

Record of Cabinet portfolio holder decision

Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Decision made by	Councillor Elizabeth Gillespie
Key decision?	Yes
Date of decision (same as date signed)	10 July 2017
Name and job title of officer requesting the decision	Carole Cumming, Grants Officer, Corporate Strategy
Officer contact details	Tel: 01235 422405 Email: carole.cumming@southandvale.gov.uk
Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To award £423,697 in capital grants to the 13 organisations listed in the table below as per the recommendations put forward by the Capital Grants panel at their meeting on 14 June 2017. Any special conditions for these awards are also noted in the table. 2) To earmark £250,000 of the 2017/18 provisional capital grant budget to Thame Sports Club so the Cabinet member for grants can decide to award the club a grant for this amount when its new governance arrangements are in place. If the arrangements are not in place by 6 September 2017 this funding will return to the grants budget and the application will be reconsidered by the grants panel during the second round of funding. 3) To defer Chinnor Parish Council's grant application to a future round of funding so they can work on their application. 4) To transfer £51,691 of the 2015/16 capital grant budget (budget code A283), which was for a grant that has now expired (equipment at Oxford City Indoor Arena in Berinsfield) to the 2017/18 approved capital grant budget (A306) towards funding the awards listed below. 5) To transfer the balance required to fund the grants below of £372,006 from the 2017/18 provisional capital grant budget to the 2017/18 approved capital budget.

Ref no.	Organisation	Scheme	Total Cost	Maximum award amount	Awarded % of total cost	Special conditions
SC17-18/33	Berinsfield Parish Council	Play area improvements	£67,845	£33,922	50.00%	A restriction on the registered title for a period of ten years. The work cannot commence until the grant agreement is completed and the restriction is in place. We require a satisfactory play inspection report before the final grant payment is released.
SC17-18/39	Corn Exchange Wallingford Ltd and Sinodun Players Theatrical Society	Replacement roof and heating system	£500,000	£170,000	34.00%	A charge on the registered title for the value of the grant for ten years, reducing by ten per cent each year. The grant agreement will be between the council and both organisations. The grant will be paid to the Sinodun Players Theatrical Society, but the charge will be placed on the registered title of the Corn Exchange Wallingford Ltd. Both organisations will have joint liability for the potential repayment of the grant and other conditions under the terms of the agreement. Officers also request an additional condition - to allow the council to use the venue free of charge for 30 hours a year for five years (specific dates and times to be by mutual agreement of both parties).
SC17-18/22	Lewknor Village Hall	Replacement doors	£12,702	£4,585	36.10%	
SC17-18/57	Long Wittenham Parish Council	Play area improvements	£14,582	£7,291	50.00%	We require a satisfactory play inspection report before the final grant payment is released.
SC17-18/18	Little Milton Parish Council	Play area improvements	£100,000	£50,000	50.00%	A restriction on the registered title for a period of ten years. The work cannot commence until the grant agreement is completed and the restriction is in place. We require a satisfactory play inspection report before the final grant payment is released.
SC17-18/47	The Watlington Club CIO	Replacement squash court flooring, fire doors and lawn aerator	£38,907	£19,453	50.00%	No funding will be released until the grant agreement is completed. Officers also request an additional condition - to allow the council to use the venue free of charge for 30 hours a year for five years

						(specific dates and times to be by mutual agreement of both parties).
SC17-18/75	Wallingford Rowing Club	Replacement boat launching platform	£49,765	£24,882	50.00%	No funding will be released until the grant agreement is completed. The final grant payment is not released until evidence of use by Wallingford School is provided.
SC17-18/17	Hagbourne Village Hall	Village hall play area improvements	£30,953	£10,000	32.31%	No funding will be released until the grant agreement is completed. We require a satisfactory play inspection report before the final grant payment is released.
SC17-18/59	Millstream Day Centre (Benson)	Replacement kitchen	£35,900	£17,950	50.00%	No funding will be released until the grant agreement is completed. Officers also request an additional condition - to allow the council to use the venue free of charge for 30 hours a year for five years (specific dates and times to be by mutual agreement of both parties).
SC17-18/60	Sandford on Thames Village Hall	Storage shed in car park	£3,698	£1,799	48.65%	
SC17-18/83	Ewelme Parish Council	Rebuild Ewelme pavilion	£206,195	£75,000	36.37%	No funding will be released until the grant agreement is completed. A restriction on the registered title for a period of ten years. Officers also request an additional condition - to allow the council to use the venue free of charge for 30 hours a year for five years (specific dates and times to be by mutual agreement of both parties).
SC17-18/36	Benson Parish Council	Play area improvements	£16,133	£6,050	37.50%	We require a satisfactory play inspection report before the final grant payment is released.
SC17-18/16	Peppard Stoke Row CC	Replacement cricket roller for Stoke Row ground	£7,374	£2,765	37.50%	
SC17-18/20	Chinnor Parish Council	Tennis court resurfacing, new floodlighting and mini tennis courts	£103,010	DEFER	DEFER	The panel felt this application needed some further work before they could make a recommendation to the cabinet member. They have asked the grants team to work with the organisation to strengthen the bid and address their concerns before it is considered at a later round of funding.

