

Loppington Parish Council

Community Benefit Fund

Applicant: Loppington Village Hall Committee

Committee Date: 8th August 2023

In accordance with s139 Local Government Act 1972 Loppington Parish Council (the Council) is in receipt of funding to be applied to Community Projects for the benefit of the communities of the Parish and which has been approved by a meeting of the Parish Councillors prior to the allocation of any payment (the Approved Projects).

Recommendation

That the Council consider the application received, and in accordance with the Council's Grants Policy, Financial Regulations and Standing Orders award funding to the Applicant and the Project(s) provided that members consider it to be a commensurate benefit to the residents of the Parish

1. Small Grants – up to £250

In accordance with the Council's Grants Policy the Council may allocate Community Benefit Fund annually to small projects or single community events.

Intermediary Grants – up to £1,000

In accordance with the Council's Grants Policy the Council may allocate Community Benefit Fund annually to clearly defined or ongoing Community Projects

Major Grants (over £1,000)

In accordance with the Council's Grants Policy the Council may award grants to charities, clubs or societies to help with the cost of clearly defined or ongoing Community Projects.

2. To allow the Parish Council to consider this request:

a) In accordance with the Parish Council's Financial Regulations and Grant Policy, the application to be supported by 3 quotes/estimates and a copy of the Village Hall's most recent audited accounts and full details of the project including any match funding.

b) Provide bank account details to which any award can lawfully be made.

4. Application

Following discussions between the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council, the Council requested a new application based on a phased approach to the project work to improve the carbon footprint of the Village Hall. To date additional information has come forward:

Phase 1 will address the insulation of the roof. *"This work will entail the lifting of the roof tiles to expose and remove the existing F1 sarking felt which is rigid and offers waterproofing to the roof but is not breathable and is non-insulating, therefore can lead to the creation of condensation. To remedy this it is*

proposed to re-batten and re-felt the roof with TLX gold felt, a waterproof, insulating, energy efficient and breathable membrane which will eliminate the potential of condensation and the need to ventilate the roof space, and will improve the thermal value of the roof. This is most desirable bearing in mind the amount of electrical wiring above the dropped ceiling. The existing roof tiles will be re-used as far as possible and any damaged tiles will be replaced on a "like for like" basis."

The Village Hall Committee confirm that they are making enquiries with regard to the requirement for planning consent and building control regulation applications.

The Council will assess the application as a request for Phase 1 funding for roof works only as above.

5. Financial

The Council may approve and make a grant of a fixed sum to the Applicant. The Council would not be responsible for any additional or unexpected costs beyond the fixed sum awarded but, in accordance with Council policy, will reserve the right to monitor the project to ensure that the grant is used in accordance with the application.

The Council currently has £26,424 in the Community Benefit Fund¹ and £1,091 from Neighbourhood Fund². As there are other requests for funding from the Community Benefit Fund the Parish Council will look to evidence of match funding.

The Village Hall Committee confirm that match funding is available from its own resources to £15,000.00 and no other application for funding has been made to any other organization.

The request from the Applicant towards the cost of Phase 1 to be confirmed.

6. Decision Required:

- a) Whether or not the Parish Council supports the Project, and
- b) With reference to the Council's Financial Statement and funding available, establish the amount and timing of financial support, and
- c) Conditions to be applied to any award

Clerk
Loppington Parish Council
3rd August 2023

¹ Payments from the Community Benefit Fund are subject to S139(1)(b) Local Government Act 1972 and the Agreement with Lightsource Renewable Energy Holdings Limited

² Payments from the Neighbourhood Fund are for infrastructure projects & subject to The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) "*to support the development of the area through: the provision, improvement, replacement, operation, or maintenance of infrastructure; or anything else which is concerned with addressing the demands that (general) development places on an area*"

Applicant :	Loppington Village Hall and Recreation Ground	Ref:
Project Title:	Project Green	
Project Cost – Phase 1 Roofing Work:	TBC	
Total Project Cost	Circa £47,200.00	
Project Summary:	<p>Phase 1 Replace/repair and insulate the roof</p> <p>Phase 2 Dry-line external walls including entrance and gents toilet.</p> <p>Phase 3 Renew, upgrade and insulate main hall ceiling. Replace lighting with sealed LED down lights. Replace boiler and radiators (if required).</p> <p>Due to the age of the building it is cold and damp in winter. To provide a community building for the use of everyone in the Parish including surrounding villages and hamlets, which is a welcoming, healthier and safer environment to encourage greater community spirit and involvement and to reduce the carbon footprint.</p>	
Background Papers	<p>Grant Application Form X 3 estimates supplied and previously circulated to members ranging from £27,500 - £76,163 for the total project</p>	
Amount Requested:	TBC	
Legal Authority:	<p>S139 Local Government Act 1972 Acceptance of gifts of property.</p> <p>(1) Subject to the provisions of this section a local authority may accept, hold and administer—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) for the purpose of discharging any of their functions, gifts of property, whether real or personal, made for that purpose; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) for the benefit of the inhabitants of their area or of some part of it, gifts made for that purpose; and may execute any work (including works of maintenance or improvement) incidental to or consequential on the exercise of the powers conferred by this section.</p> <p>(2) Where any such work is executed in connection with a gift made for the benefit of the inhabitants of the area of a local authority or of some part of that area, the cost of executing the work shall be added to any expenditure under section 137 above in computing the limit imposed on that expenditure by subsection (4) of that section.</p> <p>(3) This section shall not authorise the acceptance by a local authority of property which, when accepted, would be held in trust for an ecclesiastical charity or for a charity for the relief of poverty.</p> <p>(4) Nothing in this section shall affect any powers exercisable by a local authority under or by virtue of [F1the Education Act 1996].</p>	