

6. CORPORATE GRANT SCHEMES

REPORT OF: HEAD OF LEISURE AND SUSTAINABILITY

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Wards Affected: East Grinstead

Key Decision No

Purpose of the report

1. The purpose of this report is to present one Facility grant application for consideration by the Cabinet Grants Panel.

Recommendation

- 2 ***Members of the Panel are requested to consider the report and decide upon the recommendations attached at Appendix A to the report.***

Background

3. A grant application from the East Grinstead Football Club was received in time for the previous meeting of the panel, however, it was necessary to resolve a number of queries and was therefore withdrawn by the applicant. It was agreed at the time that the grant would need to be considered prior to the next scheduled Cabinet Grants Panel in the autumn, therefore with the agreement of the Chairman of the Panel, this report has been brought forward to this meeting.
4. The details of the application as well as the officer recommendations are attached at Appendix A.
5. All applications are assessed against the criteria for the grant scheme, the strategic cultural context and the Council's corporate priorities.

Other Options Considered

6. The grants provided by this Council are 'pump priming' in the context of enabling the applicants to lever in substantial monies from other organisations, grant-giving charities and national schemes.

Financial Implications

7. Members will recall that Facility Grants are funded by the use of S106 contributions which the Council holds for the enhancement of capacity for sport, community buildings and other purposes as a result of residential development.

Risk Management Implications

8. The main associated risks that may impact upon the successful implementation of the decisions arising from this report would be the inability of the funded organisations to carry out the services, activities or equipment purchase for which funding had been awarded.

9. Additionally, the sharing of information with West Sussex County Council will ensure that organisations are not being double-funded for the same purpose.
10. A Contract is signed at the application stage by organisations seeking funding that details the terms and conditions under which the grant is given, including the return of all monies to the Council should the purpose for which the grant is awarded not materialise. In respect of Capital Grants, the Council may impose additional safeguards.
11. All organisations are requested to complete an End of Grant Report at the end of the funding period and required to submit information relating to the grant including purchase invoices, details of the number of residents benefiting from the grant, annual accounts, how the grant was used etc.
12. It is considered that these measures would mitigate the main risks from materialising and indicate a low-risk to the successful outcomes arising from this report.

Equality and customer service implications

13. As part of the assessment process all of the organisations applying for funding from the Council have complied with the required conditions of funding and have the requisite policies and procedures in place including any other relevant legislation.

Legal Implications

14. The Council is not obliged to provide grant funding, but by virtue of Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011, it is able to do anything which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion of the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of its area. This includes the incurring of expenditure, giving financial assistance to any person (or organisation) and entering into arrangements or agreements with any person.

Background Papers

Grant applications and associated documentation for the Small Revenue Grants and individual Facility Grant project files are held in the Community Services and Culture Section.

Corporate Capital Grants Scheme - new application

Town:	East Grinstead
Title of project:	Clubhouse extension
Applicant:	East Grinstead Town Football Club
Type of applicant:	Community Amateur Sports Club
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	£25,000 - Stadia improvements (2007)
Grant Request to MSDC	£40,000
Total project cost:	£295,906

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

Sport England – Inspired Facilities	50,000 applied
East Grinstead War Memorial Ltd	20,000 applied
Gatwick Airport Community Trust	2,000 secured
SITA Charitable Trust	31,150 secured
Football Stadia Improvement Fund	100,000 secured
East Grinstead Town Football Club – donations	49,756 secured
Other	3,000 unsecured
Total	£ 255,906

Summary of project proposal and aims:

The club is seeking grant aid to build a new extension to the clubhouse incorporating changing rooms and ancillary accommodation including spectator toilets and upgrading the facilities to comply with the FA's Ground Grading criteria for Grade E.

Background

East Grinstead Town Football Club (EGTFC) is a registered not-for profit community amateur sports club run entirely by volunteers. It was formed in 1890 and was a founder member of the Mid Sussex Football League and the Sussex County Football League (SCFL). EGTFC was one of the first clubs in Sussex to attain FA Standard Chartered Development Club status which is a quality standard for coaching, administration and child protection.

