

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	Burgess Hill
Title of project:	Clubhouse improvements
Applicant:	Burgess Hill Rugby Football Club Ltd.
Type of applicant:	Company limited by guarantee
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	£2,700 - perimeter fencing (2016)
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 20,930 (48%)
Total project cost:	£ 10,000

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

Rugby Football Union	£10,000	Secured
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Summary of project proposal and aims

To update the clubhouse to make it more modern, comfortable and user friendly to increase revenue.

Background

The Burgess Hill Rugby clubhouse at Southway Recreation Ground is owned by the Council and leased to the club who are responsible for repairs and maintenance. The Council normally expects 14 years security of tenure in respect of Facility Grants, in this instance the rugby club has 13 years and 5 months remaining.

BHRFC is a rugby union club with three Senior Teams, a ladies team, a junior team and minis from as young as two years old! The club has 300 members and charges fees of between £70-£276 for membership, depending on age and circumstances. There are 50 volunteers who help with coaching, catering, maintenance and administration.

The applicant intends to renovate the bar and social area, remove and lay new flooring throughout, change the wiring and install new energy efficient downlights, redecorate throughout and improve the signage. The improvement works are the result of member consultation at the AGM in 2016 and are scheduled to take place during August, subject to funding.

The aim of the project is to maximise match day revenues through a more modern, welcoming and comfortable environment that encourages people to stay longer and purchase more. The target markets will be players' friends and families on a Saturday afternoon and parents who normally drop and depart on a Sunday morning. The club will also be able to offer the clubhouse for hire for events, charity evenings or parties to help increase funds and keep membership fees low.

Burgess Hill Town Council supports this application from the rugby club and the use of S106 to fund this project.

Head of Finance Comments

- Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 28th February 2015 which show a surplus of £620.
- Total income was £48,324; mainly generated from Bar and Catering (£12,801), Junior Rugby (£9,675), Subscriptions (£9,646), Marketing and Commercial (£7,808), Social/Fundraising (£5,123), Donations and Grants (£3,265) and Interest (£6).
- Total expenditure was £47,704; consisting of Supplies and Services (£42,289) and Depreciation (£5,415).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £53,854, comprising of Tangible assets £29,052, Debtors £2,442, Stock £2,202, Cash £28,324 and Creditors (£8,166).

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

The rugby club provides opportunities for local people to take part in sport which improves their health and fitness.

Better Environment

The clubhouse improvements will modernise the facilities making them more attractive to community hirers.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The Assessment Group feels that this project to renovate the social area of the rugby clubhouse is worthwhile as it will improve the facilities for members and make the building more attractive to outside hirers. Improved facilities should enable the club to become more self-sufficient and sustainable in the longer term due to increased earned income. It is noted that the club does not have an Equal Opportunities Policy which is a standard condition of grant funding so this will be requested as a special condition.

Overall score: 7

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel awards Burgess Hill Rugby Football Club Ltd a Facility Grant of £10,000 (48% of the total project cost) toward the cost of improvements to the clubhouse which is made up of - £10,000 (P35/625a Land at Spinningdale, Starlings and Merrifield) Formal Sport S106 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***
- ***submission of an Equal Opportunities Policy***
- ***copy of the license granting landlords consent to be submitted***
- ***copy of planning approval for the signage to be submitted (if necessary).***

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	East Grinstead
Title of project:	Building refurbishments including new porch and solar panels
Applicant:	Chequer Mead Community Arts Centre
Type of applicant:	Charity (no. 1165519)
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	None
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 53,500 (50%)
Total project cost:	£ 107,000

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

Chequer Mead Trust reserves	£53,500	Secured
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Summary of project proposal and aims

Project to improve the building by refurbishing a meeting and rehearsal room, installing solar panels, restoring the sandstone façade and installing a new front glass entrance.

Background

Chequer Mead is a purpose-built 320 seat theatre, owned by East Grinstead Town Council, which is host to over 250 performances annually as well as private functions, meetings, classes and other events. The venue is used by many local community groups; it is managed by a core staff team of five and has 100 volunteers. Chequer mead has approximately 1,000 visitors a week and sells some 50,000 tickets per year.

