

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	Crawley Down
Title of project:	Automatic doors
Applicant:	Crawley Down Community Centre Association
Type of applicant:	Registered Charity (no. 280857)
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	£20,000 – building improvements (kitchen, toilets, chairs, fencing) (2013)
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 9,000 (76%)
Total project cost:	£ 11,850

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

Crawley Down Residents Association	£200 (unsecured)
Local fundraising – book stall	£100 (secured)

Summary of project proposal and aims:

The applicant is applying for a grant to install automatic doors at entrance to the Haven Centre, Crawley Down.

Background

The Haven Centre, managed by the Crawley Down Community Centre Association (CDCCA), provides cost effective room hire for the benefit of residents of Crawley Down and the surrounding area. The community centre is owned by the CDCCA but the ground is leased from the Council until 2089.

The building is used regularly by a range of community organisations including the local parent and toddler group, exercise classes, choir practise and theatre activities, physiotherapy sessions, birthday parties and family celebrations.

The CDCCA intends to replace the existing entrance unit with two new automatic doors with full safety sensors for activation which will improve disabled access to the building. The East Grinstead Disability Access Group carried out a site visit in February 2014 and recommended that automatic doors should be installed.

Worth Parish Council discussed the Haven Centre's grant application for new doors to improve disabled access at the Amenities meeting in October 2014 and were keen to support the project.

Head of Finance Comments

Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2014, which show a surplus of £19,042.

Total income was £136,548; mainly generated from Investment income (£104,154), Donations, gifts and grant income (£27,061), Activities for generating funds (£3,066) and Other income (£2,267).

Total expenditure was £117,506; mainly comprising of Charitable activities (£114,044), Governance (£2,111) and Fundraising costs (£1,351).

Balances held at the end of this period showed Net Assets of £764,260, which comprised of Tangible assets £830,676, Cash £32,416, Debtors £26,256, Creditors due within one year (£8,507) and Creditors due after more than one year (£116,581).

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

Improved disabled access will enable wheelchair and mobility scooter users (and will make it easier for mothers/fathers with pushchairs) to visit the building independently and take part in activities. There is already a lift to the upstairs and improvements have been made to the disabled toilets.

Better Environment

The new doors will close automatically which will retain heat in the building and conserve energy.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The assessment group feels that this project to install automatic doors at the main entrance to the Haven Centre will be of benefit the residents of Copthorne and the surrounding area as it will improve access to the building for elderly visitors, disabled people and parents / carers with pushchairs.

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award a Facility Grant of £9,000 (76% of the total project cost) to Crawley Down Community Centre Association to install automatic doors at the Haven Centre, which is made up of - £1,250 (PL12/000170 Land between Sunnymead and Huntsland Lodge, £3,548 (P35/690 Land at Palmers Auto Centre) and £4,202 (P35/654 Land adjacent to Burleigh Infant School) Section 106 community building 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***
- ***Copy of the license granting landlords consent***

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	Copthorne
Title of project:	Community hall fixtures
Applicant:	St John the Evangelist
Type of applicant:	Parochial Church Council
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	£8,000 - Refurbishment of church clock (2011)
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 24,900 (50%)
Total project cost:	£ 49,800

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

Allchurches Trust	£6,000 (secured)
Gatwick Community Trust	£3,000 (unsecured)

The total cost of the new build is estimated at £680,000. £560,000 has already been secured, including a contribution of £120,000 from Worth Parish Council. The Church has a further £50,000 in reserves and has raised £10,000 to date through local fundraising (business sponsorship, donations and events).

Summary of project proposal and aims:

The applicant is applying for a Grant to install a lift, kitchen, audio visual equipment, rainwater harvesting system and a cycle shed for the new community hall at St John the Evangelist Parish Church, Copthorne.

Background

The Parochial Church Council of St John the Evangelist in Copthorne has planning approval (ref 13/01669/FUL) to build a new community hall within the curtilage of the churchyard to replace the existing church hall which was built in the late 1960's. The trustees have secured the funds needed for the construction of the building but are seeking grants toward the cost of fixtures and furnishings for the hall.

