

Communities Capital Grant Officer Evaluation

| Chinnor RFC (in Thame) | | | Ref: 1313 | |
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| Extend the building footprint to allow for two new en-suite changing facilities to be built at ground level. To extend the social area above this extension to increase the revenue options of the club. To extend the kitchen and to improve the entrance area. | | | | |
| Project name | New changing facilities and community area extension | | Amount | Percent |
| Town/parish | Thame | Project cost total | £445,000 | |
| Organisation's cash balance at last year end | £190,000 | Organisation's contribution | £75,000 | 16.85 |
| Organisation's cash in bank at application | £80,000 | Requested from SODC | £100,000 | 22.47 |
| Organisation's legal status | Other | Other approved funding | £230,000 | 51.69 |
| Previous Capital grants | 2010 – disabled lift £10,114 (moving as part of this project) 2001 – clubhouse extension £53,000 | Other unapproved funding | £50,000 | 11.24 |
| Finance <i>Up to 15 points available</i> Percentage requested: 0-20 = 15 points 21-40 = 10 points 41-60 = 5 points | | | Score | 10/15 |
| Finance consultation comments: (completed by the finance department unless otherwise stated) | | | | |
| <p>Does the organisation need a grant in order for the project to go ahead? Yes</p> <p>Does the organisation appear financially stable? Yes</p> <p>Are there any other financial concerns: Balance sheet for April 13 indicated they have insufficient funds to meet their contribution to the project.</p> <p>(Grants officer) The organisation's accounts and bank statements do not appear to match the figures given above. Their March 2014 bank statement showed a balance of £14,569 not £80,000 and their 2013 accounts showed £47,091 in cash balances, not £190,000 as stated above. These financial inconsistencies have been reflected in their viability score.</p> <p>The money the organisation has applied for in grants is more than they need to allow for unsuccessful or partially successful bids. If all the other bids are successful we would adjust our grant accordingly.</p> | | | | |
| Community benefit <i>Up to 20 points available</i> | | | | |
| C1 | Give details of the local groups/clubs/individuals that will benefit from your project | | | |
| | The club is used by our local school, Lea Park residents association, U3A, citizens advice, child minders and pre school groups and many more. We have more demand from community groups. The changing facilities are required by the growth of our youth groups and female rugby as well as non rugby activities in the summer months. We have many business users that use it for meetings. | | | |
| C2 | Does your project include any particularly sustainable benefits or energy saving measures? | | | |
| | The building fabric of the clubhouse extensions will be well insulated (in excess of the requirements of building regulations). In addition, the light fittings will all be specified to be low energy and have high frequency controls on fluorescent lamps. Building services will be extended to capitalise on the relatively recent installation of efficient gas boilers (for heating and hot water). Building materials have been specified to include high recycled content wherever possible. | | | |