Chequer Mead has applied for grant funding toward the cost of four projects to upgrade the facilities:

- Refurbishment and upgrade to meeting room and dance / music rehearsal room (£45,000).
- Installation of PV solar roof panels to provide cleaner, greener and more economic and sustainable energy generation (£30,000).
- Refurbishment, restoration, full cleaning and repointing to the whole of the existing front elevation sandstone, that is 150 years old (£22,000).
- Installation of a new front glass entrance to give winter weather protection to the internal open plan box office (planning reference DM/17/4702) (£10,000).

The work will take place during July – September 2017. The aim of the project is to improve the rooms for hire, to increase hire volume and customer satisfaction. It will also make the building more attractive, giving it greater kerb appeal and improve sustainability and viability by reducing energy consumption.

East Grinstead Town Council supports this application for funding from Chequer Mead. 'The Centre is a state of the art theatre with additional facilities for rehearsal, production, classes, exhibitions and meetings. It has been in need of refurbishment to keep it as a first class centre including changes to the foyer and entrance facilities.'

Head of Finance Comments

- Audited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2016 which show a deficit of £185,490.
- Total income was £803,980; mainly generated from Grants (£522,561), Hirings and Lettings (£185,130), Bar and Ice Cream sales (£76,457), Other income (£15,610), In-house productions (£3,863) and Investment income (£359).
- Total expenditure was £989,470; consisting of Transfer to new charitable incorporated organisation (£636,874), Supplies and Services (£239,812) and Staff related (£112,784).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of nil; all balances have been transferred to the new charitable incorporated organisation – Chequermead Arts and Community Trust.

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Environment

Improved facilities will enhance the visitor experience and increase customer satisfaction which will encourage more people to make use of the venue. The rehearsal rooms are used by many young people and these improvements will be of particular benefit to them. The building restorations to the frontage will smarten up the appearance of the centre and the green energy solar panels will make the building more sustainable.

Better Services

These improvements will result in new, increased and repeat business which will make the organisation more financially secure.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The assessment group feels that this project to update and improve the Chequer Mead Community Arts Centre will benefit the people living in East Grinstead and the surrounding areas by ensuring they have access to a high quality performance venue which is comfortable, welcoming and fit for purpose. The

applicant is matching the Council's contribution through their Reserves and also made a significant investment to facility improvements in 2016 (new box office, office refit, fire control panel, glazed porch, fit out of the gallery and audio announcement system).

Overall score: 5

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award Chequer Mead Community Arts Centre a Facility Grant of £53,500 (50% of the total project cost) toward the cost of solar panels and building refurbishments which is made up of - £3,937 (P35/623b Land at the Guinea Pig Public House), £4,858 (P35/705 Land on west side of Windmill Lane), £7,824 (P35/667 Land at the Rentokil Site), £880 (P35/667 Land at the Rentokil Site), £9,731 (P35/652b Land at Shovelstrode Beacon), £14,782 (P35/680 Land at Dunnings Squash Club), £11,488 (P35/694 Land rear of 240-258 Holtye Road) Community Buildings S106 contributions.

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

- ***the project must be completed within 12 months of project funding being obtained***
- ***copy of planning approval for the solar panels to be submitted (if necessary).***

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	East Grinstead
Title of project:	Gym equipment, changing room upgrade, café and bar refurbishment
Applicant:	East Grinstead Sports Club
Type of applicant:	Registered Charity (no. 1091114)
Previous Grants in past 5+ years:	£5,000 – EG Cricket Club refurbish cricket square (2016) £20,000 – new boiler (2014) £45,000 – EG Hockey Club water based pitch (2013) £16,918 – EG Cricket Club outdoor cricket nets (2013) £200,000 – reprovision of squash courts (2011)
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 124,700 (37%)
Total project cost:	£ 333,000

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

None specified.