The hall will provide meeting space for community groups that meet regularly such as the pre-school, U3A, bridge club, keep fit, dance and art classes. The facility will also be available for after school and holiday clubs and available to hire for private functions. The first floor of the new building will be leased to Worth Parish Council for an office and use by community organisations such as the Citizens Advice Bureau, health education and community services. There will also be an archive room to store memorabilia relating to village history which will be made available to local schools to support their curriculum studies.

The grant will contribute toward the cost of installing the following:

- professional standard kitchen facilities that will be available to hirers
- a lift to provide disabled access to the first floor
- audio visual equipment for presentations including WiFi and broadband
- a rainwater harvesting system to improve environmental standards, and
- a cycle shed

The Parish Council discussed the grant application at their General Purposes and Finance meeting in November and are supportive of the project.

Head of Finance Comments

Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st December 2013, which show a deficit of £6,269.

Total income was £107,283; mainly generated from Voluntary income (£61,641), Church activities (£29,753), Fundraising (£7,558), Income from investments (£2,598) and Gain on investment assets (£5,733).

Total expenditure was £113,552; mainly comprising of Church activities (£111,414), Fund raising trading costs (£1,695), Governance (£400) and Costs of generating voluntary income.

Balances held at the end of this period showed Net Assets of £140,486, which comprised of Tangible assets £55,106, Cash £83,026, Debtors £11,889 and Creditors (£9,535).

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

The hall will be available for hire and will provide a social meeting space for local people and a resource for community groups.

Better Environment

The new building replaces a derelict hall and is far more energy efficient and better landscaped to suit the surroundings. The installation of a rainwater harvesting system will contribute to the water saving policy.

Better Services

With Worth Parish Council on the first floor and community related activities in the hall, the new building will become a community hub in the centre of the village providing a range of services.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The assessment group feels that this project to fit out the new community hall at St John's Church will be of benefit the residents of Cophorne and the surrounding area. It will provide a range of community services and the improvements funded through the Facility Grant will ensure the facilities are accessible to people with disabilities and of a high standard for hirers. The cycle shed and rainwater harvesting system are important environmental improvements.

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award a Facility Grant of £24,900 (50% of the total project cost) to St John the Evangelist Church to install a lift, kitchen, audio equipment, rainwater harvesting and a cycle shed, which is made up of - £20,308 (P35/728 Land South of Grange Road) and £4,592 (PL12/000170 Land between Sunnymead and Huntsland Lodge) Section 106 community building 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***

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	East Grinstead
Title of project:	Rebuild St Swithuns West Wall
Applicant:	East Grinstead Town Council
Type of applicant:	Town Council
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	£5,848 – East Court playground path (2010) £1,000 – McIndoe sculpture (2013) £1,000 – WW1 commemorative events (2014)
Grant Request to MSDC	£47,302 (100%)
Total project cost:	£47,302

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured
n/a

Summary of project proposal and aims:

The applicant is applying for a Grant to rebuild the West wall at St Swithuns Church, East Grinstead.

Background

The wall is a retaining brick wall, 48m long and 1.78m high, which forms the west boundary wall between the St Swithuns churchyard and the car parking area at the back of Pizza Express adjacent to the Town Museum and garages.

A structural survey was carried out in 2012 and the wall was deemed in risk of failing and posing a danger to the public. It has a significant lean, no spread footings and is not strong enough to safely retain the height of soil in the graveyard. The wall needs to be rebuilt using existing bricks and coping stones where possible.

The structural engineers report states that failure is likely to be sudden without any warning. In a period of wet weather, a build-up of water at the back of the wall would exacerbate the situation. In addition any movement in the root balls of the adjacent trees due to wind could exert additional pressure. Heras fencing and warning signs have since been erected.

The Town Council has appointed an architect to submit a planning application for the works within a conservation area and deal with the documentation required by the Diocesan Advisory Committee to obtain consent from the Church of England. They have also tendered for the works to be completed and received three competitive quotes. The cheapest was for £42,302 plus architect's fees of £5,000 making the total project cost £47,302.

