

## Notice of Meeting

# Cabinet Member for Community Services Decisions

**Date & time**

Friday, 27 March  
2015 at 10.00 am

**Place**

Room 109, County  
Hall, Kingston upon  
Thames. KT1 2DN

**Contact**

Anne Gowing  
Room 122, County Hall  
Tel: 020 8541 9938

**Chief Executive**

David McNulty

[anne.gowing@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:anne.gowing@surreycc.gov.uk)

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**This meeting will be held in public. If you would like to attend and you have any special requirements, please contact Anne Gowing on .**

**Cabinet Member for Community Services Decisions**  
Mrs Helyn Clack

## **AGENDA**

### **1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests from Members in respect of any item to be considered at the meeting.

### **2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

#### **2a Members' Questions**

The deadline for Members' questions is 12pm four working days before the meeting (23 March 2015).

#### **2b Public Questions**

The deadline for public questions is seven days before the meeting (20 March 2015).

#### **2c Petitions**

The deadline for petitions was 14 days before the meeting, and no petitions have been received.

### **3 COMMUNITY BUILDINGS GRANT SCHEME**

(Pages 1  
- 30)

To make decisions to approve or reject applications to the Community Building Grants Scheme (CBGS) for the year 2015.

**David McNulty**  
**Chief Executive**  
Published: 19 March 2015

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**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**DATE: 27 MARCH 2015**

**LEAD OFFICER: RACHEL CROSSLEY, NEW MODELS OF DELIVERY LEAD**

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY BUILDINGS GRANT SCHEME**



**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

To make decisions to approve or reject applications to the Community Building Grants Scheme (CBGS) for the year 2015.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member:

1. reviews all of the applications highlighting the ones that have been approved and will be awarded the grant.
2. highlights any unsuccessful applications with clear reasons why they have not been successful.
3. gives direction to the Community Building Advisor on the next steps where a clear decision has not been reached.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Each year the Council commits £150,000 to the Community Building Grant Scheme. This is a tripartite grant scheme and grants are awarded for refurbishment and renovation of community buildings to widen access for community use. Any grant the County Council awards requires match funding from the Borough or District Council in which the community building resides and from the applicant organisation themselves. The scheme is administered and managed on behalf of the County Council and Borough and District Councils by Surrey Community Action.

Each year the scheme generates in excess of £500,000 of capital funding to renovate community buildings which sit at the heart of vibrant and active communities. By providing this funding there are huge benefits for the residents of Surrey in terms of community cohesion, addressing social isolation and improving the health and wellbeing of the communities.

**DETAILS:**

**Community Buildings Grant Scheme**

1. The Community Building Grants Scheme has been supported by the County Council since 1998 and offers capital grants to village halls, community centres and voluntary youth buildings. Grants can be for any general refurbishment that will improve usage and accessibility to the building such as:
  - New buildings/extensions
  - Disability access and facilities

- Major structural work to amenities or refurbishment
  - Car parking maintenance, fencing etc
2. Community buildings sit at the heart of successful communities. By investing in them the County Council drives significant benefits for the residents of Surrey. A wide range of activities are hosted through community buildings, such as training, childcare, social programmes for older people, supporting and reaching the most vulnerable in our communities. This links in to key strategic priority areas for the Council to drive wellbeing, economic prosperity and ensure the outcomes for Surrey residents are improved.
  3. The County Council has committed £150,000 annually to the scheme. The scheme is a partnership between the County Council, the Borough and District Councils and applicant organisations. Any grant the County Council awards requires match funding from the Borough or District council in which the community building resides. Currently all of the Borough and District Councils apart from Epsom & Ewell and Waverley Borough Council are part of the Scheme.
  4. Community groups apply for assistance but must contribute at least a third of total project costs themselves. The organisation of the whole scheme is contracted by the County Council and Borough and District Councils to Surrey Community Action who deal with the application process, assess the schemes through site visits and back ground work and make recommendations to the councils.
  5. It is an essential requirement of the scheme that the community halls are actively managed and marketed for the use by the wider community. The Community Buildings Advisor assesses current use and anticipated increase of use once the refurbishment has been carried out and scores against the criteria.

### **Community Buildings Grant Scheme (SCBGS) 2015-16**

6. The application round for the 2015-16 scheme opened in August 2014 and closed in November 2014. Annex A has a breakdown of all the applications. There are twelve applications for consideration this year which come from seven of the Borough and District areas. After the applications were submitted, the Community Buildings Advisor liaised with the Borough and District Councils to carry out site visits, understand any localised issues and carry out the due diligence related to the application qualifying process, eg: is the building available for wider community use, checking their accounts and systems etc.
7. The SCBGS is broadly promoted through press releases via newspapers, radio stations and on-line bulletins across the whole county. In addition to this all community buildings and religious buildings on the SCBGS and Diocese of Guildford and Southwark database were sent letters informing them of the funding round and opportunity. Adverts were also placed through national sites such as NCVO and Grantfinder.
8. In total there were 236 enquiries with 115 requiring further work and in depth support as shown below.

Elmbridge	17
Epsom & Ewell	5 (BUT NOT PART OF SCHEME)
Guildford	12
Mole Valley	27
Reigate & Banstead	9
Runnymede	7

Spelthorne	6
Surrey Heath	6
Tandridge	6
Waverley	17 (BUT NOT PART OF SCHEME)
Woking	3
TOTAL:	115

#### **CONSULTATION:**

9. Prior to the Cabinet Member's decision making meeting, local Divisional Members have been consulted by both the applicant organisation and the Community Buildings Advisor (Annex A). Their support for the application is critical in enabling the Cabinet Member to make an informed decision, based on local knowledge.
10. Officers from the relevant Borough and District Councils have also been extensively engaged in the application process prior to this Decision Making meeting to check the viability of the proposal and to gain the Borough or District support, where this is possible. This again enables the Cabinet Member to have some confidence in both the credibility and suitability of the application. However, not all of the Borough and District Council's will have given their final approvals by the time of this Cabinet Member Decision Making meeting so some decisions may need to be subject to that decision.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:**

11. There is a risk that the funds may not be used in the ways that have been specified or that the management board of the community building disbands before the project has been completed. To counter this, payment is only made once the work has been completed and inspected by the both the Borough/District Council officer and the Community Buildings Advisor. Also, during the application process scrutiny is given to ensure there are robust governance arrangements and policies and procedures in place that depict a well managed community building, such as audited accounts, secondary contacts etc.