Summary of project proposal and aims

Capital improvements to upgrade the facilities (lift, plant room, lighting), expand the gym, improve the changing rooms and social areas with a view to increasing membership, maximising income and improving efficiency.

Background

East Grinstead Sports Club (EGSC) was formed when several local sports clubs merged into one, and it became a registered charity in 2003. The Charity owns a 33 acre multi-sport and fitness site at Saint Hill Road which is the home to over twenty sports clubs and organisations including hockey, cricket, netball, junior football, badminton, squash, racketball, tennis, table tennis, lacrosse, basketball, archery and volleyball.

The objects of the charity are:

- to provide sport, recreation and fitness facilities for East Grinstead and neighbouring communities

- to educate, encourage, coach and train all ages to participate in sport, recreation and fitness activities.
- to raise funds to sustain and improve the facilities and participation in sport

The indoor fitness facilities include a fully equipped gym, exercise studio, three squash courts and a large sports hall. Outside the club has a full size 3G artificial turf pitch, a water-based artificial pitch (home pitch of East Grinstead Hockey Club), a cricket pitch (home for East Grinstead Cricket Club), netball and tennis courts, an outdoor assault course and 200 parking spaces. All of the sports club at EGSC are members of their National Governing Bodies and a number of them have achieved Sport England Clubmark accreditation.

There are 2,000 regular users and an annual footfall of between 225,000-300,000. Membership of charity costs £26pa. The membership fee for each sports club range from £100-350 pa. Pitch hire, pay and play rates and fitness membership rates are set by Freedom Leisure, with the charity's agreement and are generally in line with Council owned facilities.

Since 2010, the complex has been operated by Freedom Leisure who provide the services to the community with the Charity retaining responsibility for developing new facilities at the site and replacing existing facilities. EGSC is attempting to secure a new operator for the lease beyond the current arrangement with Freedom Leisure which comes to an end in September 2017.

To make the business viable the club requires investment and the applicant is seeking a contribution toward the following capital works which will encourage greater usage of the facilities and increase capacity:

New gym equipment	214,000
Gym changing rooms	30,000
Gym refurbishment	25,000
LED internal lighting	10,000
Lift refurb	15,000
External plant room doors	8,000
Café/ bar refurb	30,000
WB pitch drag mat	1,000
Total	£333,000

The work will be carried out by the new operator on EGSC's behalf and competitive tenders will be sought for each element of the project.

The project has the approval of East Grinstead Town Council who state that 'The Club has international standard clubs and players using the facilities; the club has been host to national and international events as well as supporting the local community. We are supportive of the club maintaining its prestige and it is noted that a significant investment is being made by the club toward these costs.'

Letters of support have also been received from East Grinstead Cricket Club who rely on the facilities being available and are keen to see them refurbished. CD Phoenix Sussex Netball Club who use the facilities are also supportive of the improvements. Both clubs refer to the benefits of making the facilities more female friendly and attractive which will help to secure a long term operator.

Head of Finance Comments

- Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 30th September 2015 which show a deficit of £24,521.
- Total income was £166,549; mainly generated from Other income (£63,941), Rental income (£52,950), Sponsorships and grants (£26,452), Donations (£12,704), Fees in respect of project management costs (£10,000) and Interest (£502).
- Total expenditure was £191,070; consisting of Supplies and Services (£190,791), and Loss on investment asset (£279).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £2,549,513, comprising of Tangible assets £2,604,807, Debtors £27,206, Cash £133,880, Creditors due within 1 year (£78,179) and Creditors due after more than 1 year (£138,201).

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

An improved EGSC will provide more attractive and welcoming sports and leisure venue for the local community. This should encourage greater participation in sports and fitness activities and improve general health and wellbeing.

Better Services

The health, fitness and sporting opportunities provide at EGSC make a significant contribution to the town and surrounding areas.