It is a general funding condition of Facility Grant that the applicant can provide proof of ownership or security of tenure for at least 14 years but in this instance, ownership and responsibility for maintenance of the wall is unclear.

According to the Town Council's records, responsibility for maintenance was passed to the East Grinstead Urban District Council in September 1951 under the Form of Certificate for Closed Churchyards as prescribed by the Burial Act 1855, section 18. The Town Council believe that MSDC became responsible for ongoing maintenance in 1974 as the successor authority to the Urban District Council although they have maintained the lawns and carried out light maintenance as a gesture of goodwill.

The Solicitor to the Council is of the view that the Town Council are the owners of the wall however in this instance ownership is not the central issue. The churchyard is closed and therefore the maintenance of the wall is a local authority responsibility. The legal advice is to waive the ownership condition on this occasion, on confirmation that the work to this wall which forms part of an important open space in the town centre is completed.

Head of Finance Comments

East Grinstead Town Council is a statutory body and therefore it is not normal practice to comment on the organisations financial accounts.

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Environment

St. Swithuns Church is a Grade II listed building and a visible landmark. This project will preserve the wall around the graveyard and improve the environment as it is currently fenced off and unsafe for passers-by. The nearby footpath is used by residents, tourists and visitors and is within the town's conservation area.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The assessment group feels that this project to repair the church wall at St Swithuns will be of benefit the residents of East Grinstead and the surrounding area as it will improve the locality and make the structure safe.

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award a Facility Grant of £47,302 (100% of the total project cost) to repair the church wall at St Swithuns, which is made up of - £20,833 (P35/667 Land at the Rentokil Site), £8,824 (P35/633b Land at Maypole House) and £17,645 (P35/680 Land at Dunnings Squash Club) Section 106 Local Community Infrastructure Fund 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***
- that planning permission and listed building consent are obtained***

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	Crawley Down
Title of project:	Asbestos removal
Applicant:	Crawley Down Cricket Club
Type of applicant:	Sports club
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	£2,000 – badger fencing (2011) £500 – outdoor nets (2014)
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 7,800 (100%)
Total project cost:	£ 7,800

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

n/a

Summary of project proposal and aims:

The applicant is applying for a Grant to cover the cost of removing asbestos from the concrete base of the cricket nets.

Background

Crawley Down Cricket Club is made up of around 40 senior playing members, over 30 associate members and over 30 junior members aged 9-18 years and has three Saturday teams and one Sunday side. The club achieved the ECB Clubmark status in 2012 which endorses the clubs commitment towards youth development in a safe environment. They provide training for juniors using the two lane outdoor net facility and artificial pitch at Sandy Lane.

The outdoor nets and artificial pitch were installed in the early 2000's and both required replacing due to wear and tear. The artificial pitch had holes appearing in the surface and was very slippery and the nets concrete base had suffered frost damage and as a consequence the ball would bounce inconsistently and at dangerous heights.

In September 2014 the Cabinet Grants Panel awarded the club £500 towards new outdoor cricket nets, which cost £3,000 in total. Work started in October but the contractor discovered asbestos sheeting under the concrete of both lanes. The club contacted the Environment Agency for advice and they recommended a specialist contractor to carry out the removal works which had to go ahead urgently due to heavy rainfall and site contamination. Once this was done the net installation could go ahead and be completed.

The additional cost of removing the asbestos has created a financial problem for the club and they are seeking a grant to reimburse them for the unexpected expenditure. It is a general condition of funding that grants should not be used to pay for goods or services purchased before the award is confirmed. However, in this instance the applicant was unable to defer the works for health and safety reasons and is seeking an exceptional retrospective award.

The use of asbestos in construction was banned in 1985 so its discovery was could not have been anticipated. Unfortunately the company that laid the original concrete foundations went into liquidation in 2007 so the club can take no recourse against them.

The club holds reserves that are intended to fund the replacement of specialist grounds maintenance equipment (mowers, rollers, scarifiers etc.).

Head of Finance Comments

Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st October 2014, which show a surplus of £293.

