

# Minutes

OF A MEETING OF THE

## Community Grants Panel

HELD AT 10.00 AM ON MONDAY 21 JANUARY 2019

135 EASTERN AVENUE, MILTON PARK, MILTON, ABINGDON, OX14 4SB

### Present:

Ian Snowdon (Chairman)

Joan Bland, Pat Dawe, Stefan Gawrysiak, Elizabeth Gillespie, Lorraine Hillier (substitute for Elaine Hornsby), and Alan Thompson

### Apologies:

Elaine Hornsby and Jeannette Matelot tendered apologies.

### Officers:

Carole Cumming, Steve Culliford, Kathy Deacon, and Abbie Mulcairn

## 1 Apologies for absence

Councillors Jeanette Matelot and Elaine Hornsby had sent their apologies for absence. Councillor Hornsby was substituted by Councillor Lorraine Hillier.

## 2 Minutes

**RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2018 as a correct record and agree that the Chairman signs them as such.

## 3 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

## 4 Urgent business and chairman's announcements

There was no urgent business.



Listening Learning Leading

## **5 Public participation**

The list showing the members of the public who had registered to speak on the grant applications was tabled at the meeting.

## **6 Bids for funding for capital grants and officer recommendations**

The panel considered the head of community services' report, detailing the applications from each project and gave provisional scores, recommended grants and an explanation of the project and how it met the South Oxfordshire District Council Capital Grants Policy.

The panel heard addresses from representatives of the applicants and were given the opportunity to ask questions of the speakers.

### **Warborough Parish Council – Play area relocation and improvement and new outdoor gym**

Jonnie Bradshaw spoke in support of the application and answered questions from the panel.

### **Goring Village Hall – Improvements to the hall stage area (lighting, sounds, curtains etc)**

Brian Urbick spoke in support of the application and answered questions from the panel.

### **Little Milton Village Shop Ltd. – Flooring improvements and a patio area**

Kevin Hunt spoke in support of the application and answered questions from the panel.

### **Woodcote Village Hall – Lighting/electrical improvements and projector for the main hall**

Geoff Botting spoke in support of the application and answered questions from the panel.

### **South Moreton Community Benefit Society Ltd (The Crown community pub) – Renovations to the community owned pub to bring it back into use**

Paul Jackson and Andrew Searle spoke in support of the application and answered questions from the panel.

### **Sonning Common Parish Council – Village Hall Flat Roof Replacement and Renovation**

Philip Collings and Becky Jenkins spoke in support of the application and answered questions from the panel.

### **Woodcote Parish Council – Pathway running from zebra crossing to school behind the village hall**

Malcolm Smith spoke in support of the application and answered questions from the panel.

## 7 Panel review scores

The panel considered the applications, taking into account the report of the grants officer on each application, the presentations from the registered public speakers and site photographs and videos.

Using the scoring matrix set out in the policy, the grant officers' provisional scores and any additional information received at the meeting, the panel awarded scores for each application.

The panel agreed the officer's recommendations for the following applications:

**Goring Village Hall – Improvements to the hall stage area (lighting, sounds, curtains etc)**

**Sonning Common Parish Council – Village Hall Flat Rood Replacement and Renovation**

Based on the additional information provided by the applicant, the officer adjusted recommended scores for the following applications, which were agreed by the panel:

**Warborough Parish Council – Play area relocation and improvement and new outdoor gym**

Increase the score for New Facilities or Activities from 11 to 12, and the score for Funding the project from 11 to 14 in view of additional information supplied by the applicant.

**Woodcote Village Hall – Lighting/electrical improvements and projector for the main hall**

The panel voted to increase the score for New facilities or activities from 8 to 9 in light of the cinema club facility that would be provided by installing the projector. Increase the funding the project score from 11 to 14 in light of additional information about intended use of S106 money that had already been budgeted for a separate project to install extra storage.