Better Environment

The capital works will improve the efficiency of the building by updating the lighting and improving energy consumption making the facility cleaner, greener and more sustainable.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The Assessment Group feels that this project to upgrade the facilities at EGSC will benefit users and residents of East Grinstead and the surrounding areas by creating a more modern and energy efficient environment. The additional gym equipment and changing room refurbishment will allow greater numbers to use the facilities and the bar/café refurb will encourage more use and make the facility more financially viable in the long term.

There is a risk that a new operator will not be appointed and in this instance the charity would need to either directly manage the facility or divide responsibility amongst the resident sports clubs so further information will be required about ongoing management arrangements before the grant could be released.

Due to competition for capital funds from other local projects which also merit financial support, the maximum award available is £97,333. The applicant will need to raise a significant amount of match funding (£235,667) to deliver this project and they have not identified any potential sources within the bid so further details will be required as a condition of funding.

Overall score: 5

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award East Grinstead Sports Club a Facility Grant of £97,333 toward the cost of facility improvements which is made up of - £60,107 (P35/779 Land to the west of Imberhome Lane), £10,741 (PL12-000896 Caffyns Garage, 12-14 King Street), £9,121 (PL13-000617 St James House, 150 London Road), £5,296.74 (PL13-000677 Land at North End Club, 32-33 North End) and £12,067 (PL13-000680 Land at 33-35 Cantelupe Road) Formal Sport S106 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***
- ***submission of a Safeguarding Policy***
- ***submission of a viable 5 year facilities management plan with effect from Sept/Oct 2017, to the satisfaction of the Head of Corporate Resources.***

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	East Grinstead
Title of project:	Cricket pitch drainage
Applicant:	East Grinstead Sports Club (East Grinstead Cricket Club)
Type of applicant:	Registered Charity (no. 1091114)
Previous Grants in past 5+ years:	£5,000 – EG Cricket Club refurbish cricket square (2016) £20,000 – new boiler (2014) £45,000 – EG Hockey Club water based pitch (2013) £16,918 – EG Cricket Club outdoor cricket nets (2013) £200,000 – reprovision of squash courts (2011)
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 15,870 (81%)
Total project cost:	£ 12,870

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

EG Cricket Club own funds	£3,000	Secured
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Summary of project proposal and aims

New pitch drainage system to address the problem of flooding and standing water on the cricket outfield.

Background

East Grinstead Sports Club is a charity providing sporting facilities for the residents of East Grinstead and the surrounding area. East Grinstead Cricket Club has been based at the sports club site since 1990 and has approximately 200 members. The club has grown during this period from 5 to 17 teams playing competitive cricket and receiving weekly coaching.

The club runs four adult sides from the Sussex Premier League 1st XI to the 4th XI in the Mid Sussex District League. The First and Second teams both finished in the top three of their respective leagues last season and both won Sussex Cup Competitions on finals day at the County Ground in Hove in September. The youth section fields teams at under nine to under sixteen in competitive league

and cup games throughout the season and a ladies side who play in the NatWest T20 competition.

The club stages almost 100 matches per season including senior, junior, school, Sussex County 2nd XI, women and friendlies. Over the past five years persistent standing water and flooding has increased to a level where 15 senior and junior matches and many practise and coaching sessions were lost in 2016. The project should result in a major reduction in outfield flooding and wet soggy ground.

In Sept/Oct 2017, after the cricket season, the club wants to engage specialise contractors to install a new drainage system. On completion, hollow areas and land adjacent to the new drains will be scarified and laser levelled. The area will be seeded with follow up visits to make good areas as required. The remainder of the outfield will be vertidraind to a depth of 9" to improve the soil nature and drainage. The applicant obtained three competitive quotations for the work and has selected the cheapest option.

Installing a modern perforated land drainage system will make the ground less slippery and provide a more enjoyable and safer playing environment. It should ensure that the number of cancelled matches is reduced. Scarifying and levelling both the depressions and ground adjacent to the new drains will improve the drainage, playing surface and ground ambience.

East Grinstead Town Council supports this application for funding without hesitation and is keen to ensure the infrastructure of the club is sound. The Town Council states that 'East Grinstead Cricket Club is proactive, innovative and a great community asset for boys and girls at Junior and Senior levels'.