Total income was £13,279; mainly generated from Bar (£5,996), Match fees (£4,098), Subscriptions (£1,485), Donations and Lottery (£1,009), Sponsorship/Grants (£480), Fantasy League (£180) and Interest (£30).

Total expenditure was £12,986; mainly comprising of Supplies and Services (£12,114), Property related (£602) and Third party subscriptions (£270).

Balances held at the end of this period showed Net Assets of £12,912, which comprised of Cash £12,912.

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

There are very few other sporting / outdoor opportunities within the village (apart from football in the winter) that the under 18's can take part in. The cricket club provides an opportunity for youngsters to take part in junior cricket within a safe environment. The improvements to the facilities will enable the club to expand its junior section.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The assessment group feels that this project to swiftly remove exposed asbestos from a public open space was of benefit the residents of Crawley Down. The recommended amount is based on 75% of the total project cost for the new cricket nets (£3,000 for the initial works plus £7,800 for asbestos removal is a total of £10,800) and is comparable to previous awards for similar projects to upgrade cricket club facilities.

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award a Facility Grant of £7,800 toward the cost of asbestos removal, which is made up of - £7,800 (P35/654 Land adj Burleigh Infant School) Section 106 Formal Sport monies.

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	Burgess Hill
Title of project:	Multi-use games area improvements
Applicant:	Burgess Hill Youth
Type of applicant:	Registered Charity (no. 1149304)
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	£2,200 - Children School Holiday Activity Programme (2013)
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 19,710 (75%)
Total project cost:	£ 26,280

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

n/a

Summary of project proposal and aims:

The applicant is applying for a Grant to construct a multi-use games area (MUGA) at Fairfield Community Centre, Burgess Hill

Background

Burgess Hill Youth runs sessions for young people two nights per week, school holiday activities and is the lead for Young Carer events through the year. The club offers a broad programme of indoor and outdoor activities for children and young people including pool, table tennis, tennis, net and basketball and football delivered by Albion in the Community coaches. It also offers off site opportunities for camping, go-karting, car driving and canoeing and a school holiday programme targeted at children from low income families.

The club works with residents from the affordable housing estates in the town, encourages community involvement and promotes opportunities for parents to support their children in active play. The club also works with agencies to ensure that homeless young people have adequate support and they run a scheme for emergency food and funds towards travel to job centre and interviews.

The premises are hired to local groups including Tik Toc breakfast and after school club, Cheeky Monkeys child-minders group and is home to Burgess Hill Army Cadet Corp. At weekends it is available for hire by local families and community organisations.

In 2001, the Council granted a 28 year lease to Fairfield Community Centre for Young People (Burgess Hill Youth) and gave landlords consent to the construction of a multi-use games area at the site. In 2002, Burgess Hill Youth

raised the funds necessary to build a 40 x 20m floodlit MUGA designed for football, tennis, netball, basketball and roller hockey. The MUGA is used by club user groups and members and left open for community use; it is always busy with local youths playing football.

The Council arranged for the MUGA to be inspected by a sports consultancy in 2013 and was found to be in need of improvement to ensure it remains available for community use and fit for purpose. The consultancy have more recently prepared a detailed technical specification and budget quotation for the work which includes resurfacing, relining and replacing the fences to bring it up to standard.

Head of Finance Comments

Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2014, which show a surplus of £53,992.

Total income was £72,501; mainly generated from the disposal of the old charity (£53,726), Rent and hall hire (£9,492), Activities (£4,934), General donations and fundraising (£4,108), Miscellaneous (£239) and Interest (£2).

Total expenditure was £18,509; consisting of Supplies and Services (£18,509).

Balances held at the end of this period showed Net Assets of £53,992, which comprised of Cash £53,992.

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

The multi-use games area provides a safe environment which allows children to play outdoors throughout the year. The club and other groups run organised activities and the facilities can also be used unsupervised. The MUGA provides a social space for sporting and physical activities which helps to improve general health and well-being.

Better Environment

The MUGA is currently in a poor state of repair which makes the area appear run-down and neglected. These improvements will make it a more attractive environment and encourage more use of the facilities. .

