



NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AREA COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPROVAL FORM

1. Committee: **Southern Rural Area Committee (Hitchwood, Offa & Hoo Ward)**
 2. Date: **18 March 2010**

3. Summary of application: **To electrify the winding mechanism of the Village Clock**

Name of organisation: **Offley & Cockernhoe Parish Council** Sum requested: **£1,000**
 Total project cost: **£4,520**

Brief details:

The urgent request sets out a project to electrify the winding mechanism of the Village Clock. The clock was purchased by public subscription and installed in the clock tower of St Mary Magdalene Church, Offley by the Parish Council to commemorate the coronation of King George V on the 22nd June 2011. The minutes of the Parish Council state that this was on the understanding that the Council undertake to maintain the clock and that it was not a church clock. To date, the Parish Council has been solely responsible for the maintenance of the clock which is undertaken by Smiths of Derby. The mechanism has to be wound on a weekly basis and is accessed via a very steep ladder through a heavy trap door in the bell tower. Currently volunteer church wardens undertake this role. The Parish Council has made extensive grant enquiries and submitted applications to at least 5 organisations, to date without success.

Matched / linked funding: **£2,750** Funder: **Community contributions**

Discretionary rate relief: **£0** Funder:

Comments from Development Officer:

The project as set out is eligible under the the Small Grants 'General Equipment' Criteria which states that "All eligible projects can be considered for an award of 100% of the overall project costs up to a maximum of £500". The Parish Council would like to electrify the winding mechanism so this risky trip does not have to be made weekly. The Parish Council has been given a quotation by Smiths of Derby of £5230 for the work to be undertaken but recently a subsidiary of Smiths of Derby has contacted the Parish Council and have offered to reduce the cost of the project to £4,520. Whilst the recommendation is for £500, the Committee can award the sum requested of £1,000 should it be mindful to do so. Due to the urgency of the grant request and the Committee cycles, the SR Area Committee Chairman has agreed for the grant application to be presented at the Committee meeting as an urgent application for funding consideration from the Committee's 2009/10 Development Budget.

Amount recommended: **£500**

4. Comments from Ward Members:

I support / do not support this application

Name: Signed: Date:

I support / do not support this application

Name: Signed: Date:

5. For officer use:

Amount awarded from Area Budget: **£0**

Amount awarded from Dev't Budget: **£0**

Signed off by Head of Service Signed: Date:

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