#### **Financial and Value for Money Implications**

12. The CBGS provides excellent value for money. The £150,000 the County Council puts into the scheme is match funded by the relevant Borough and District Councils to provide total grant funding of £300,000. Along with the applicant organisations' funding this generates a much greater amount annually for investment in to community buildings in Surrey. On average, the scheme generates an annual investment in excess of £500,000.
13. For the 2015/16 Scheme there is a total of £156,447.04 available to give out as grants. This is made up of the £150,000 annual allocation plus £6,447.04 of underspend from the previous year. The potential project total exceeds this amount and the Cabinet Member will need to make decisions on the £156,447.04 available.
14. Annex A shows a summary breakdown of the applications. The anticipated wider capital funding generated to Surrey will be in excess of £2.6 million.

### **Section 151 Officer Commentary**

15. There is an approved annual capital budget of £150,000 within the 2015/20 Medium Term Financial Plan. The funding is transferred annually to Surrey Community Action. The Cabinet member's decisions will lead to allocation of grants within that budget.
16. The Section 151 Officer (Director of Finance) confirms that all material, financial and business issues and risks have been considered/addressed.

### **Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer**

17. The general power of competence in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 enables the Council to make these grants as it empowers local authorities to do anything an individual may generally do. Given the Council's fiduciary duty, it is noted that processes are in place to ensure the appropriate governance of the projects and to ensure that the grants are only made once the work is properly completed.

### **Equalities and Diversity**

18. Investment in the community buildings has a positive impact across all protected groups encouraging them to participate in community life where possible and often reach the most vulnerable in our society. Grants are only successful for those organisations that demonstrate they serve the wider community and exclude no group or individual.

### **Other Implications:**

19. As discussed in paragraph 6 above, by investing in community buildings there is a strong understanding the general well being of the residents of Surrey is enhanced. The whole scheme is based on the premise that a thriving community building sits at the heart of a vibrant, successful community, offering valuable support and opportunities often to the most vulnerable in society, enhancing their health and wellbeing.

### **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

- The Community Buildings Advisor will notify successful applicants of the award where the final approval has been made at the county and local level.
- The Community Buildings Advisor will notify unsuccessful applicants where appropriate.
- The Community Buildings Advisor will follow through necessary steps as directed by the Cabinet Member where a decision is reliant on further actions being completed.
- The Community Buildings Advisor will write to all Division Members to inform them of the outcome of the Cabinet Member Decision meeting.

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**Contact Officer:** Saba Hussain, Policy and Strategic Partnerships Manager – 0208 541 9876

**Consulted:** Relevant Division Members

**Annex** Annex A – details of the applications to 2015-16 CBGS

**Sources/background papers:** N/A



## **Surrey Community Buildings Grant Scheme**

### **Reports for the Year 2015 to 2016**

	LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA	Surrey Community Buildings –Tri-Partite	Application Amount	Awarded by LA	APPROVED BY SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL	COMMENTS
1	REIGATE AND BANSTEAD	St Peter's Church Hall	£37,828.90	£10,000		
2	WOKING BOROUGH COUNCIL	St Mary's PCC Community Hall	£40,000	£40,000		
3	GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL	Guildford Archery Club	£10,000	£10,000		
4	SURREY HEATH BOROUGH COUNCIL	Frimhurst Family Centre	£25,000	*WITHDRAWN	WITHDRAWN	
5	TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL	Warlingham Village Hall	£7,500	£5,000		
6	TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL	Lingfield and Dormansland Scouts	£4,000	£5,000		
7	ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL	Long Ditton Village Hall Trust	£15,000	£15,000		
8	ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL	Cobham Village Hall	£13,470	£13,470		
9	ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL	Hinchley Wood Community Hub/ St Christopher's Church and Church Hall	£36,750	£36,750		
10	MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL	Nower Wood	£25,000	WITHDRAWN	WITHDRAWN	
11	MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL	Beare Green Community Association	£4,613	£4,613		
12	MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL	St Giles Church Hall Ashtead	£40,000	£20,000		
13	MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL	Oakwood Hill Village Hall	£6,666	£6,666		
14	MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL	Walliswood Village Hall Association	£17,169	£17,169		
		<b>TOTAL POTENTIAL PROJECTS FOR THIS YEAR</b>		<b>£183,668</b>		
		UNDERSPEND FROM PREVIOUS YEARS		£6447.04		
		THIS YEARS POTENTIAL BUDGET		£150,000		
		<b>POTENTIAL SHORTFALL</b>		<b>£27,220.96</b>		

\* **WITHDRAWN:** means that the applicant decided not to continue with the project or it was deemed unsuccessful as it was underdeveloped or not ready to meet the requirements. They may reapply in subsequent years.

**LA; - REIGATE AND BANSTEAD****APPLICANT: St PETER'S CHURCH HALL**

**PROJECT:** To replace and upgrade entrance lobby, provide double glazing windows x4. Refurbish and replace Gents, Ladies, Disabled, Baby changing toilet facilities.

**GRANT REQUESTED:** x2 £23,802.90 (one from SCC and one from LA)

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** £71,408.70

**REPORT:** St Peter's is the Parish Church for the village of Woodmansterne that lies in North Surrey between Banstead and Coulsdon. Woodmansterne village has a good number of families, two primary schools and centres of leisure and entertainment (e.g. sports club, village hall, scout hall, pubs) local shops and a keen village identity even though it lies on the outskirts of urban Croydon.

The Parish of Woodmansterne however extends beyond the obvious village centre and areas around the church building. The church family of St Peter's have a real heart to reach out to the entire parish, captured in the mission statement to "discover, celebrate and share". Seasonal attendance at services is notable (e.g. Remembrance Sunday, Christmas) and many in the parish see St Peter's as "their church and hall" even though not regular church goers.

St Peter's Church, was originally founded in the 9th century and the hall was built during the Second World War. The Hall is a well-used facility with current usage standing at 58%. The management committee are hoping that the replacements and upgrade will increase the usage of the building by 10% and provide a significantly improved and more attractive facility for the wider community of Woodmansterne and Banstead and the wider area. This project is part of a group of phased projects to upgrade the hall. The roof has recently been done at a cost of £60,000 and they used the reserves to fund this. There is a further 4 phases to the upgrade and they include:-

Phase 1;- Office, meeting rooms and storage

Phase 2;- Entrance lobby and toilets

Phase 3;- Welcome and break out space

Phase 4;- Kitchen refurbishment

All at a total cost of £113,648.70.