Better Services

The club is represented on many local and County committees and forums for example Better Youth Lives and Mid Sussex Youth Houseless Action Group. The club holds quarterly meetings with representatives from MSDC and the Police to reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and graffiti in the local area.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The assessment group feels that this project to upgrade the MUGA at Fairfield Community Centre will be of benefit the residents of Burgess Hill and the

surrounding area. It will smarten up the area, make the facilities more appealing resulting in more bookings and use by children and young people.

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award a Facility Grant of £19,710 (75% of the total project cost) to Burgess Hill Youth to upgrade the multi-use games area at Fairfield Community Centre, which is made up of - £2,902 play space and £12,332 formal sport section 106 contributions (PL13-000386 Land at Victoria Road), and £4,476 (PL13/Kings Head) formal sport section 106 contribution.

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.***

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	Burgess Hill
Title of project:	Community buildings project
Applicant:	St Andrews Church
Type of applicant:	Registered Charity (no. 1131284)
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	None
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 200,000 (21%)
Total project cost:	£ 950,000

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

Highmead Christian Foundation	£250,000 (secured)
Garfield Weston Foundation	£20,000 (secured)

The church has also secured funds, pledges and interest free loans totalling £390,000 from the congregation.

Summary of project proposal and aims:

The applicant is applying for a grant for towards the cost of joining three buildings together and making general improvements to provide better community facilities.

Background

The St Andrews Church consists of two halls, the church and the vicarage. The applicant has planning permission (ref: 14/00864/FUL) for a new single storey link building connecting the existing church with the Rider Community Hall to the North and the Youth Centre to the East.

The building is currently used by a pre-school with 120 children, youth club, choral and orchestral societies, uniformed organisations (Brownies, Rainbows, Sunbeams, Beavers), after school club, U3A (music appreciation, Scottish Dancing, art class), support groups (Alcoholics Anonymous) and other activities such as Ballroom Dancing.

The aim of the project is to increase community use by:

- linking the three buildings but retaining the ability to use them separately
- creating an accessible, common and welcoming entrance point for the church buildings, and
- re-working the internal layout of the church (removing the redundant choir stalls and other furniture) to provide flexibility and increased capacity

- providing services for a basic kitchen, accessible toilet, improved heating, ventilation, insulation and lighting.

The redevelopment scheme will address the shortcomings of the existing complex by creating one integrated building. There will be modernised mechanical and electrical services, a more flexible space within the church for enhanced community use, new meeting rooms, a central foyer area for a community café and facilities within the church for independent letting outside normal church service times. With an integrated complex there is the potential to host conferences and training events.

It is a requirement that applicants consult with their local Town or Parish Council prior to submitting a capital grant application. St Andrews Church state that they have consulted with Burgess Hill Town Council but feedback indicates that Town Councillors have a number of questions about the project and it may not be considered a local priority. The Town Clerk highlighted the need for a holistic, strategic approach to the funding of community facilities based on local needs and strategic developments in the eastern side of the town.

Head of Finance Comments

Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st December 2013, which show a surplus of £155,611.

Total income was £406,797; mainly generated from Voluntary income (£251,336), Activities for generating funds (£41,394) Church activities (£27,453), Income from investments (£2,262) and Gain on revaluation of fixed assets (£84,352).

Total expenditure was £251,186; mainly consisting of Supplies and Services (£201,246), Premises (£29,122) and Staff related (£20,818).

Balances held at the end of this period showed Net Assets of £838,832, which comprised of Tangible assets £760,000, Cash and short term deposits £204,868, Debtors £15,113, Creditors due within one year (£18,781) and Creditors due after more than one year (£122,368).

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

The church provides a range of activities for children, the elderly and vulnerable people and this project would enable them to expand.

Better Environment

The improvements to the lighting, heating and ventilation would bring the building up to modern standards making it more comfortable, efficient and sustainable. The new layout would provide improved disabled access to all three buildings and a new DDA compliant toilet

Better Services

The applicant has highlighted the shortage of community buildings to the eastern side of the town. This project would provide new community facilities for the new and existing residents.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The assessment group feels that this project to provide better community facilities at St Andrews Church could be of benefit the residents of Burgess Hill and the surrounding area subject to conditions ensuring greater community access to the facilities.