**South Moreton Community Benefit Society Ltd (The Crown community pub) – Renovations to the community owned pub to bring it back into use**

The panel voted to increase the score for Community Benefit from 6 to 9 in light of additional information supplied by the applicant. The panel felt that since these planned works would not have to be undone in order to meet the equalities officer's recommendations in the future, and contingency measures such as grab rails in the existing toilets had already been actioned, the score should be increased to 9.

After discussion, the panel voted to adjust the scores for the following applications:

**Little Milton Village Shop Ltd. – Flooring improvements and a patio area**

Increase the score for New facilities or Activities from 8 to 10, and the score for

Finance from 11 to 12 (following officer recommendation) in view of additional information supplied by the applicant.

### **Woodcote Parish Council – Pathway running from zebra crossing to school behind the village hall**

The panel voted to increase the score for New facilities or activities from 3 to 9 to reflect the fact that the path would create a new, safe access route which would allow pedestrians to safely access both the village hall and library which they currently could not do safely, via the footpath along Reading Road. The applicant provided extra information about safety concerns; pedestrians currently had to walk into the main road when there were cars parked in the parking spaces in front of the village hall, and the panel concluded that this constituted a serious safety concern.

The panel increased the score for Community Benefit from 6 to 9 in light of the fact that the new footpath would allow better access for elderly and disabled people to access the village hall and library. There was some discussion about whether a grasscrete path would be better suited to the environment, but the panel voted to support the officers' recommendation for a bonded resin path.

The officer increased the recommendation for the Funding the Project score from 11 to 14 in light of extra information provided by the applicant about other financial commitments.

The final scores as agreed were:

Ref.	Organisation	Project Description	New facilities/ activities	Community benefit	Funding the project	Total (out of 42)
SCap18-19/56	Warborough Parish Council	Play area relocation and improvement and new outdoor gym	12	14	14	40
SCap18-19/105	Goring Village Hall	Improvements to the hall stage area (lighting, sounds, curtains etc)	10	11	13	34
SCap18-18/77	Woodcote Village Hall	Lighting/electrical improvements and projector for the main hall	9	11	14	34
SCap18-19/92	Little Milton Village Shop Ltd.	Flooring improvements and a patio area	10	12	11	33
SCap18-19/85	Woodcote Parish Council	Pathway running from zebra crossing to school behind the village hall	9	9	14	32
SCap18-	South Moreton	Renovations to the	11	9	11	31

19/91	Community Benefit Society Ltd.	community owned pub to bring it back into use				
SCap18-19/78	Sonning Common Parish Council	Village hall flat roof replacement and insulation	6	11	11	28

## 8 Award recommendations

**RESOLVED:** to recommend that Cabinet makes the following capital grant award decisions:

1. To award Warborough Parish Council 25.00% of the total cost, capped to £25,000 towards a play area relocation and improvement and a new outdoor gym, as set out in its application, subject to the conditions set out in the report.
2. To award Goring Village Hall 33.78% of the total cost, capped to £9,999 towards improvements to the hall stage area (lighting, sounds, curtains etc), as set out in its application, subject to the conditions set out in the report.
3. To award Little Milton Village Shop Ltd. 50.00% of the total cost, capped to £2,820 towards flooring improvements and a patio area, as set out in its application, subject to the conditions set out in the report.
4. To award Woodcote Village Hall 49.61% of the total cost, capped to £6,200 towards lighting/electrical improvements and a projector for the main hall, as set out in its application, subject to the conditions set out in the report.
5. To award South Moreton Community Benefit Society Ltd. 50.00% of the total cost, capped to £50,315 towards renovations to the community owned pub to bring it back into use, as set out in its application, subject to the conditions set out in the report.
6. To award Sonning Common Parish Council 37.50% of the total cost, capped to £13,444 towards village hall flat roof replacement and insulation, as set out in its application, subject to the conditions set out in the report.
7. To award Woodcote Parish Council 50.00% of the total cost, capped to £9,812 towards a pathway running from zebra crossing to school behind the village hall, as set out in its application, subject to the conditions set out in the report.

The meeting closed at 11.55am

Chairman

Date