The hall is currently used by a variety of groups from church groups to toddler groups, elder groups, the uniformed groups, as well as occasional events such as the film club, harvest festival and quizzes.

However the hall would like to develop the hall to include the Citizens Advice Bureau doing debt advice sessions, Age Concern Banstead having outreach sessions, Foodbank having an outreach centre, Police Community Support being able to run surgeries from the facility, Health and Wellbeing projects. All of the developments are dependent on better facilities in the church hall.

The work proposed is completely separate from the church building and will not be subject to Diocesan faculty procedure approval but requires their support and the Parochial Church Council will provide management support for the building project. It has also been confirmed under ecclesiastical law that a Parochial Church Council cannot legally own property and thus would be unable to take out a mortgage for the proposed work. The property is vested in the South London Church Fund which is part of the structure of the Diocese of Southwark.

They have recently used all of their reserves to replace the roof and have started to fundraise for the £23,802.90. They have been offered £10,000 for 2 years matched funding by one of the parishioners. A potential of £20,000. However what needs to be established by the management committee with the parishioner is whether they would see the grant from Reigate and Banstead Council as fund raising or

matched funding or whether they would have a more traditional approach of raffles, quizzes, dances. The Hall will need to do more fundraising and they have received extensive advice on how to do this.

On the scoring under the current SCBGS criteria the application scored 8/10.  
Reigate and Banstead has approved £10,000 towards the project.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT X2 £10,000 one from LA and one from SCC**

Letter of support received from the County Councillor.

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR:** KEN GULATI

**DIVISION:** BANSTEAD, WOODMANSTERNE AND CHIPSTEAD

**WROTE:** I have been asked by Doug McHardie to write to you to confirm my support for the Church Hall renovations. I have visited the hall and the project has been explained to me. I certainly see it as a necessary project and deserving of support and funding.

**LA: WOKING BOROUGH COUNCIL****APPLICANT: PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ST MARY'S CHURCH COMMUNITY HALL****PROJECT:**

1. Extension and refitting of the kitchen
2. A large storage area for the church and users
3. New central heating boiler
4. Replacement double glazing in main hall

**GRANT REQUESTED:** X2 £40,000 (one from SCC and one from LA)

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** £156,000

**REPORT:**

St Mary's Church hall was founded in 1956. It consists of two buildings, the main church and the church hall. The Church hall consist of a main hall with a stage, a main lobby, with a disabled toilet and a storage room and a committee room/hall. Both halls need upgrading to maintain the community usage as it is the only facility in this area of Byfleet. The current usage is estimated at 38% for the committee room and 81% for the main hall. The halls are very well used by a variety of groups, organisations and age groups. There is a particular emphasis on young people with toddlers and pre-school groups and 9-15 and 15-18 year olds youth groups using the church hall. The hall is available for community use at all times except Sundays when it is reserved for religious activities. However once the facilities are improved in the main church the plan is to expand the inclusion and accessibility to other age ranges and groups who need the facilities. The cost of heating the main church hall has been an issue and with the new boiler this means that the cost should come down. They also wish to install solar panels. The kitchen is in poor state of repair and is unfit to cater from.

The Church hall wishes to take part in local Foodbank, education and other Health and Well-being projects and would like to expand on these facilities, once the building is fit for purpose.

In **2010** they say they were awarded x2 x £5,000 from the SCBGS however there is no record of this.

The work proposed may be subject to Diocesan faculty procedure approval (this will need confirming) but definitely requires Diocesan support and the Parochial Church Council will need to provide management support for the building project as per the rules. It has also been confirmed under ecclesiastical law that a Parochial Church Council cannot legally own property and thus would be unable to take out a mortgage for the proposed work. The property is vested in the Diocese of Guildford.

The management committee have raised some of the funding needed will need to do more fundraising and they have received extensive advice on how to do this. However they are extremely dedicated and determined.

On the scoring under the current SCBGS criteria the application scored 7/10.

Woking has approved £40,000 towards the project.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT X2 £40,000 one from LA and one from SCC**

Letter of support received from the County Councillor.

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR:** Richard Wilson

**DIVISION:** The Byfleets

**WROTE:** There is a considerable tide of enthusiasm, goodwill and need in the Byfleet community to see the St Mary's Community Hall project come about and as the ward councillor for West Byfleet in Woking was only too happy to support our part of the tripartite agreement. In addition it is great news to see the Byfleet United Charity supporting this project and from my member's allocation for 2014/15 have supported further funding for replacing the windows. This latter funding stream will be determined later this week.

So could you kindly update me on the status of the bid for £40,000 from Surrey Community Action as part of the tripartite arrangement?

Should you need any further input from myself as Division Member, don't hesitate to ask.

**LA: SURREY HEATH BOROUGH COUNCIL****APPLICANT: FRIMHURST FAMILY HOUSE - WITHDRAWN**

**PROJECT:** To replace current timber building with new multiple purpose building which is modern and on the location at Frimhurst site.

**GRANT REQUEST:** x2 £25,000 (one from SCC and one from LA)

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** £150,000

**REPORT:**

Frimhurst is based in Surrey Heath Borough, but the centre is open for group activities with the possibilities for overnight accommodation for hire to local associations, community groups, religious organisations and small charities and as a resource to schools, youth groups, adult education groups and families across the county and wider South East region. It is traditionally used for the wider community and serves disadvantaged families, young families, and disadvantaged adults, young adults not in work, training or education.

The current timber building is in a state of disrepair and the plan is to provide a new building. At present the management team are developing a business plan, marketing plan and a fundraising plan. They also need to look at the accessibility and inclusivity of the site, starting with the car parks and how people would access the building.

The community usage currently stands at 0% and following the build they are hoping this will increase dramatically. Accessibility and Inclusivity for the wider community need to be made clear as the multiple approach to the use of the building is not established through the business planning process and for an investment of £50,000 of SCC and SHBC the return needs to be established. However the plans are at an early stage and are not fully developed. They need to develop the project further and apply for planning permission, get proper costings and look at the sustainability of the project not just from the environmental point of view but from the financial perspective. They have been told to take this approach and look at the fundraising as they have £50,000 to raise. However they have raised £100,000 so far from a corporate donation from Johnson Wax.

