

Minutes



OF A MEETING OF THE

Listening Learning Leading

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND PANEL

HELD AT 10.00AM ON 16 JUNE 2009

AT COUNCIL OFFICES, CROWMARSH GIFFORD

Present:

Ms J Bland, Capt J Flood, Ms E Gillespie, Mr N Odd, Mr A Rooke, Mrs P Slatter,
Mrs M Turner

Mr IR Mann, Cabinet member, attended to listen to the presentations.

Apologies:

Mr M Leonard, Mrs S Cooper, Mr P Cross, Mr J Nowell-Smith

Officers:

Mrs J Bolton, Mrs P Connell, Ms C Kingston, Mr E Nieburg, Mr M Prosser,
Mrs J Thompson

13. Bids for funding from the Community Investment Fund

Mr R Peasgood, local councillor, spoke to the committee in support of the application for a new pavilion by Kidmore End Parish Council.

Capt J Flood, local councillor, spoke in support of the application for the new community hall at All Saints Church, Didcot.

Mrs Bolton read out written comments from Mr PWD Greene, local councillor, in support of the applications for the new multi-use games area by East Hagbourne Parish Council and for a new pavilion by Moulsoford Parish Council.

Written comments from Mrs F Aska, local councillor, in support of the application for a new pavilion by Moulsoford Parish Council were circulated.

Apologies from Mrs C Collett, local councillor, were submitted. Mrs Collett could not speak in support of the application for a village shop in Brightwell cum Sotwell because she was a member of the steering group and had a personal and prejudicial interest in the outcome. Mrs P Dawe also sent apologies.

Written comments on the applications were received from Mr M Leonard.

Average scores

The committee discussed the average scores and merits of each application in turn.

A motion to increase the score for Great Milton Recreation Ground's application to 20 points including finance, on being moved and seconded and put to the vote, was declared carried.

After discussion about each application, the final scores for each were agreed as:

Ref No.	Organisation	Scheme	Scheme Cost £	Grant Sought £	Average Score before Finance	Finance Score	Average score with Finance
10	Moulsford PC	New pavilion	450,000	250,000	24	1	25
9*	Henley Cricket Club	New pavilion	417,450	250,000	23	1	24
2	Thame Football Partnership	New football facility	3,300,000	250,000	21	3	24
14	Didcot Methodist Church	Extension to rear and heating system	274,262	40,000	20	3	23
6	Kidmore End PC	New pavilion	590,000	200,000	19	2	21
5	Nettlebed Sports Assoc	New pavilion	92,451	25,000	19	2	21
3	Great Milton Rec Ground Comm	Extension	291,750	175,050	19	1	20
13	All Saints PCC	New building	545,804	250,000	19	1	20
11	Cholsey PC	New play area	134,685	75,724	18	1	19
12	Brightwell cum Sotwell Village Stores	New community shop	168,700	101,000	16	1	17
15	East Hagbourne PC	Two new MUGA's	62,417	37,000	15	1	16

1	Watlington Memorial Hall	New tennis pavilion	100,562	58,959	12	1	13
7	River and Rowing Museum	New Gallery	1,900,000	250,000	11	3	14
8*	Henley Rowing Club	New gym facility	150,430	90,258	12	1	13
4*	OAB	New resource centre	495,850	90,148	10	3	13
		Total Amount Sought		2,143,139			

Thame Football Partnership

The committee agreed with the high overall score that this application received. The project should receive a full award as it was a high quality scheme which would benefit a large sector of the local community by providing a much-needed facility.

However, the councillors had serious concerns about whether this project would be able to start in this financial year, given the uncertainty over the remaining funding. They were consequently not willing to commit a large proportion of the limited funds to this project at this stage.

A motion was proposed that if funds became available during the year and if the applicant obtained the necessary guarantees for the majority of the funding, the Panel be reconvened to make a decision about the award of a grant. The motion was not seconded.

A motion was proposed that no award be made at this time, but the applicant be invited to resubmit the application in 2010 once further funding and in particular legal agreements are secured. The motion was carried on being seconded and put to the vote.

