Fund	Estimate	£8,000	20%	
Thames Water community fund	Estimate	£4,000	10%	
Total		£40,000	100%	

Unallocated Balance £53,965