Head of Finance Comments

- Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 30th September 2015 which show a deficit of £24,521.
- Total income was £166,549; mainly generated from Other income (£63,941), Rental income (£52,950), Sponsorships and grants (£26,452), Donations (£12,704), Fees in respect of project management costs (£10,000) and Interest (£502).
- Total expenditure was £191,070; consisting of Supplies and Services (£190,791), and Loss on investment asset (£279).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £2,549,513, comprising of Tangible assets £2,604,807, Debtors £27,206, Cash £133,880, Creditors due within 1 year (£78,179) and Creditors due after more than 1 year (£138,201).

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

Active participation in cricket involves a high level of fitness and builds the confidence of players.

Better Environment

Upgrading the outfield will dramatically reduce the flooding and the number of matches and coaching / practise sessions which are cancelled as a result. The drainage improvements will make it easier to maintain and provide a consistent surface which is more resistant to inclement conditions. It will provide a reliable playing surface for use by the local community for the long-term future, 20 – 30 years. The drainage works will improve the safety and confidence of participants.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

From the photos and information provided it is clear that essential works are needed to improve drainage at the site. The assessment group feels that this project to install a new modern drainage system will increase capacity at the site and improve the facilities for players of all ages. It would appear to be a good long term investment and a cost-effective solution to the problem of cancelled games and poor playing conditions.

It should be noted that the cricket club members and users will be the main beneficiaries of this grant but as the ground is owned by the East Grinstead Sports Club the same funding conditions should apply.

Overall score: 8

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel awards East Grinstead Sports Club a Facility Grant of £12,870 (81% of the total project cost) toward the cost of pitch drainage which is made up of - £12,870 (PL13-000019 Land at 218 London Road) Formal Sport S106 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***
- ***submission of a viable 5 year facilities management plan with effect from Sept/Oct 2017, to the satisfaction of the Head of Corporate Resources.***

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	Hurstpierpoint
Title of project:	Grounds maintenance equipment, facility improvements and training activities
Applicant:	Hurstpierpoint Cricket Club
Type of applicant:	Unincorporated Association
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	£7,605 – pavilion repairs (2014)
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 35,254 (75%)
Total project cost:	£ 46,886

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

Cricket Club Funds	£6,632	Secured
Specialised Vessel Services Ltd (Sponsor)	£5,000	Secured
Total	£11,632	

Summary of project proposal and aims

The cricket club has applied for funding for various items of equipment, capital expenditure and coaching.

Background

Hurstpierpoint Cricket Club is affiliated to the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) through the Sussex Cricket Board. The club is based at Fairfield Recreation Ground, Cuckfield Road in Hurstpierpoint and has 173 Junior (aged 7-18 years) and 112 Senior Members. The 1st XI plays in Division 2 of the Mid Sussex Cricket League and the 2nd XI plays in Division 5.

The clubhouse is owned by the Council and leased to the cricket club who also have responsibility for maintaining the cricket square. It is also used regularly by the Hurstpierpoint Football Club and the Pink Flamingos Sunday side who play on the football pitch at the recreation ground. The Fairfield Parent & Toddler Group also meets there weekly on Tuesday mornings during term time.

Over the past five years the club has focused on building its youth infrastructure which has resulted in double the numbers taking part since 2012 and the introduction of female junior players. The current level of use is unsustainable without some investment in the existing facilities and the club has applied for a

grant toward the cost of coach training, equipment and capital improvements to the premises.

The coaching costs are for five Umpire courses (£325), five Level 1 (£750) and two Level 2 (£500) coaching courses. This will allow them to qualify five new coaches and the club to meet safeguarding requirements with one coach for each 10 children starting cricket.

Coaching Total £1,575

The following equipment was highlighted as a priority – sight screen (£1,962), boundary rope (£320), a bowling machine (£2,000). The new property development at the northern end of the playing field (Chalkers Lane) has created an issue with the visual sight of the ball in play so a sight screen is now needed. The bowling machine will be used to improve training and participation.

