



WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Name and date of Committee	CABINET 16 NOVEMBER 2022
Report Number	AGENDA ITEM NO 10
Subject	COMMUNITY FACILITIES GRANT 2 nd ROUND 2022/23
Wards affected	Chipping Norton
Accountable member	CLlr Joy Aitman Email: joy.aitman@westoxon.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Scott Williams, Business Manager – Contracts 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 2022/23 – Round 2
Recommendation	That Cabinet resolves to: a) <i>Agree to award grants in accordance with the recommendations set out in Annex A.</i>
Corporate priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Healthy Towns and Villages: Facilitating healthy lifestyles and better wellbeing for everyone• Supporting and building prosperous and inclusive local communities
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 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 **£50,000** and all grants can be met from the existing capital budget. ANNEX A also indicates the closing balance for the grant budget if all the proposals are accepted.

- 3.2. Applications were not scored against the scoring matrix for this round as the total sum applied for did not exceed the agreed budget.

- 3.3. 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/2223/05	The Branch Trust – Chipping Norton	£50,000
Total Grant Allocation		£50,000

- 3.4. This grant award results in a total investment of **£447,002** into local schemes, with the leverage effect of the Council's grant being that for every pound grant aided **£7.94** 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.

(END)

ANNEX A

Community Facilities Grant Applications 2022/23 – Round 2
 (Annual Grant Allocation £200,000 – unallocated grant balance £158,449)

Amount Requested	Total Scheme Cost	WODC Contribution	Rate Relief received	Applicant and Grant Use
£50,000	£447,002	£50,000 (25% of annual grant allocation)	Y – 100%	CFG/2223/05 – The Branch Trust
Funding Breakdown				Creation of a community hall within the Community Hub – The Branch.
				The Branch hasn't previously received funding from our capital grant schemes.
Funding Source		Status	Amount	% of Scheme Cost
West Oxfordshire District Council		Applied	£50,000	12%
Architectural Heritage Fund		Definite	£100,00	21%
Pf Charitable		Definite	£75,000	18%
Garfield Weston Foundation		Definite	£100,000	21%
Philanthropic donations		Definite	£122,002	28%
		Total	£447,002	100%
				The Branch Trust has taken ownership of 16 Market Place, Chipping Norton in order to develop the building into a fully accessible Community Hub. The community hall will be built at the rear of the building and will provide essential flexible space, enabling seating for 60 people for talks and courses and 12 cooking workstations to support the community kitchen and life skills courses.
				The project contributes to the Council's priorities and has a good level of local support. The community will benefit from this project in the following ways; it will restore access to support services, will be intergenerational therefore building community cohesion, increasing opportunities for creatively, reducing crime rates, creating opportunities to access training and employment skills and ultimately improving social connection and wellbeing.

Grant balance unallocated: **£108,449**