Nettlebed Sports Association

The committee agreed with the overall score that this application received. However, the committee were concerned about the long term viability of the Sports Association and its ability to manage the pavilion in the future.

A motion was proposed that Nettlebed parish council be requested to take responsibility for the project on behalf of the sports association and that the parish council re-submit the application in 2010. The motion was carried on being seconded and put to the vote.

Cut-off point for award of grants over £25,000

The cut-off point for the award of a grant was discussed.

A motion that a minimum of 20 points in total be required for a grant award to be made, on being moved and seconded and put to the vote, was declared carried.

Allocation for awards of capital grants under £25,000

The committee agreed to allocate £85,000 to fund capital grants under £25,000.

A motion was proposed that the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind be encouraged to make an application for an under-£25,000 award towards the cost of equipping the building once completed, and that very serious consideration be given to this application. The motion was carried on being seconded and put to the vote.

Individual grant awards and conditions

The committee considered the award of the remaining total available grant funding of £767,000.

The committee agreed that projects should be fully funded where possible. Projects were more likely to be completed if the full grant amount sought was allocated, even if this meant funding fewer projects overall. Awards would be made taking account of the funds available and the total score of each project.

The committee were conscious that the difference between the total sum requested and the available funding meant that a number of applicants would be disappointed with the outcome. In making their awards, the committee considered the funding shortfall, the difference a grant would make, and the likelihood of the project attracting the remaining funding and starting within the two-year period of the award.

The committee agreed to make the following awards:

Moulsford

To award the application from Moulsford Parish Council 55.56 per cent of the £450,000 estimated eligible scheme costs, up to a maximum of £250,000 towards the construction of a new pavilion.

To include additional conditions requiring the inclusion of referees' changing rooms; evidence of title to the land to be produced; adequate and competent project management arrangements; and participation in the council's sports club development forum and, in future, to host the forum in the new pavilion.

To review the grant after one year if the project had not started.

Henley Cricket Club

To award the application from Henley Cricket Club 59.89 per cent of the £417,450 estimated eligible scheme costs, up to a maximum of £250,000 towards the construction of a new pavilion.

To include additional conditions requiring evidence of title to the land to be produced; a legal charge to be applied; and participation in the council's sports club development forum and, in future, to host the forum in the new pavilion.

To review the grant after one year if the project had not started.

Didcot Methodist Church

To award the application from Didcot Methodist Church 14.58 per cent of the £274,262 estimated eligible scheme costs, up to a maximum of £40,000 towards the extension to the rear of the existing building and a heating system.

To include additional conditions requiring a legal charge to be applied if title could be established.

To review the grant after one year if the project had not started.

Kidmore End

To award the application from Kidmore End Parish Council 33.90 per cent of the £590,000 estimated eligible scheme costs, up to a maximum of £200,000 towards the construction of a new pavilion.

To include an additional conditions of participation in the council's sports club development forum and, in future, to host the forum in the new pavilion.

To review the grant after one year if the project was not started.

Remaining projects

The committee agreed not to award any grant towards the applications made by:

Thame Football Partnership – Church Farm Community Football Club facility
Nettlebed Sports Association – sports pavilion replacement
Great Milton Recreation Ground Committee – pavilion redevelopment
All Saints Parochial Church Council – new community hall
Cholsey Parish Council – new play area
Brightwell cum Sotwell Village Stores – new village shop
East Hagbourne Parish Council – multi-use games area
Watlington Memorial Hall Tennis Club – club pavilion restoration
River and Rowing Museum – new Thames gallery and river discovery centre
Henley Rowing Club – new gym facility
Oxfordshire Association for the Blind – new resource centre

Remaining funds

The committee agreed to allocate the remaining £27,000 to fund capital grants under £25,000, bringing the total to £112,000.

RESOLVED:

To recommend Cabinet to implement the recommendations and resolutions set out in these minutes.

The meeting closed at 12.05 pm

Chairman

Date