It runs four adult teams and has a strong youth programme for under 10s and under 18s. It is the biggest provider of football in the East Grinstead area with a playing membership of over 250 members. EGTFC's first team, reserves and under 18s use the club's East Court ground for their home matches, some County FA and County League cup matches are played there as well as the annual junior football festival and charity matches. The First Team will finish in the top half of Division One of the SCFL (Step 5) this season and has aspirations to progress to the Ryman League South at the end of the next season which will require an upgrade to the facilities.

The existing clubhouse was erected in 1971 and is a predominantly wooden construction that was refurbished in 2009/10. The current facilities need refurbishing, the roof needs replacing and a spectator toilet is needed that does not require access through licensed premises.

EGTFC intends to demolish the existing temporary boardroom, kitchen and changing rooms and erect a new 16 x 14m single storey extension to the clubhouse to incorporate two team and two officials' changing rooms (male and female), a first aid room, kitchen, spectator toilets, and an increase in covered seating with the provision of turnstiles, vehicular access and resurface the car park. This upgrade will enable the club to comply with National Ground Grading Category E and meet the entry requirements for the Ryman League South. The club has obtained planning permission for these improvements (ref 12/03930/FUL)

The club has drawn up a detailed specification of the works required and obtained three quotations from contractors. The preferred quote, which is the lowest of the three, is from Brinkwell Construction and the project costs shown below are based on this information:

Demolition of existing and construction of new changing rooms	215,744
Create level area for 2 turnstiles, gated access for emergency vehicles into ground and lower level covered area at clubhouse entrance	35,750
Reconfigure upper seated stand and lower standing stand	7,800
Re-grade and resurface car park, currently an unbound surface and extensively potholed	33,250
Planning and building control fees	1,787
Professional services for survey, drawings etc. for planning and building regulations	1,575
Total	£ 295,906

The project has the support of East Grinstead Town Council who has written a letter in support of the project. EGTFC has 22 years remaining on the lease for the grounds and clubhouse with the East Grinstead War Memorial Ltd (EGWM) and the landlord has invited them to submit a formal application for funds toward the cost of the project.

Head of Finance Comments

Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st May 2012, which shows a Surplus of £4,062.

Total income was £88,584; generated from Fees and Subscriptions (£18,767), Bar Income (£18,024), Receipts and Sales (£15,000), Grants (£12,670), Donations (£12,514) Sponsorship and Advertising (£8,671), Other Income (£1,727) Fundraising (£1,163) and Interest (£48).

Total expenditure was £84,522; comprising of Supplies and Services (£49,733), Depreciation (£12,670), Transport Related (£12,629) and Premises Related (£9,490).

Balances held at the end of this period showed Net Assets of £10,317, which comprised of Fixed Assets £63,350, Cash £131,016, Debtors £1,146, Stock £739, Creditors (£185,934).

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

EGTFC is open to the whole community, values the diverse background of its players and officials and is committed to eliminating discrimination. The realisation of the clubhouse improvements will enable the club to increase participation, retention and progression. The will continue to promote youth football through the annual junior football festival and the

development of the senior sections so that youngsters can aspire to play at County League level.

Better Environment

The project will secure the long term future of the club with modern, clean, functional and aesthetically pleasing facilities reflecting a well-run amateur club.

Better Services

The improved facilities will encourage the club to achieve its target of promotion from the Sussex County League to Ryman League South and will enable the club to host more Sussex County FA and League key matches which will attract more visitors to the facilities as spectators and players.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The assessment group feels that this project to East Grinstead Town Football Club will be of benefit the residents of East Grinstead and the surrounding area, by providing both a facility which allows the Club to continue to thrive and attract more young people to the Club and also a stadium facility fit for 'show' games in the northern area of the District.

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award East Grinstead Town Football Club, a grant of £40,000 (16% of the total project cost) to build and extension to the clubhouse and make improvements to the ground which is made up of - £12,908 (P35/652B formal sports), £11,183 (P35/705 formal sports), £13,849 (P35/624 formal sport) and £2,060 (P35/519 formal sport) monies.

This grant offer is made subject to the following special conditions:

- That it can be demonstrated that the project can be funded in its entirety with 12 months of the grant offer
- The project must be completed within 12 months of project funding being obtained.