

# Minutes



Listening Learning Leading

OF A MEETING OF THE

## Community Investment Fund Panel

HELD AT 10.00AM ON 19 JUNE 2012

AT COUNCIL OFFICES, CROWMARSH GIFFORD

### Present:

Mr W Hall (Chairman)

Mr R Bell, Ms J Bland, Mrs E Gillespie, Mrs A Midwinter, Mrs P Slatter, Mrs J Wood

### Apologies:

Mrs P Dawe, Mr M Gray, Mr A Rooke and Ms R Wallis submitted their apologies.

### Officers:

Mrs J Bolton, Mr E Nieburg, Mr M Prosser, Mrs J Thompson

### Also present:

Mr B Service, Cabinet member for leisure, grants and community safety

### 1. Declaration of interest

Mrs A Midwinter declared that she had known one of the speakers, Mrs P Haywood, while she had served as a district councillor as a member of her political group but as they had no other connection this did not amount to a personal interest. Mrs Slatter and Mr Bell noted that they had also known Mrs Haywood during her time as a district councillor but that this connection did not amount to a personal interest

### 2. Minutes, 21 June 2011

**RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2011 as a correct record and agree that the Chairman sign these as such.

### 3. Addresses to the committee

Mr R Walsh, representing Towersey War Memorial Village Hall Committee, spoke in support of the application to provide new toilet facilities and answered questions from panel members and officers.

Mrs P Haywood, representing St Andrew's Church, Chinnor, spoke in support of the application to provide a disabled toilet, kitchen and storage and answered questions from panel members and officers.

Mr D Fordham and Ms L Eales, representing St John's Church, Stadhampton, Parochial Church Council, spoke in support of the application to reorder the Church for use as a community building and answered questions from panel members and officers.

Mr P Cross, a local ward councillor, spoke in support of the application from St John's Church, Stadhampton.

Mr R Nobel and Ms R Lloyd, representing Shiplake Memorial Hall, spoke in support of the application for improvements to the hall and answered questions from panel members and officers.

Mr M Leonard, a local ward councillor, spoke in support of the application from Shiplake Memorial Hall.

Ms C Aldridge and Ms S Biggs, representing Kidmore End Parish Council, spoke in support of the application for a new play area in Kidmore End and answered questions from panel members and officers.

#### 4. Briefing on the bids for funding from the Community Investment Fund

Ms J Bolton, Shared Grants Team Leader, summarised the process and explained the officers' draft scores and key points for each application.

#### 5. Applications for funding from the Community Investment Fund

The panel considered the applications for funding from the Community Investment Fund over £15,000 capital awards scheme, taking into account the reports of the Grants Team Leader on each application and the visits to each site carried out on 12 June 2012.

The applications considered were:

Organisation	Project	Grant Sought £	Scheme Cost £
St Andrews Church, Chinnor	Disabled toilet and servery	£20,000	£57,000
Shiplake Memorial Hall	Modernisation Project - extension to entrance	£100,000	£337,396
Stadhampton Parochial Church Council	Community Building Project	£100,000	£382,821
Towersey War Memorial Hall	Hall Renovation	£66,300	£118,800
Kidmore End Parish Council	Kidmore End Play Space	£26,091	£43,485
<b>Total requests for funding</b>		<b>£312,391</b>	<b>£939,502</b>

## Scores for each application

The panel discussed the Shared Grants Team Leader's provisional scores for each application under each criterion and amended a number of these.

The panel agreed scores as follows:

Community Investment Fund Grant Applications 2012	Community Benefit	Broadening the Range	Meeting a local need	Community Participation	Project Viability	Finance	Total
St Johns Church, Stadhampton	20	20	20	15	60	10	<b>145</b>
Shiplake Memorial Hall	20	20	15	15	60	10	<b>140</b>
St Andrews Church, Chinnor	20	15	15	10	60	10	<b>130</b>
Towersey War Memorial Hall	20	15	20	15	40	5	<b>115</b>
Kidmore End play area	15	15	15	15	20	5	<b>85</b>

## Kidmore End

The panel were of the view that there was a real need for the play area in Kidmore End and that there would be a benefit to the community. It was appreciated that the current provision was inadequate, reliant on informal arrangements, and not viable in the long term; that new facilities were needed; and that the parish council's plans were well supported and viable.

However there were concerns that:

- there were elements of the design which were not yet finalised and that there was further work to be done before the parish council would have a completely satisfactory plan for the playground;
- that a safety audit of both the site's suitability (given its location and surroundings) and the proposed design should be carried out and the results should be considered before the design and exact location was finalised as the audit may influence the final shape of the project;
- the project and in particular the final design was not at a stage where they could be confident that it was the best and safest scheme that could be provided in the parish.

There were concerns that a final design may not be agreed, or deliverable within the allocated budget, within the next twelve months. The panel reduced the viability score because of these concerns.

## Cut off score and recommendation of awards

Cabinet had agreed on 13 February 2012 to make no award to applications scoring 90 points or less when considering the under £15,000 capital grant scheme. The panel agreed to use the same criteria for the over £15,000 capital grants to give a consistent approach.

The panel agreed to recommend that the four applications scoring above 90 points receive the full amount requested; that the application for play equipment at Kidmore End not receive funding; and that the rest of the allocation to the Community Investment Fund grants scheme be set aside for the under £15,000 capital grants scheme. The panel also agreed to impose conditions on a number of awards.

### RESOLVED:

1. to make recommendations to the Cabinet member with responsibility for grants as follows:
  - (a) to award £286,300 of grants and to add conditions to the awards as detailed below:

**Towersey War Memorial Hall** – to award 55.81 per cent of the £118,800 estimated scheme costs, up to a maximum of £66,300 towards the hall renovation as detailed in the application and to require a legal restriction on the property.

**St Andrews Church, Chinnor** – to award 35.09 per cent of the £57,000 estimated scheme costs, up to a maximum of £20,000 towards the disabled toilet and servery as detailed in the application.

**Stadhampton PCC** – to award 26.12 per cent of the £382,821 estimated scheme costs, up to a maximum of £100,000 towards the community building project as detailed in the application and to require a legal restriction on the property.

**Shiplake Memorial Hall** – to award 29.64 per cent of the £337,396 estimated scheme costs, up to a maximum of £100,000 towards the modernisation of the hall as detailed in the application and to require a legal restriction on the property.

**Kidmore End Parish Council** – to make no award towards the play area project.

- (b) to allocate a budget of £213,700 to the under £15,000 capital grant scheme for 2012/13 from the £500,000 transferred to the approved capital programme.

2. to recommend the Shared Grants Team Leader to request Towersey War Memorial Hall Committee to have an energy audit carried out on the building and agree a plan to implement any recommendations from this.

The meeting closed at 1.00pm

Chairman

Date