



NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AREA COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPROVAL FORM

1. Committee: **Baldock & District Area Committee**2. Date: **7 Mar 2016**3. Summary of application: **Funding to assist the purchase of a new Community Mini Bus**Name of organisation: **Friends of Baldock Senior Citizens Minibus** Sum requested: **£5,000**Total project cost: **£35,000 est**

Brief details:

The current "Friends of Baldock Senior Citizens Minibus Group" has provided a community minibus service for the residents of Baldock for over 20 years. The current vehicle is becoming old, unreliable and not fit for purpose, which has prompted the group to review the provision of the service.

The present mini bus is a 05 plate making it about 11 years old, hence one of the reasons for replacing it. It is costing a significant amount of money to maintain, in the region of £5,000 - £8,000 over the last year.

Matched / linked funding: **£16,000**Funder: **Own Reserves**Matched / linked funding: **£5,000**Funder: **Rotary**Matched / linked funding : **£4,000**Funder: **HCC Member Locality Budget (unsecured)**

Comments from Community Officer:

The Baldock Rotary club is considering a possible grant of £5,000 if indeed it could be matched via other sources. The group has approximately £16,000 set aside in reserves and County Cllr Muir is considering a grant from his HCC Ward Locality Budget in the region of £4,000

If the Committee were minded to match the Rotary's £5,000 with an in principle Area Grant Award to the same level, this would give the minibus committee approximately £30,000 in its replacement fund to build on with the view of finding around a further £3,000 - £5,000 in order to purchase a replacement bus at the end of the year.

The Community Development Officer has examined this application against the Authority's Area Grants Policy, the organisation's accounts and grant history, and considers it an eligible application.

Amount recommended: **£1,500**