Priority Equipment Total £5,857

The club also wants an electronic scoreboard (£2,380), a clock (£400), replacement furniture to replace worn out/non-safe furnishings (£3,049), grounds maintenance equipment for square (£9,300) and a line marking machine (£460).

Other Items Total £15,589

In relation to the capital works, the clubhouse requires internal re-modelling to accommodate both male and female players and youth/adult players. The costs are based on the installation of a 3rd changing room to meet safeguarding and male/female changing needs (£9,500). In addition, the existing showering facility needs improvement and work is needed to upgrade the tiling and paintwork (£3,750). The club has also wants to install an artificial wicket (£7,690) to cope with the additional level of demand, due to increased playing numbers.

Capital Expenditure Total £20,940

The cricket club also applied for £4,500 towards the purchase of a gang mower but, as the Council is responsible for maintaining the outfield, this element of the application was declined and they have been referred to the Landscape Contracts Manager to discuss maintenance matters.

Excluded Items Total £4,500

Head of Finance Comments

- Individual unaudited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st October 2016 which show a combined surplus of £1,472.
- Total income was £27,908; mainly generated from Subscriptions (£10,005), Fundraising (£5,720), Pavilion hire (£4,695), Bar profit (£3,041), Match fees (£2,959), Kit (£1,128) and Other income (£360).
- Total expenditure was £26,436; consisting of Supplies and Services (£26,436).
- No balance sheet provided.

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

The club encourages healthy outdoor participation through participation in sport. It provides out of school opportunities for children to enable them to learn new skills and compete in a physical activity that is safe and fun. It also offers opportunities for adults to take part in competitive sport and social activities.

Better Services

The cricket clubhouse is a community asset which provides a venue for the parent and toddler group and other local groups. Membership encourages social interaction through volunteering and the involvement of parents. The club is well run under ECB guidelines and has seen unprecedented growth in recent years.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The Assessment Group feels that this project to improve the offer at Hurstpierpoint Cricket Club will benefit local residents by allowing them to make improvements to the facilities which will help them to develop and cope with growing demand. The training will ensure there are sufficient qualified coaches to manage the junior section and the equipment will help to develop players' skills. Investment in the clubhouse and the cricket square will ensure the club remains sustainable and can provide a safe and comfortable environment for all participants.

Overall Score: 9

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award Hurstpierpoint Cricket Club:

- a Community and Economic Development Grant of £5,000 towards the cost of the Coaching and Priority Equipment
- a Facility Grant of £20,940 to fund the Capital Expenditure which is made up of - £13,796 (P35/544 Land at Orchard Way) and £7,144 (PL12-000366 Land at Chalkers Lane) Section 106 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***
- ***copy of the license granting landlords consent for the capital works to be submitted***
- ***copy of planning approval for the artificial wicket to be submitted.***

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	Lindfield Rural
Title of project:	New energy efficient boiler
Applicant:	Scaynes Hill Millennium Village Centre
Type of applicant:	Charity (no. 1069703)
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	None
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 3,000 (76%)
Total project cost:	£ 3,960

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

Scaynes Hill Millennium Centre Reserves £960 Secured

Summary of project proposal and aims

Installation of a new thermally efficient boiler to provide hot water for the sports changing rooms.

Background

Scaynes Hill Millennium Village Centre is a not-for-profit charity set up in 1998 and the premises are leased from the Council. The centre is used for a range of community activities, meetings and hires at reasonable rates such as scouts, WI, yoga, pilates, fitness and art classes, family parties, weddings and celebrations.

The flexible design of the light and airy building encompasses a range of facilities and parking is provided for 33 cars including 2 designated disabled bays. It has two halls which together can cater for 300 standing and 180 people seated at tables, has a stage with sound system, adjacent changing rooms and fully functional modern kitchen.

