

## CORPORATE GRANT SCHEMES

**REPORT OF:** HEAD OF CORPORATE RESOURCES  
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**Wards Affected:** All  
**Key Decision** No

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### Purpose of the report

1. The purpose of this report is to present fourteen Facility, Community & Economic Development Grant applications for consideration by the Cabinet Grants Panel.
2. Members are also asked to note the updates in relation to grants applications received from Hurstpierpoint Bowling Club, St Andrews Church, Chequer Mead and East Grinstead Sports Club.

### Summary

3. A summary of the applications to be considered and the recommendation from the Grants Assessment Group on the level of financial assistance to be awarded is as follows:

### Facility Grants

Organisation	Purpose for which award is sought	Award Requested	Award Suggested
Crawley Down Community Centre Association	Improvements to the Haven Centre	15,500	15,500
Haywards Heath Baptist Church	Installation of lift in new church and community facility	24,003	24,003
Scaynes Hill Cricket Club	Artificial pitch	10,046	10,046
<b>Total</b>		<b>£49,549</b>	<b>£49,549</b>

### Community and Economic Development Grants

Organisation	Purpose for which award is sought	Award Requested	Award Suggested
172 (Haywards Heath) Squadron Air Training Corps	Purchase of flight simulators	2,500	2,500
Burgess Hill Town Council	Zip wire; outdoor cinema; escape room	4,500	4,500
Friends of Burgess Hill Green Circle Network	'Wild About Mid Sussex'	1,551	1,551
Haywards Heath & District Business Association	Rebrand and relaunch	5,000	1,500
Hurst Festival	Community Day	5,000	1,250
Kangaroos	Saturday and Holiday Club for young people with learning disabilities	5,000	5,000
Lindfield Football Club	Improvements to changing facilities	5,000	9,812*
Summerhaven	Mental health drop-ins	1,000	1,000
Sussex Chorus	Workshop evenings	1,699	1,699

West Sussex Mediation Service	Mediation and dispute resolution service	2,500	2,500
Windermere Road Residents Association	Fencing, surfacing and signage	1,000	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>£34,750</b>	<b>£31,312</b>

\*funded through S106 contributions

## Recommendations

***Members of the Panel are requested to:***

- a) consider and decide upon the recommendations for each of the above applications, summaries of which is attached in Appendices A and B of this report.***
- b) agree the amendment to the special condition regarding the completion date for the Hurstpierpoint Bowling Club grant to January 2019.***
- c) agree to the changes to the St Andrews Church Project expenditure.***
- d) note the grant awarded to Chequer Mead Community Arts Centre.***

## Background

4. This is the fourth meeting in the 2017/18 financial year, to consider Facility, Community and Economic Development Grant applications.
5. Applications for all grants are assessed against a standard checklist and considered by a "Grants Assessment Group" to ensure a consistent approach to the awarding of grants.

## Assessment and Policy Context

6. New applications are scored against four key criteria; Council priorities, evidence of need, finances impact and benefits. The maximum possible score for excellent applications which fully meet all the criteria is 12. All organisations have met the eligibility criteria and have provided information to support their application.
7. The applications received in this grants round have been considered by the Grants Assessment Group comprising relevant officers from across the authority together with representatives from West Sussex County Council's Communities and Public Health Teams, and, unless there is a conflict of interest, the local Council for Voluntary Service. The Group has the opportunity to comment on the merit of each application.
8. The involvement of outside representatives enables effective information exchange with regard to any possible duplication of funding and service delivery. A summary of the assessment of each application is included within the individual project reports in Appendices A and B.
9. 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.

## **Spotlight Grants**

10. Spotlight Grants are usually considered at the Autumn Cabinet Grants Panel meeting. The theme of 'youth projects run by volunteers' was open for applications but we did not receive any bids for funding in this round.

## **Hurstpierpoint Bowling Club**

11. On 12 January 2016, the Cabinet Grants Panel awarded £61,716 to Hurstpierpoint Bowling Club toward the cost of a pavilion extension.
12. On 14 February 2017, the Panel agreed to extend the period to secure project funding and complete the project to October 2017 due to a delay in relation to the building lease. The lease issues have now been resolved and work started on site on 16 October but it will not be finished by the deadline. The aim is to complete the building work by the start of the outdoor bowling season in April 2018 with any snagging or finishing works to be carried out in the Autumn so a further extension is required to complete the work by January 2019.

## **St Andrews Church**

13. On 2 June 2015, the Cabinet Grants Panel awarded £28,500 to St Andrews Church toward the cost of external improvements and toilet refurbishment to facilitate greater community use.
14. The church has been fundraising and has carried out some building improvements already which have resulted in greater user numbers. As a result they have decided to prioritise the toilet refurbishment and install more than originally planned. The total cost for completing this part of the project is £105,000 and they are seeking approval to use the full grant toward the toilet improvements.
15. They intend to renovate the Riders Hall toilets to provide a unisex facility including an additional cubicle. They will also install additional toilets within the youth centre wing of the building which will include cubicles that can, in the main, be accessed by both genders plus a male urinal facility.

## **Chequer Mead**

16. At the Cabinet Grants Panel meeting on 5 June 2017 it was agreed that further information should be requested on the financial position of Chequer Mead Arts Centre before a grant could be made.
17. It should be noted that further information was obtained as requested. This was reported to the Chair of the Panel who made an Executive Decision to award a Facility Grant of £53,500 toward the building refurbishments on 13 July 2017.

## **East Grinstead Sports Club**

18. At the 5 June 2017 Cabinet Grants Panel meeting the application from East Grinstead Sports Club was deferred pending further information. We are expecting this to be submitted for consideration at the next funding round in February 2018.

## **Financial Implications**

19. All Facility Grants are funded through 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 developments.

The Community & Economic Development Fund currently stands as follows:

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Fund as at 6 April 2017</b>	<b>Additional funds approved</b>	<b>Allocated and spent to date</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Community & Economic Development	£7,719	£220,000	£56,058	£171,661

20. If Members agree to the recommendations in Appendix B the balance will be reduced by £21,500 leaving a remainder of £150,161 in the Community & Economic Development Fund reserve.

### **Risk Management Implications**

21. 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.
22. Additionally, the sharing of information with West Sussex County Council will ensure that organisations are not being double-funded for the same purpose.
23. 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 Facility Grants, the Council may impose additional safeguards.
24. 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. Grants of over £1,000 are released on receipt of evidence of expenditure.
25. 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**

26. 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**

27. 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**

28. Grant applications and associated documentation for the Community & Economic Development and Facility Grants are held in the Community Services, Policy and Performance Section.