

Corporate Capital Grants Scheme * new application

Town:	Handcross
Title of project:	Pavilion Refurbishments
Applicant:	Slaugham Parish Council
Type of applicant:	Parish Council
Previous Grants in past 6 years:	£786,696
Grant Request to MSDC	£175,000 (82%)
Total project cost:	£212,000

Financial Summary

Sources of funding and whether secured

Slaugham Parish Council (secured)	£50,000
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Summary of project proposal and aims:

Background

Slaugham Parish Council owns and managed the sports pavilion and playground at Handcross Recreation Ground. Handcross village has grown, and continues to grow, in size and these leisure facilities are old and worn. The Parish Council aims to refurbish the sports pavilion, changing rooms and playground to improve the recreational offer to the community.

The pavilion is available for hire and is used daily by Handcross Community Pre School, a registered charity that has been operating in Handcross for over 15 years. There are sports changing rooms in the pavilion and space for two adult football pitches on the recreation ground, although only one is currently marked out. These facilities are used by Handcross Village Football Club (two teams) and other clubs for weekend matches and weekday training.

The pavilion and playground need to be upgraded to meet the increase in demand. The Parish Council and local groups intend to organise more fun days and encourage new groups to use the facilities that will generate more activities and events at the recreation ground over and above the football.

Many young children visit the playground but the current equipment is old and needs modernising to make it more appealing. By replacing the equipment, children will be more enthusiastic about playing outside.

The work is scheduled to take place between May – September 2019.

The project will cost £95,000 for pavilion refurbishments, £72,000 to upgrade the changing rooms and £45,000 to improve the children's playground, making the total project cost £212,000. The Parish Council has secured £50,000 toward this project through the lease of land to make way for a temporary haul road to the development site adjacent to the Recreation Ground.

The capital works include energy efficiency improvements such as new double glazed windows, doors and heating. The budget includes a facelift for the fascias, soffits and gutters, external lighting and a storage shed. Internally, the pavilion will benefit from new flooring, sanitary ware, showers, tiling, doors and redecoration. The public convenience will be entirely re-fitted and the fire alarm upgraded. The playground redesign will include new inclusive equipment, swings, slides, activity panel games for younger children and safe surfacing.

Head of Finance Comments

Hassocks Parish 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?

Strong and Resilient communities: The new and updated facilities will encourage more public use, activities and events which helps build stronger communities. Local clubs will be able to attract additional members which help with socialisation, communication within the local and wider area. The improvements to the play area will encourage more families to take their children out to play which is good for their physical health and wellbeing.

Corporate Grant Assessment Group evaluation of the project

The assessment group feels that this project to modernise the pavilion and the play area at Handcross Recreation Ground will benefit local residents. Improving the local amenities and recreational space will ensure that the needs of the local residents are met and sustained for future generations to come. It will encourage new start up enterprises to the area and invigorate community groups, to lead, reach out and expand their activities. The Parish Council hopes that more sports and recreational activities will be generated as a result of these improvements.

Overall score: 8

Corporate Grant Scheme Assessment Group Recommendation

The Assessment Group recommends that the Cabinet Grants Panel award Slaugham Parish Council, a Facility Grant (release of s106 contributions) of £175,000 to enable them to upgrade the pavilion and playground at Handcross Recreation Ground, which is made up of -

- *£50,000 Formal Sport monies to fund the changing room improvements £3,565.00 (P35/698a Land at CUC House, Pease Pottage), £9,694.61 (PL13-000368 Land at Caburn), £9,166.30 (PL13-001524 Allotment Gardens, High Street), £20,255.76 (PL12-001742 Land SW of Handcross Primary School), £6,630.00 (PL12-002157 Land SW of Handcross School), £688.33 (PL3-000303 Land SW of Handcross Primary School, Appeal B);*
- *£80,000 Community Building monies to fund the pavilion improvements £4,704.00 (P35/745 Land at the Fountain Inn), £4,211.24 (PL13-000368 Land at Caburn), £3,981.74 (PL13-001524 Allotment Gardens, High Street), £8,798.86 (PL12-001742 Land SW of Handcross Primary School), £58,304.16 (PL3-000303 Land south West of Handcross Primary School London Rd);*
- *£45,000 Playspace monies to fund the playground improvements £8,049.60 (PL13-000368 Land at Caburn), £7,610.93 (PL13-001524 Allotment Gardens, High Street), £29,339.47 (PL3-000303 Land south West of Handcross Primary School London Rd).*

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

- ***The project must be completed within 12 months of project funding being obtained***
- ***Planning approval is obtained for the external storage shed (if necessary)***