The existing gas hot water boiler is 17 years old and needs to be upgraded to provide hot water for the changing rooms. The changing rooms and showers are used primarily by the Scaynes Hill Football Club but also by organisations requiring changing rooms for theatre and musical productions. The football pitch is used almost every week through the football season and some days out of season for training. Scaynes Hill Football Club is based at the village centre for home matches.

Head of Finance Comments

- Unaudited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2016 which show a deficit of £5,184.
- Total income was £37,428; mainly generated from Hiring invoices (£28,945), Rental income (£6,280), Grants (£1,786), Other income (£382) and Interest received (£35).
- Total expenditure was £42,612; consisting of Capital expenditure (£17,594), Supplies and Services (£15,181), Staff related (£5,410) and Premises related (£4,427).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £15,660, comprising of Debtors £2,246, Cash £14,814 and Creditors (£1,400).

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Services

The project will update the facilities and provide a new energy efficient hot water boiler to service the changing rooms. The new boiler will be more cost effective to run and will meet modern health and safety standards.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The Assessment Group feels that this project to upgrade the facilities at Scaynes Hill Millennium Village Centre will benefit members of the football club and other changing room users. It will also keep running costs low and enable the centre to continue to offer the facilities for hire at competitive prices.

Overall score: 7

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award Scaynes Hill Millennium Village Centre a Facility Grant of £3,000 (76% of the total project cost) toward the cost of a new water heater which is made up of - £3,000 (PL3-000199 Land to the east of Gravelye Lane and North of Lyoth Lane) Community Buildings S106 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:	Haywards Heath
Title of project:	Changing room improvements
Applicant:	St Francis Bowls Club
Type of applicant:	Unincorporated Association
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	None
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 10,486 (100%)
Total project cost:	£ 10,486

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

None

Summary of project proposal and aims

Changing room upgrade at the bowls club pavilion to address damp and space issues.

Background

St Francis Bowls Club is situated in the grounds of the Princess Royal Hospital. The bowling green and the pavilion are owned by St Francis Sports and Social Club who purchased the site in 2009. The bowls club built the pavilion using its own money and labour. It has a separate operates independently of the social club and all club positions are filled by volunteers. The bowls club has a separate bank account; it does not receive any income from the social club and pays £1000 a year toward utilities.

St Francis Bowls Club is a mixed club, with women and men enjoying equal status and there are currently about 80 members. Membership of the club is open to the general public; it costs £20 to join the sports and social club plus £75 per annum for the bowls club (£32.50 for under 18 years) and £1 per game to play.

St Francis Bowls Club was established in 1954. It is affiliated to Bowls England, Sussex County Bowls and the Mid-Sussex Bowls League. The club runs regular weekly practise sessions on Monday afternoons and competes in league and friendly matches throughout the season.

The changing rooms currently have a problem with damp / moisture penetration and the club is seeking a grant to rebuild and extend the changing room space with the building. The work will be carried out by club members over the Winter months and they require funds toward material costs only. They intend to build insulated stud walls, install PVC windows and doors, internal cladding and new seating in the changing rooms.

The bowls club are keen to improve the facilities and recently purchased a new mower to replace one that was 13 years old. They also replace the changing roof and constructed a veranda.

Head of Finance Comments

- Audited accounts have been submitted for the year ending 30th September 2016 which show a surplus of £1,485.
- Total income was £9,810; mainly generated from Subscriptions (£4,470), Pavilion sales (£1,643), Competitions (£1,568), Match fees (£1,029), Fundraising (£802), Donations/Sponsorship (£149) and Miscellaneous income (£149).
- Total expenditure was £8,325; consisting of Supplies and Services (£8,325).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £10,446, comprising of Stock £73 and Cash £10,373.

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Lives

The project will make the changing facilities larger and more comfortable for both home and away players. With the new roof (already done) the changing rooms will be much improved.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The Assessment Group feels that this project to improve the changing facilities at the bowls club would benefit the members and visitors playing away. The Council is holding Formal Sport Section 106 contributions that are ring-fenced for use at the St Francis sports ground which could be used to fund this project.