On the scoring under the current SCBGS criteria the score is 3.5/10.

**RECOMMENDATION:** APPLICANT COULD REAPPLY IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS WHEN THE PROJECT MEETS THE WIDER CRITERIA. The project has potential but needs fully working up with a business, marketing, fundraising a sustainability plan and these were not quite in place during the assessment process. However two thirds of the funding was available from a corporate donor which made the project viable.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR: DENIS FULLER

DIVISION: CAMBERLEY WEST

NO LETTER RECEIVED AS APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

**LA: GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL****APPLICANT:** Guildford Archery Club**PROJECT:** Extending existing clubhouse by adding a permanent protective canopy.**GRANT REQUESTED:** X2 £10,000 (one from SCC and one from LA)**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** £30,772**REPORT:**

Guildford Archery Club was originally built in 2009 but the club has definitely been in existence since 1954. It is not a registered charity but a company limited by guarantee with no share capital for the sole purposes of the activities of a sports club. The club is used by regularly by 220 registered members. The club also facilitates community events, tournaments and try to increase usage by the general public each year through its successful outreach programmes. The club is trying to facilitate disabled access and the canopy is part of the project as well as a provision of a disability access footpath (there is a separate bid to BIFFA for £50,000) The canopy will be used, to increase capacity for beginners, shelter from the elements, meeting space and training, access for wheelchairs users, social activity and interaction.

The freehold of the land is owned by Guildford Borough Council leased to Normandy Parish Council on a 125 year lease. The club have some reserves but they have been successful in raising their third of funding from the Big Lottery.

The project was granted planning permission on the 24/02/2015 reference number: 14//P/02378

On the current criteria for the SCBGS the application scored 6.5 /10.

Guildford Borough Council has approved £10,000 towards the project.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT X2 £10,000 one from LA and one from SCC****COUNCILLOR:** Keith Witham**DIVISION:** Worplesdon

**WROTE:** I am pleased to endorse the new clubhouse extension and access path project being planned by Guildford Archery Club, having been made aware of the scope of the proposed project by the Chairman – Mr Stephen Tully.

GAC are a community archery club based at Manor Fruit Farm in Normandy, in my County Council division. The Club is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year and since it moved to Normandy in 2002, the club has grown from strength to strength. The club now has over 220 members taken from all sections of the community and has doubled in size over the last 6 years. The club has worked hard in recent years to promote its junior archers and it has a strong contingent of Ladies and disabled members.

During 2013, I helped the club to acquire a new PA system through a Members allocation grant of £733.00. GAC part of the Manor Fruit Farm community project which has recently been listed under the Fields in Trust initiative. The Club has recently been named 'ArcheryUK Club of the Year' and won the Sports Guildford Award for 'Best Community Club'.

The plans to create a permanent covered area and access footpath (especially for disabled participants), is a project worthy of support and accords with the clubs on-going plans to grow and encourage greater community involvement. The club is run by a well organised, enthusiastic committee of volunteers. Assistance from the SCBGS will help the group achieve their ambitions and should be encouraged. I hope that their application is one that Surrey Community Action will be able to support.

**LA: TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL****Applicant: WARLINGHAM VILLAGE HALL**

**PROJECT:** Refurbishment of a 20 year old kitchen including new units, worktops, two sinks and taps, water heaters, new electrical installations, tiling, flooring, skirting and adjustment of gas supplies.

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** £22,500

**GRANT REQUESTED:** £7,500 x2 (one from SCC and one from LA)

**REPORT:** Warlingham Village Hall was original built in 1915 and has been in various guises since then. The community hall currently provides facilities for various local groups and activities on a weekly basis e.g. a luncheon club, the Women's Institute, an over 60's group, a flower arranging class, dance and drama clubs, judo, bingo, a market and a horticultural society. It is also used occasionally for parish council meetings and children's parties and other events.

It is calculated that the current usage is 86% reducing to 52% during the school holidays when certain users drop from the calendar. The state of the kitchen is a limiting factor in enabling the hall to promote its services further and even current users are beginning to complain. A recent environmental health inspection was unable to give the hall a 5 rating due to remedial works that needed to be complied with such as a hood over the oven, extractor fans, new work surfaces, new flooring.

They received funding from SCBGS 2004-2005 for £4,500.

The freehold of the building is owned by the village hall.

The accounts show that the hall do have reserves that could be deployed to contribute to provide the match funding.

They were given advice on fundraising but were confident that they had enough funds to cover the costs.

On the scoring under the current criteria for the SCBGS the application scored 6.5 /10.

Tandridge District Council has approved has opened £5,000 towards the project with a recommendation that the funding is sought from the Parish Council Building Fund for the extra funds needed. The grant is for less than applied.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT x2 £5,000 one from LA and one from SCC**

Subject to the following conditions;-

- 1) That evidence of the balance of the funding (£12,500) is provided in writing prior to any payment of the grant.

County Councillor: MICHAEL SYDNEY

Division:

Wrote: Not received 16/03/2015



LA: TANDRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL**APPLICANT: 1<sup>st</sup> LINGFIELD AND DORMANSLAND SCOUT GROUP****PROJECT:**

- To build a hut extension so that more groups can be hosted
- Disabled access and a disabled toilet to make groups more inclusive
- Additional storage so the camping equipment is more accessible as currently this is stored in loft hatch with no ladder and is dangerous to access and is a health and safety hazard.

**GRANT REQUESTED:** x2 £5,000 (one from SCC and one from LA)

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** £47,500

**REPORT:**

The Scout group has been running since 1908 and has a vibrant and enthusiastic team of volunteers who are dedicated to giving up their time to young people. The young people benefit greatly from their experiences within the scouting movement. The issue of on-going waiting lists for many years and the demand is over and above the size of what the current scout hut can provide. The new extension will hopefully eradicate the waiting list situation. The hall is currently is used on;-

Tuesday; cubs

Wednesday: Beavers Girl Cubs and Scouts: Explorers

Fridays: Boy Scouts

And this will hopefully be increased with the extension.

The hall is also rented out for parties but these are sporadic bookings that are affected by the lack of disabled access and toilet facilities.

The freehold of the building is owned by Tandridge District council and they will need to be issued with a new 25 year lease from Jan 2015. The land is not identified for redevelopment.