Total awards				£423,697		
SC17-18/37	Thame Sports Club	New community building	£554,051	£250,000	45.12%	That the grant is provisionally allocated for the project subject to satisfactory submission of the Club's new governance arrangements. If these arrangements aren't in place by 6 September 2017 the funds will return to the grants budget and the application will be reconsidered by the grants panel during the second round of funding.
Reasons for decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) We invited applications for grant funding from 1 April to 15 May 2017 and received 15 eligible applications. 2) The grants panel used the officer's evaluations, information from speakers and the agreed scoring criteria to make their recommendations (including special conditions) to the cabinet member. 3) The cabinet member has considered the panel's recommendations and agrees with the 13 awards and the special conditions listed. 4) We have a £51,691 underspend from a 2015/16 capital grant award (budget code A283) that has expired and would like it transferred to the 2017/18 capital grants budget to use towards these grants. 5) We would need a further £372,006 in the 2017/18 approved capital budget to fund all the grants so would like to transfer this from the 2017/18 provisional capital grants budget. 6) Both officers and the grants panel were keen to support Thame Sports Club with a grant of £250,000 however they are in the process of changing their governance arrangements, which has legal and financial implications for any grant we award. The club hopes to have the new arrangements in place in the next few months so by earmarking the money the cabinet member for grants can decide to award a grant when these are in place. The arrangements need to be in place by 6 September 2017 (the closing date for round two). If not, the £250,000 provisionally allocated for this project will be returned to the budget for the second round of funding and the application will be reconsidered along with any new ones received. 7) The grants panel had concerns about Chinnor Parish Council's application and felt it required additional work before they could make recommendations to the cabinet member. They have asked officers to work with the organisation to strengthen the bid and answer the panel's concerns so the request can be reconsidered during a future round of funding. 					
Alternative options rejected	We considered not transferring the underspend of £51,691 from the expired grant in 2015/16, however this would mean there would be insufficient budget to open the scheme for a second round and we're aware of a number of projects hoping to come to us for funding in the next month or so.					
Legal implications	<p>The council is using its general powers under Chapter 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to offer this funding.</p> <p>In the council's constitution, the cabinet member has delegated authority to award capital grants in consultation with the capital</p>					

	grants panel.			
Financial implications	There is currently £730,000 available in the provisional capital grants budget for 2017/18. We need to transfer £372,006 of this budget together with the £51,691 underspend in the capital grants budget (cost centre A283 – 2015/16) to the 2017/18 approved capital grants budget to fund the awards listed. Earmarking £250,000 for a grant to Thame Sports Club would leave a small balance of £56,303 for a second round, which isn't sufficient to open but together with the £51,691 underspend, gives a remaining balance of £107,994 which would be enough to open the scheme.			
Other implications	None			
Background papers	Grant panel meeting minutes - 14 June 2017 Current capital grants policy (approved September 2015)			
Declarations /conflict of interest? Declaration of other councillor/officer consulted by the Cabinet member?				
List consultees		Name	Outcome	Date
	Ward councillors	Via call in process		
	Legal	Pat Connell	Agreed	29/6/17
	Finance	Simon Hewings	Agreed	30/6/17
	Sustainability	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Diversity and equality	N/A	Equalities officer commented on all applications before they were considered by the grants panel.	30/6/17
	Communications	Shona Ware	Agreed	5/7/17
	Strategic Management Board	From SMB meeting	Agreed	10/7/17
Confidential decision? If so, under which exempt	No			

category?	
Call-in waived by Scrutiny Committee chairman?	No
Has this been discussed by Cabinet members?	Yes, Cllr Gillespie.
Cabinet portfolio holder's signature To confirm the decision as set out in this notice.	Signature: Elizabeth Gillespie (by email on 9 July 2017) Date 9/7/17

ONCE SIGNED, THIS FORM MUST BE HANDED TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES IMMEDIATELY.

For Democratic Services office use only		
Form received	Date: 10/07/17	Time: 10:05
Date published to all councillors	Date: 10/07/17	
Call-in deadline	Date: 17/07/17	Time: 17:00