However, it is a condition of Facility Grant funding that applicants have security of tenure for at least 14 years. As the bowls club do not have a lease for the premises, a grant to enable them to purchase the materials to carry out the work, is in effect a grant to the St Francis Social and Sports Club who own the freehold.

St Francis Social and Sports Club has recently benefitted from a major capital award toward the cost of a new community hall and sports changing facility and we would normally expect grant recipients to complete one capital project before they apply for funds and embark on another.

For this reason, the assessment group do not feel it is appropriate to award a grant to the bowls club at this time.

Overall score: 4

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel does not award a grant to the St Francis Bowls Club.

Facility Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	Haywards Heath
Title of project:	Rear garden revamp
Applicant:	The Yews (Haywards Heath) Community Partnership
Type of applicant:	Registered Charity (no. 1144700)
Previous Grants in past 5 years:	£250 - leaflet printing (2013) £2,700 - iron railings (2014)
Grant Request to MSDC	£ 9,721 (76%)
Total project cost:	£ 12,721

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

The Yews own funds	£3,000	Secured
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Summary of project proposal and aims

To make improvements to the garden area to make it more accessible and attractive to user groups.

Background

The Yews is a multi-purpose community building situated in the middle of Haywards Heath at the junction of Boltro Road and Muster Green. It is leased from West Sussex County Council and run by a charitable social enterprise that offers a range of rooms and catering facilities to let.

The Yews is open every day from early morning to late evening with a manned reception desk each morning from 9 to 12. It is used by a wide range of community groups including a playgroup for autistic children, Kangaroos, Alcoholics Anonymous, an MS Social Club, Talking News for the Blind, Relate, a mental health support service and Arthritis Care. The centre users are often vulnerable people, some facing serious illness, others living with long term disability some very young and the elderly with carers.

The Yews aims to provide a comfortable, homely and safe environment for everyone. The mission of The Yews is "To develop and manage a financially sustainable community centre which serves the needs and activities of all local people." It is socially inclusive and open to all cultures and ages.

Until recently, the rear garden was used almost exclusively by a playgroup which has now closed. It was therefore decided to revamp the garden to make it more useable by people of all ages.

It is proposed to divide the garden into three sections. In section 1 the existing shed and shelter, which is 15 years old, will need to be replaced with similar to provide more storage. In section 2 the existing lawn, which gets very muddy when wet, will be replaced with artificial turf. And, in section 3, the paved area will be turned into a peaceful space for adults to relax by providing seating and tables. New access will be provided by a set of wooden steps.

The applicant distributed a questionnaire to thirty groups that use the centre. Twenty responded and their feedback indicated that they would be more likely to use the garden if the old play equipment was removed and it was made more comfortable and suitable for adults.

Head of Finance Comments

- Independently examined accounts have been submitted for the year ending 31st March 2015 which show a surplus of £14,700.
- Total income was £59,601; mainly generated from Room Hire (£29,845), Memberships and donations (£23,200), Grants (£5,200), Fundraising (£1,340) and Investment income (£16).
- Total expenditure was £44,901; consisting of Staff related (£25,336) and Supplies and Services (£19,565).
- Balances held at the end of the period showed Net assets of £37,628, comprising of Debtors £7,588, Cash £30,854, Creditors (£814).

How does the project meet the Council's aims?

Better Services

Providing more seating, storage and enhancing the facilities with a low maintenance design should make them more suitable for the needs of user groups. Making the facilities more attractive should help achieve a sustainable mix of users and create a relaxing environment.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The Assessment Group feels that this project to update the garden at The Yews will benefit the user groups by turning a vacant space into a useful outdoor area that can be used for peaceful relaxation and outdoor activities. The Council is holding Community Buildings S106 funds which are ring-fenced for this facility which could be used to fund this project.

Overall score: 8

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award The Yews (Haywards Heath) Community Partnership a Facility Grant of £9,721 (76% of the total project cost) toward the cost of garden improvements which is made up of - £9,721 (PL12-001035 Land at Beacon Heights, 4 Church Road) Community Buildings S106 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.***