They have reserves in the accounts but have also been fundraising. A total of £9,292 has been raised to date, including £1,500 from Gatwick airport community trust, £1,000 from Lingfield Parish Council and £1,000 from the Surrey Community Fund. They have also been given extensive advice on how to fundraise and were developing a strategy on a way forward.

On the scoring under the current criteria for the SCBGS the application scored 6/10.

Tandridge District council has approved £5,000 towards the project. The 1<sup>st</sup> Lingfield and Dormansland Scout Group requested uplift in funding on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015 just before the LA approvals process commenced on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015 and this was accepted by Tandridge District Council.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT x2 £5,000 one from LA and one from SCC**

Subject to the following conditions;-

- 1) That evidence of the balance of the funding (£37,500) is provided in writing prior to any payment of the grant.
- 2) That a new 25 year lease for the building is in place before the grant is offered.

County Councillor: MICHAEL SYDNEY

Division: LINGFIELD DIVISION

Wrote: the success of the Lingfields Scout's has been a matter of pride for the local community. But their success has put a strain on their hut in terms of accommodating their activities.

## ANNEX A

3

I have been impressed by the case they have made for building an extension, which has the support of the community and which is clearly important for the continued success of this first class asset.

I am very happy to support this application for funding and have myself agreed to contribute some of my County Council member's allowance toward this appeal.

**LA;- ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL****APPLICANT: LONG DITTON VILLAGE HALL**

**PROJECT:** Construction of an additional smaller hall and proposed extension with a capacity for 50, to provide a meeting room of a different size from existing provision for users thus helping to cater for unmet need.

**GRANT REQUESTED:** x2 £15,000 (one from SCC and one from LA)

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** £100,000.00

**REPORT:** The village hall and grounds are owned by Long Ditton Village Hall Trust. They are managed by a committee, which is a registered charity, formed in 1888. Day to day running of the hall is in the hands of a committee, currently comprising 9 people. The hall raises money in several ways via regular renters, one-off hirings and fund raising events. The hall is currently used by a variety of groups from;- Denise Winmill School of Dance, Badminton, Iso Barre, Yoga, Pilates, Spanish & Sport, Cake Decorating, Embroidery, Table Tennis, and Long Ditton Garden Club.

The current overall community usage stands at 50% which increases to 100% for the main hall.

The main hall is used for a variety of activities. It has a full-size badminton court and a raised stage area which has recently been fitted with new curtains, sound system and lighting rig. There is also a kitchen. The upper hall measures 43ft (13m) x 24ft (7.2m) and is a lovely space. There is a small kitchenette at the rear of the hall, equipped with a sink, gas hob/oven, microwave oven, kettle, crockery and cutlery. However the upper floor is only accessible by a steep stair case which is not accessible or inclusive. There is also a small annexe that is currently leased to the Ditton Football and Social Club since 1972.

The whole building could do with an accessibility audit as the disabled car parking spaces are quite a walk from the disabled door, the first floor is not accessible at all. The trustees may wish to consider putting in a lift to the first floor as part of the project and building works and increase the usage of the first floor meeting room.

The proposed extension will have a separate entrance and will not be linked to the existing hall, this is a shame as it is a way of providing proper disabled access. The trustees have been advised to seek advice from Surrey Police about Crime prevention design advisor as at present they have problems with youths causing issues and specific problems.

The trust have the £70,000 in the bank and will provide evidence of the funding. However they may need to do further fundraising if they decide to go for the lift option, are liable for VAT (been referred to specialist advisor) or building costs rise. They have received extensive advice on how to do this.

Planning permission has been granted by Elmbridge District Council (no;- 2014/3948) on the 19<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014.

On the scoring under the current SCBGS criteria the application scored 9.5/10.

Elmbridge Borough Council has approved £15,000 towards the project.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT X2 £15,000 one from LA and one from SCC**

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR:** PETER HICKMAN

**DIVISION:** DITTONS

**WROTE:**

You have received an application from the Long Ditton Village hall for a grant towards the building of an extension to the current Village Hall.

The hall is mainly Victorian with an upper floor that is well used but this floor is not accessible to the less mobile and disabled. Also the hall is fully booked on certain days and times. The business case lists a whole host of diverse uses and is evidence of a strong community who are keen on a range of leisure activities. The hall is a vital community asset and Long Ditton needs an expansion of its Village Hall to provide some additional space with modern facilities. I have no doubt that the new facilities will be fully booked after a short time.

I am fully supportive of the expansion plan and I hope that you will give a favourable response to the application.

**LA: ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL****APPLICANT:** COBHAM VILLAGE HALL**PROJECT:** Upgrade and refurbishment of the committee room on the first floor, plus provision of projection and audio equipment to main hall and lift to first floor.**GRANT REQUEST:** X2 £13,470 (one from SCC and one from LA)**PROJECT COST:** £40,000**REPORT:**

Cobham Village Hall was built in 1985 and is situated close to the town centre. It consists of a large main hall with a stage, an interconnecting small hall and kitchen, male, female and disabled toilets, male and female changing rooms with toilets. The hall is the only large hall in the Cobham area but there is now competition from local free rooms from Waitrose and Sainsbury's. The current community usage is 85% with some 80 different groups and organisations using the hall.

In 2012-2013 they received two grants of £35,000 for the construction of a new small hall (Total cost £193,000) to include a kitchen, male, female, and a disabled toilet, storage and access to a secure grassed area, refurbished existing toilets and ensure access to disabled access to disabled toilet in main hall.

The current application will enable the committee to be used by business groups, adult education, as well as the wider community. They are hoping to knock through to the main hall to be able set up a cinema and use the room as a projection facility.

The hall is an important community facility, particularly for the two deprived areas in Cobham which have a high percentage of young families and where there are also issues of drug and alcohol abuse. Once the disabled access has been granted the Public Health Surrey and CCG's will be able to hire the facility for Health and Well Being projects. On discussion the feasibility of the lift needs to be established and a referral to an architect with disability access experience has been made.

The management committee will need to do some fundraising as they have recently finished the construction of the new small hall and they used the reserves for this. They have been given extensive advice on how to do this. However they are extremely dedicated and determined and been determined and been successful in levering in funding to replace the boilers, energy conservation, and remedial acoustic works in the past year for £20,000.

On the current scoring under the current SCBGS criteria the application scored 8.5 /10.