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| Community benefit: None / minimal / good / extensive / extensive and wide reaching | | Score | 20/20 |
| Comments/concerns: None | | | |
| Broadening the range <i>Up to 20 points available</i> | | | |
| D1 | What extra facility will be provided for the community that does not already exist? | | |
| | We need new facilities to cope with our age range below 16 this is growing at 3% a year. We will have a new changing facility that will allow female and other non rugby participation especially in the summer months. We will have a new social and business space that will be partitioned to allow greater use of the area for smaller and larger groups. The space will have wifi and broadband we will offer this to small business users. | | |
| D2 | What new activities will take place as a result of this project? | | |
| | We have seen a growth in female players and young players and we intend to develop these groups. Female rugby will be easier to organise and we intend to offer this at a senior level. We will be able to have space for a further 100 young people per week. We can start summer touch rugby and multi sport activities. We will have a social area that can offer business meetings and motivational days. The area will be larger allowing us to increase bookings and to offer more choice for our members. | | |
| Additional range: none / minimal / good / extensive / extensive and wide reaching | | Score | 20/20 |
| Comments/concerns: None | | | |
| Meeting a local need <i>Up to 20 points available</i> | | | |
| E1 | How do you know that the community need this project? | | |
| | Thame district population is set to grow by up to 10% in the next 7 years. We are currently oversubscribed in our junior section. The core planning document for Thame detailed new rugby pitches to meet demand. The local school is set to amalgamate on one site that will involve losing a playing field. We have a community that require local meeting and networking facilities. We have taken the views of our members, residents and the business community. | | |
| E2 | Does anything similar already exist in your area? | | |
| | There is no other community space with our type of facilities within the area. It is unique in being on one site, self contained with full facilities, ample parking and 10 acres of grass pitches near the town centre. It is capable of hosting a marquee wedding or a meeting for 20 people. It is also owned by its members and is a cost effective venue for the community. It is also used by our local school and is a local business hub. | | |
| Meeting a local need: none / minimal / good / extensive / extensive and in local plans | | Score | 20/20 |
| Comments/concerns: None | | | |
| Community participation (consultation) <i>Up to 20 points available</i> | | | |
| F1 | How did you consult with the local community? | | |
| | We have consulted our members via monthly meetings. We presented to local residents. We have a town councillor as our liaison and work closely with the town council. We presented this plan to their full council. We have excellent links with our local school, Lord Williams and consulted with them. We have a community officer working with the local community in organising fun days, school holiday camps, as well as listening to their needs. We have over 20 local business partners that we consult with. | | |
| F2 | If you have not involved the community please give the reasons why you have not involved them. | | |
| | N/A | | |
| Meeting a local need: none / minimal / good / extensive / extensive and in local plans | | Score | 15/20 |
| Comments/concerns: None | | | |
| Project viability <i>Up to 60 points available</i> | | | |
| H1 | How is your project reasonable and appropriate for the area? | | |
| | It is driven by the growth of our population who require more sports and social facilities being available in Thame. Is backed by the local community and is financially viable. We are recognised by the RFU and Sport England as a landmark club. We are on a site that has been used by us for 25 years and have good relations with our neighbours, the schools, the council and the business communities. | | |
| H2 | How does your project deliver best value for money? | | |

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| | We have tendered for the project. We will continue to seek savings from all aspects of the build. We will supply labour for decoration of the facility and other semi skilled tasks. We will install our own project manager, a club member, reporting to our committee to monitor costs and time taken. We believe that this represents good value for all and leads to ownership of the project from our members. | |
| H3 | Is your project likely to secure full funding and progress within 12 months? | |
| | We have secured commitments to deliver this project and we intend to start September 2014 should we be successful in this application. | |
| H4 | How will your organisation be able to manage the project now and in the future? | |
| | We have a record of managing projects over the last few years through our committee structure. We have produced a business plan for the next three years, attached. We have an executive committee that runs the strategy of the club. We then have a management board responsible for delivering the plans. We have over 80 volunteers that help with labour and skills on a regular basis. We have a full time clubhouse manager and an events co-ordinator to attract revenue. | |
| Viability: Not viable/ partially viable with funding concerns/ fully viable with funding concerns / fully viable and likely to secure funding | | |
| Comments/concerns: The bank balance and year end figures entered by the organisation do not match the accounts and banks statements provided and they cannot currently afford their contribution to the project. | | Score 40/60 |
| | | Total 125/155 |
| Internal consultation comments | | |
| <p>Grant officer general: I have no concerns apart from the inconsistencies around the organisation's bank balance and year end cash balance. We will ensure that they have their funding in place including their own contribution before we will release any grant payments.</p> <p>Recommended additional conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The organisation will place a legal charge on the registered title of the property for a period of ten years to the value of the grant (see legal comments) before any payments will be made. 2. That the alterations to the WCs incorporate an ambulant disabled toilet in both the male and female toilets (following equalities consultation). | | |
| <p>Consultation comments:</p> <p>Legal: RBS bank has an existing restriction on the title so the organisation will need their written permission to place a charge on the registered title.</p> <p>Equalities: I would recommend alterations to the WCs incorporate an ambulant disabled toilet in both the male and female toilets.</p> <p>The viewing terrace should be accessible to all and the railings/barrier should not prevent wheelchair users seeing the pitches.</p> <p>Sustainability: Good range of energy saving measures. No mention of water saving measures.</p> <p>Sports development: The leisure team fully support the extension of Chinnor Rugby Club for new changing facilities, social area and kitchen.</p> | | |

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