However, due to the questions and concerns raised by Burgess Hill Town Council about prioritising this project for funding, the assessment group felt it would be appropriate to defer the decision until the next funding round to allow further time to consider the scheme within a strategic framework. The grant request is for a significant sum and this would be a major investment in community facilities in the town.

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel defer the grant decision until the next funding round in April 2015.

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	East Grinstead
Title of project:	Audio visual equipment
Applicant:	Trinity Methodist Church
Type of applicant:	Registered Charity (no. 1127649)
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	None
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 25,000 (45%)
Total project cost:	£ 55,047

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

An appeal within the church has already secured £12,000 for the AV system. The applicant intends to make applications for match funding to the North Mid Sussex County Local Committee, Gatwick Community Trust and East Grinstead Common Good Trust to cover the funding gap.

Summary of project proposal and aims:

The applicant is applying for a grant to install audio visual equipment for a new multi-purpose community building.

Background

Trinity Methodist Church has raised the funds needed to construct a new hall and is seeking support toward the cost of internal fixtures and fittings.

The new multi-purpose church and community facility is currently under construction and is due to be completed in March with the official opening in May 2015. The main hall of the new building will be a flexible space with portable staging which will be used for church services, concerts, exhibitions, displays, dances and conferences with a seating capacity of 261 plus a further 117 seats in a quiet room extension.

Current hirers include the U3A Crochet and Cross Stitch Groups, The Greenstede Quilters, East Grinstead Folk Dance Group, Redhurst School of Dancing, Scouts, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Brownies. They are using a side hall whilst the new facilities are built. The church also runs a 'Welcome Café' six days a week and provides pre-school day care, temporarily relocated to the Jubilee Community Centre during the building works.

The Methodist church aims to provide a state-of-the-art performance venue for music, dance, drama, meetings and other events. They intend to purchase a public address system for a varied programme in the main hall and quiet room

including spoken word and live bands. This will include loudspeakers, amplifiers, racks, mixer desk, ear pieces and wireless mic kits. They also need visual equipment such as television screens (3), fixings, cabling, cameras, mixer, computer monitors (5) and lighting.

East Grinstead Town Council has been briefed about the grant application and wrote a letter in support of the project stating that it 'will undoubtedly be a valuable addition to the infrastructure of the Town'.

Head of Finance Comments

Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st August 2013, which show a surplus of £25,661.

Total income was £206,550; mainly generated from Offerings and tax recoverable (£105,772), Lettings (£26,691), Internal organisations (£25,520), Other income (£9,840), Donation (£3000), Interest (£1,816) and Gain on investment assets (£33,911).

Total expenditure was £180,889; mainly comprising of Supplies and Services (£137,814), Internal organisations (£29,128) and Third party grants and donations (£13,947).

Balances held at the end of this period showed Net Assets of £2,842,477, which comprised of Tangible assets (£2,679,904), Cash and deposits £1,155,079, Debtors £188,519, Creditors due within one year (£731,025) and Creditors due after one year (£450,000).

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

The new community facilities will provide an excellent resource in the North of East Grinstead. It will provide a community hub and social meeting space and opportunities for a range of activities.

Better Services

The state of the art audio visual equipment will provide a modern venue that can be used for performances, meetings and events. The church can provide hirers with the services of a technician to operate the more complex equipment if required.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The assessment group feels that this project to install audio visual equipment at Trinity Methodist Church will be of benefit the residents of East Grinstead and the surrounding area. It will be available for a range of community activities and will offer users excellent facilities.

This is a comparatively large grant for community facilities at a church but it should be noted that the applicant has fully funded the construction of the new building from their own resources and is only seeking assistance toward one element of the overall project.

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award a Facility Grant of £25,000 (45% of the total project cost) to the Trinity Methodist Church in East Grinstead to install audio visual equipment, which is made up of - £25,000 (P35/667 Rentokil House, Garland Road) Section 106 community building 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***