Elmbridge Borough Council has approved £13,470 towards the project.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT X2 £13,470 one from LA and one from SCC****COUNTY COUNCILLOR:** MARY LEWIS**DIVISION:** COBHAM**WROTE:** I am writing as a referee for Cobham Village Hall who I understand have applied to your organisation for funding for the refurbishment of their committee room.

Since becoming County Councillor for Cobham, I have frequently been impressed by the endeavours of the village hall committee. They have worked tirelessly on the village hall, which they have enhanced over recent years through fundraising and grant applications, gradually making it a genuine community asset fit for purpose in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

They have undertaken this from the best motives, adopting a really inclusive approach. In an area which is endowed with many high-cost leisure facilities, theirs is one of the only venues in which a range of low cost activities are available for all members of the community. Without it, the social divide in Cobham would be even more sharply drawn. It is used for all manner of local clubs and societies and for public meetings of all kinds. The range of hall sizes on offer makes it flexible and fit for different purposes. As an indication of the

attitude of those running the hall, I recently discovered that outreach youth workers working on behalf of Surrey County Council were meeting young people in frosty or rainy conditions not far from the hall on Wednesday evenings. When I asked if they could use a small hall free of charge for this purpose on the worst evenings of the winter, the committee readily agreed as they felt it was important for the community that these youngsters, many put forward for outreach by local Police Community Support Officers, were engaged with by the youth workers in a warm and comfortable setting. Many committees would have raised negative points: they were simply positive.

The small committee room is really in need of a refit in order to attract more bookings. If it were refitted as an AV and IT suite it would open it up to a whole new range of potential users. The need to extend IT literacy to all sectors of the community is a very real one, to prevent social exclusion, so a facility of this sort would be another community asset.

I believe that the Cobham Village hall committee are doing their utmost to secure the future sustainability of this invaluable community asset and they deserve every support.

I am therefore delighted to recommend them as recipients of any available funding.

**LA: ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL****APPLICANT: PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ST CHRISTOPHERS'S CHURCH, HINCHEY WOOD COMMUNITY HUB****PROJECT:**

1. Fire detection and alarm systems –both buildings
2. Approach lighting – replacement of 6 exterior PIR (passive infra-red) security lamps on both buildings with low energy LED lighting to illuminate driveway, fire escape route and main entrances
3. Power – additional clean supplies for new fire alarm panels, additional power sockets where needed in both buildings, including new sockets for hall audio-visual equipment that is to be located in a new permanent position to suit hirers and expand film showing activities; wired-in hand dryers in WCs in Church and ancillary area
4. Microgeneration-photo voltaic solar panels and related equipment etc.
5. New Hall floor and related works
6. New hall UPVC doors and window, including replacement glazed fire door to allow daylight onto fire escape route
7. Driveway layout works, new proximity car parking spaces, disabled access ramps to north and south doors and eliminating steps to main entrances on front elevation of Church
8. Disabled WC upgrade – disabled toilet support handrails, hot water provision and hand dryer
9. Church kitchen – stripping out, stripping out, refurbishment, new fire door and commercial dishwasher
10. Heating – Boiler optimisation controls for both buildings
11. Provision of a path from fire door around the side of a building as part of fire escape.

**GRANT REQUESTED: X2 £36,750****TOTAL PROJECT COST: £110, 269.00****REPORT:**

St Christopher's Church halls were founded in 1953. It consists of two buildings, the main church and the church hall. Both buildings consist of a main hall with a small stage and a lobby with a disabled toilet and a storage room. Both halls need the upgrades as stated as above to maintain the community usage as it is the only facility in Hinchley Wood. The current usage is estimated at 72%. The halls are very well used by a variety of groups, organisations and age groups. There is a particular emphasis on young people with toddlers and pre-school groups and 9-15 and 15-18 year olds youth groups using the church hall. The hall is available for community use at all times except Sundays when it is reserved for religious services. However once the facilities are improved in the main church the plan is to expand the inclusion and accessibility to other age ranges and groups who need the facilities. The cost of heating the main church hall has been an issue and with the solar panels this means that the cost should come down and make it neutral.

The Church takes part in local Foodbank, education and other Health and Well-being projects and would like to expand on these facilities, once the buildings are fit for purpose.

In **2006** they were awarded x2 x £5,333

The project is to turn one of the existing toilets into an accessible toilet, improve the access for the disabled, and provide fire doors between the kitchen and the hall and install a new kitchen.

In **2009** they were awarded x2 grants of £10,000

Project: 1) Upgrading of kitchen to include: provision of catering standard dishwasher, cooker extraction hood, wall cupboards, tiling/ stainless sheeting 2) Refurbishment and upgrading of reception area to include: provision of reception desk and new lighting, upgrade male and female toilets to include new radiators, WCs, tiling and basins 3) Provision of a balustrade over existing storage and disabled WC in main hall to

provide additional storage area with folding ladder access 4) Remove existing suspended ceiling in main hall and replace with new insulation and lighting 5) Scaffolding and general preliminaries.

2014 to 2015. The work proposed may be subject to Diocesan faculty procedure approval (this will need confirming) but definitely requires Diocesan support and the Parochial Church Council will need to provide management support for the building project as per the rules. It has also been confirmed under ecclesiastical law that a Parochial Church Council cannot legally own property and thus would be unable to take out a mortgage for the proposed work. The property is vested in the Diocese of Guildford.

The management committee have raised some of the funding needed will need to do more fundraising and they have received extensive advice on how to do this. However they are extremely dedicated and determined.

On the scoring under the current SCBGS criteria the application scored 8/10.

The Project has the matched funds in place (£41,143) and have proved it by producing bank statements. Elmbridge Borough Council has approved £36,750 towards the project.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT X2 £ X2 £36,750 one from LA and one from SCC**

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR: MIKE BENISON**

**DIVISION: HINCHLEY WOOD, CLAYGTE AND OXSHOTT**

**WROTE:** I fully support the application for a grant submitted to Surrey Community Action by Hinchley Wood Community Hub for improvement works to St Christopher's Church and hall. The proposed improvements will vastly improve the facilities available for the use of a very wide range of user groups in the community and extend that range even further.



**LA: MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL****APPLICANT: NOWER WOOD, SURREY WILDLIFE TRUST- WITHDRAWN**

**PROJECT:** To replace current education building with new multiple purpose building which is modern and on a new location on the same site at Nower Wood.

