

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 6 November 2017

Portfolio:	Leisure and Community
Subject:	1st Sarisbury Scout Group
Report of:	Director of Operations
Strategy/Policy:	Grants Policy
Corporate Objective:	All corporate objectives apply

Purpose:

To provide details of the matched funding request received by the Council during the third quarter of the 2017/18 financial year.

Executive summary:

A matched funding bid has been received from 1st Sarisbury Scout Group towards the cost of installing a new purpose-built scout hut at Burrige Recreation Ground. It is anticipated that the hut, in addition to providing a permanent base for the group's activities, will increase the facilities available for hire by the local community.

The total cost of the project is £190,000, of which 1st Sarisbury Scout Group has received commitments for donations and grant applications totalling £158,000. In addition, the group currently has several grant applications outstanding, although none of these have been confirmed to date.

1st Sarisbury Scout Group has requested £25,000 towards their project to install a purpose-built scout hut. This grant award is critical to the delivery of the project and is also needed to secure the other sources of grant funding.

The group received a small community grant of £750 from Fareham Borough Council in March 2016 towards the cost of purchasing a marquee. Under the current Community Grant Fund criteria any organisation that has received a grant award must wait two years before being able to submit another bid for community funding.

However, building the new scout hut is a major building project. The Scout group has accumulated a significant amount of funding and is ready to proceed with the building works. Without the award of the Community Fund Grant the project will be in jeopardy.

Recommendation/Recommended Option:

It is recommended that the Executive:

- (a) considers offering a matched funding grant of up to £25,000, to 1st Sarisbury Scout Group, to install a purpose-built scout hut at Burridge Recreation Ground; and
- (b) agrees the award of funding, subject to 1st Sarisbury Scout Group agreeing terms for community use as set out in the Community Fund Agreement in Appendix B and Community Fund Award Letter as set out in Appendix C.

Reason:

To act as an enabler, assisting the local community to introduce new facilities within the community.

Cost of proposals:

The grant requested is £25,000 and the Community Funding Budget currently has funds of £63,033.

- Appendices:**
- A:** Matched Funding Application – 1st Sarisbury Scout Group
 - B:** Proposed Community Funding Agreement – 1st Sarisbury Scout Group
 - C:** Proposed Community Funding Award Letter – 1st Sarisbury Scout Group
 - D:** 1st Sarisbury Scouts Sources of Funding – October 2017

Background papers:**Reference papers:**

Report to the Executive on 8 March 2010 – Review of Discretionary Grants

Report to the Executive on 17 May 2010 – Grants Review Update

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BOROUGH COUNCIL

Executive Briefing Paper

Date:	6 November 2017
Subject:	1 st Sarisbury Scout Group Matched Funding report
Briefing by:	Director of Operations
Portfolio:	Leisure and Community

INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the details of the matched funding requests received by the Council during the third quarter of the 2017/18 financial year.
2. On 8 March 2010, the Executive considered a report on the various discretionary grants provided by the Council. The report included details regarding each category of grant and the level of funding available. Members agreed to combine a number of grants into a single pot for the 2010/11 financial year onwards.
3. It was agreed that any matched funding bids would be considered by the Executive on a quarterly basis. These Matched Funding reports would also identify matched funding requests "in the pipeline", to enable a more strategic approach to prioritising these requests.

CRITERIA

4. The criteria for matched funding awards are deliberately inexplicit. The Council will consider any project which benefits the local community and / or improves the local environment. Awards will usually only be made for capital projects.
5. Any matched funding application must demonstrate that the applicant will contribute an equal sum to the project as is being requested from the Council. This fosters a sense of commitment and ownership to the project from the local community, and as a result increases the likelihood that the benefits will continue to be valued and maintained in the future.
6. All successful applicants are required to sign a Community Use Agreement with the Council, to ensure that the project provides benefit to the local community. This enables an extension of this benefit to reach much further than the organisation making the application.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. The current balance of the community funding budget is approximately £63,033.

MATCHED FUNDING BIDS RECEIVED

8. 1st Sarisbury Scout Group is a thriving organisation, which supports well attended groups of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to explore new challenges and develop a wide range of skills in a safe environment. The Group currently has 87 members, with over 40 young people on the waiting list to join. Since the loss of their former hut on the Coldeast Hospital site, the Group has been renting space at Burridge Village Hall.
9. A matched funding bid has been received from 1st Sarisbury Scout Group towards the cost of installing a purpose-built scout hut on a tennis court at Burridge Recreation Ground. The Heads of Terms for a lease for the tennis court, from the Council to the Scout Group, was agreed by the Executive on 10 July.
10. It is anticipated that this new facility will, in addition to providing facilities for the Scout Group, increase the availability of rooms for hire by the local community. There is a clause in the lease which states hiring of rooms for scout related activities will be permitted. However, any non-scouting use is to be approved by the Burridge Village Hall committee, in advance with their consent not to be unreasonably withheld.
11. The total cost of the project is £190,000 and as of October 2017, 1st Sarisbury has £158,000 pledged towards the scout hut construction project. A breakdown of the different funding sources is contained in appendix D
12. Several funding applications are outstanding and if they were all to be successful then there would be a surplus, although not every bid is anticipated to be supported
13. 1st Sarisbury Scout Group is requesting £25,000 in matched funding towards the project. This grant award is critical to the delivery of the project and is also needed to secure the other sources of grant funding.
14. The group received a small community grant of £750 from Fareham Borough Council in March 2016. Under the current Community Grant Fund criteria any organisation that has received a grant award must wait two years before being able to submit another bid for community funding.
15. Since 2015 to date there have been four expressions of interest for Community Funding that were rejected because of previous grant awards within the last two years. These were:
 - 1st Fareham Scout Group, who originally expressed an interest in 2016 for help with their replacement roof after a successful application in July 2015;
 - Warsash Sea Cadets, who expressed interest in 2016 for £5000 to help with purchasing a maintenance platform following a successful application in July 2015;
 - Titchfield Community Association, who expressed interest for funding in 2016 after a successful application in April 2015;
 - Southern Domestic Abuse Service, who expressed interest in 2016 for help with a CCTV system. They had had a previous successful bid in May 2015.

16. However, building the new scout hut is a major building project. The Scout group has accumulated a significant amount of funding and are ready to proceed with the building works. Any delay in awarding the funding will result in cost escalation which may jeopardise the delivery of the project.

COUNCILLOR CONSULTATION

17. Both Ward Councillors, Councillor Woodward and Councillor Butts, have confirmed their support of this application.

MATCHED FUNDING BIDS “IN THE PIPELINE”

18. No further matched funding bids have been identified at present.

RISK ASSESSMENT

19. Any delay in awarding the community grant will jeopardise the project due to cost escalation and other funders withdrawing their grant funding offer.
20. The groups listed in the report that have had their expression of interest for community funding rejected, because they have already received funding within the last two years, may seek to challenge the decision.

CONCLUSION

21. This report sets out details for the matched funding bid received from 1st Sarisbury Scout Group. The bid is for £25,000 towards the cost of installing a purpose-built scout hut at Burr ridge Recreation Ground.
22. The group received a small community grant of £750 from Fareham Borough Council in March 2016. Under the current Community Grant Fund criteria any organisation that has received a grant award must wait two years before being able to submit another bid for community funding.
23. However, building the new scout hut is a major building project. The Scout group has accumulated a significant amount of funding and are ready to proceed with the building works. Any delay in awarding the funding will result in cost escalation which may jeopardise the delivery of the project.

Enquiries:

For further information on this report please contact Claire Benfield. (Ext 4495)