**GRANT REQUEST:** x2 £25,000 (one from SCC and one from LA)

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** £858,000

**REPORT:**

Nower Wood is based in Mole Valley District, but the education centre is open as a resource to schools, youth groups, adult education groups and families across the county. It is not traditionally used for the wider community.

The current building is in a state of disrepair and the plan is to provide a new building. At present the management team are developing a business plan, marketing plan and a fundraising plan. They also need to look at the accessibility and inclusivity of the site, starting with the car parks.

The community usage currently stands at 44% and following the build they are hoping this will increase to 51%. Accessibility and Inclusivity for the wider community need to be made clear as the multiple approach to the use of the building is not established and for an increase of only 7% and an investment of £50,000 of SCC and MVDC the return is not good. However the plans are at an early stage and are not fully developed. They need to develop the project further and apply for planning permission, get proper costings and look at the sustainability of the project not just from the environmental point of view but from the financial perspective. They have been told to take this approach and look at the fundraising as they have £663k to raise. However they have raised £195,000 so far.

On the scoring under the current SCBGS criteria the score is 2.25/10.

**RECOMMENDATION: Not supported suggest applicant resubmits when the project is fully developed**

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR:** HAZEL WATSON

**DIVISION:** DORKING HILLS

**WROTE:**

Thank you for your email.

My comments on the Surrey Wildlife Trust bid for the funding from the Surrey Community Buildings Grant Scheme are as follows:

I support the application for funding for this project. The Nower Wood education Centre buildings are not fit for purpose and need replacing with modern facilities including heating and toilets. This would improve the facilities and would enable them to be used for a longer period of the year including during the colder months of the year, thus increasing utilisation.

The Nower Wood Education centre provides important nature education for school children and nature training for teachers attending schools throughout Surrey in support of the curriculum. The centre provides hands-on nature education for children for example pond dipping for pond-living creatures which helps to improve an understanding of nature and the environment and brings science to life in a fun and interesting way. For some Surrey children from urban areas their experience at Nower Wood Education centre is their first experience of the countryside and nature.

Please could you pass on my comments in support of this application.

**LA: MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL****APPLICANT: BEARE GREEN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (BGCA)****PROJECT:** Provision of a new industrial kitchen and facilities.**GRANT REQUESTED:** x2 £4,623.33 (one from SCC and one from LA)**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** £10,000 with uplift to £13,870 to allow for industrial refit**REPORT:**

The original Beare Green Village Hall was demolished in the early 1990's to make room for housing. The current hall was a catholic church, which is on lease from Mole Valley District Council and has 99 years left to run.

The village hall has recently had grants to upgrade the hall for disabled access, new toilets (SCBGS) and a new boiler and hall decoration (other grants) all of which have help sustain the occupation of the hall at 40%. The management committee are looking to refit the kitchen to bring it up to modern standards but to also prepare for the future. In the 1970's the village of Beare green was in effect split by the building of the A24 dual carriageway on an east to west basis with the school and pub being on the eastern side. Consequently the western side which has two thirds of the population only has the village hall as a community building. The pub, post office have now gone and the space been used for housing developments. The BGCA has been concerned about the lack of community engagement largely caused by the split of the village, the dramatic increase in the population in the village, the effects of commuting and the ageing population.

The BGCA have a bigger project called project OverHall and 'The Octagon' to build a revamped community building and facility. The kitchen refurbishment is part of that process and is a demonstration to the community and the BGCA's commitment to improving the hall for the benefit of the community. At the time of application BGCA had the £3,333.00 part of the funding but the uplift to the industrial kitchen they were looking to fundraise for the shortfall. They were given advice on how to do this and were actively pursuing all avenues and they have now been able to achieve this.

On the scoring under the current SCBGS criteria the application scored 9/10.

Mole Valley has approved £4,613.00 towards the project.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT X2 £4,613.00 one from LA and one from SCC****COUNTY COUNCILLOR:** HELYN CLACK**DIVISION:** DORKING RURAL**WROTE:**

Michelle Watson has asked me to write to you in support of the bid for the above. I am more than happy to do this, the works that have been taking place have really enhanced the community services the hall is able to provide to everyone.

**LA: MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL****APPLICANT: St GILES CHURCH HALL, The Dell Project****PROJECT: To replace current building with new and modern facility.****GRANT REQUESTED: x2 £40,000** (one from SCC and one from LA)**TOTAL PROJECT COST: £2,000,000.00**

The Old St Giles Church hall in Ashtead, which was built in the 1970's, has reached the end of its useful life and plans to replace it with attractive and modern facility to serve both the church and community are both well advanced.

Mole Valley District Council has granted planning permission (2014/0268) to St Giles and St Georges Churches for the new facility and building will commence in early 2015. Opening is schedule later in 2015.

The hall is currently used by a variety of groups from church groups to toddler groups, elder groups, the uniformed groups, as well as occasional events such as the film club, harvest festival and quizzes. The current usage stands at 38% this is due to the poor state of repair and damp feeling but the management committee are hoping the new facility will reopen with a usage figure of 55% and have a business plan with a multiple approach to the sustainability of the building.

The new hall would like to develop Citizens Advice Bureau doing debt advice sessions, Age Concern and dementia groups having a base in the community and having outreach sessions, Foodbank having an outreach centre, Police Community Support being able to run surgeries from the facility, Health and Wellbeing projects. All of the developments are dependent on better facilities in the church hall.

The work proposed is completely separate from the church building and will not be subject to Diocesan faculty procedure approval but requires their support and the Parochial Church Council will provide management support for the building project. It has also been confirmed under ecclesiastical law that a Parochial Church Council cannot legally own property and thus would be unable to take out a mortgage for the proposed work. The property is vested in the South London Church Fund which is part of the structure of the Diocese of Southwark. However because of the size of the project £2 million the diocese has a legal duty to underwrite the whole project and provide protection for the PCC.

The management committee have raised £1.1 million of the funding needed will need to do more fundraising and they have received extensive advice on how to do this. However they are extremely dedicated and determined.

On the scoring under the current SCBGS criteria the application scored 9.5/10.

Mole Valley has approved £20,000 towards the project.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT X2 £20,000 one from LA and one from SCC****COUNTY COUNCILLOR: CHRIS TOWNSEND****DIVISION: ASHSTEAD****WROTE:**

Totally support this bid. Its' community use would be substantial to all residents of Ashtead, particularly the need for play groups. Many other groups would be able to use the facilities on offer and the development is clearly needed. Terrific application!!

**LA: MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL****APPLICANT: OAKWOOD HILL VILLAGE HALL****PROJECT: 1) To provide disabled access to the rear of the building and disabled parking bay.  
2) To install mains gas supply to help install a better heating system.****GRANT REQUESTED: x2 £6666.67** (one from SCC and one from LA)**TOTAL PROJECT COST: £20,000****REPORT:**

The Hall was an ex RAF wooden hut erected in 1946. It is situated in the very attractive but sparsely populated rural hamlet of Oakwood Hill off the A29. It also shares a large playing field area with the adjacent cricket club. They originally applied for a grant in 2008 when the hall was in a much neglected state and since then there has been three successful applications and the hall has been transformed into a comfortable and well-appointed hall. This has resulted in an increase in the number of users and in community run events. They calculate that the usage has increased from 25% in 2008 to 40% in 2013.

The hall consists of a chain of a main hall with a small stage area, storage area, male, female and disabled toilets, kitchen lobby and cleaners storage cupboard.

In 2008-2009 they were awarded x2 grants of £15,000 towards the demolition of the existing boiler room and construction of a lumber framed extension to provide male, female and disabled toilets, entrance hall with access steps and disabled access ramp.

In 2011-2012 they were awarded they were awarded x2 grants of £20,000 towards the demolition of the existing of the existing storage area and the construction of a new enlarged storage room and meeting room including disabled access (ramp).

In 2013-2014 they were awarded x2 grants of £16,300 for the provision of a 4 metre x 5 metre extension and upgrade to the existing kitchen to include removal of asbestos and insulation improvements.

The success of recent improvements has meant that more existing and new users have requested more inclusive and accessible facilities and the disabled ramp and parking are essential to this process.

The area of concern is that they have previously applied twice to install a disabled ramp in 2008 and 2011 and failed to deliver. However this was not noticed by SCA or by MVDC until a joint site review in October 2014.

However the costs of the other elements of the buildings projects meant that disabled ramp did not get delivered. There could be an element of under costing for the project and this could be explained by their contribution to the project of the voluntary labour, which is primarily in the form of two retired builders rather than hard cash to buy materials and pay for professional labour and advice.

This assumption is currently being checked out with the new chair and trustees, who have only come into post at the beginning of November 2014.

The finances of the hall are also being checked out as at the time of the application they only had £620 in the reserves and had held nothing in a contingency fund for legal obligations such as rebuilding the hall, employee's redundancies just in case the hall was to shut. Also the contingency fund would be needed by the building works as they are having outside utilities fitted to the property and this could always prove more expensive than estimated costs and quotes.

Advice has been given to the management committee on fundraising and they have been given extensive advice on how to do this.

On the scoring under the current SCBGS criteria the application scored 6/10.

Mole Valley has approved £6666.67 towards the project with special conditions listed below.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT X2 £6666.67 one from LA and one from SCC**

Subject to the following special conditions;-

- 1) Extra site visits are carried out to ensure that the work is carried out to the specification in the application.
- 2) That half of the funding from Oakwood Hill Village hall is provided in hard cash rather than totally in 'in kind' and that evidence of the balance of the funding (£3,333.35) is provided in writing prior to any payment of the grant.

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR:** HELYN CLACK

**DIVISION:** DORKING RURAL

**WROTE:** I support this application.

**LA: MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL****APPLICANT: Walliswood Village Hall****PROJECT:****To replace and upgrade main entrance lobby, Refurbish and replace Gents, Ladies, Disabled, Baby changing toilet facilities.****GRANT REQUESTED: x2 £17,169.17 (one from SCC and one from LA)****TOTAL PROJECT COST: £51,507.50****REPORT:**

Walliswood village hall was built in 1950 as the kitchen and canteen for the Walliswood Primary School, which closed in 1991. The WVHA was established to run the hall in 2004 and they have a 99 year lease. The hall consists of a small hall, committee room, kitchen, male and female /disabled toilet and is set in its own sizeable grassed grounds. The village hall and grounds are owned by Abinger Parish Council. They are managed by Walliswood Village Hall Association, which is a registered charity, formed in 2004. Day to day running of the hall is in the hands of a committee, currently comprising 12 people. The hall raises money in several ways via regular renters, one-off hirings and fund raising events, of which the biggest is Village Day. Grants from Abinger Parish Council, as well as local and corporate bodies have been awarded towards specific projects.

Since taking on responsibility for the hall, the Association has carried out a continual programme of improvements, including a new pitched roof in place of the old flat roof, new windows, the path with its lighting, and replacing the septic tank. The interior of the hall has been refurbished. The most recent work has been lowering the ceiling in the main hall and improving the lighting.

The hall is currently used by a variety of groups from church groups to toddler groups, elder groups, the uniformed groups, as well as occasional events such as the film club, harvest festival and quizzes.

The hall is fairly basic and in need of modernisation, the committee have a programme of refurbishment and have previously received a SCBGS grant in 2010-2011 of 2 X £3,430 grants for a new pitched tiled roof over the existing flat roof over the committee room and kitchen.

A second grant was awarded in 2012 to 2013 of 2 x £4,983 to upgrade the ceilings and suspended them and improve the thermal efficiency of the hall and provide a better ambience.

Usage of the hall is steadily increasing and they estimate that they have a 45% occupancy.

They have recently used all of their reserves to replace the roof and have started to fundraise for the £17,169.17. The Hall will need to do more fundraising and they have received extensive advice on how to do this.

On the scoring under the current SCBGS criteria the application scored 6/10.

Mole Valley has approved £17,169.17 towards the project.

**RECOMMENDATION: OFFER GRANT X2 £17,169.17 one from LA and one from SCC****COUNTY COUNCILLOR: HAZEL WATSON****DIVISION: Dorking Hills****WROTE:**

Thank you for your email.

I am delighted to support your community grant application for building works at Walliswood Village Hall which is a vital asset to the community as the only community building in the village.

I recognise that the village hall needs more female toilet facilities to help avoid the need for women to queue to use the facilities and that, improvements are needed to modernise the disabled toilets and to

make them more accessible and user-friendly for disabled people. Your proposals clearly address these issues.

The new access doorways that will facilitate the docking of a marquee will enable the village hall to be used for larger functions and thus increase utilisation for the benefit of the local community and to make the village hall more financially sustainable.

I really hope that you are successful with the bid.

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