



NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AREA COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPROVAL FORM

1. Committee: **Southern Rural Area Committee**

2. Date: **12 March 2015**

3. Summary of application: **Funding to assist enhancements to Play Areas within Codicote**

Name of organisation: **Codicote Playground Support Group**

Sum requested: **£5,000**

Total project cost: **£85k+**

Brief details:

The Codicote Playground Support Group is a charitable community project created to renovate the village playgrounds, namely the recreation field on St Albans Road and the small play area which lies between Newtown and Valley Road. The group was formed in October 2014 and currently has 9 committee members, volunteering their time and efforts to this much needed project as well as 36 additional community members who have signed up to pledge their support and willingness to help with the project where they can. The group is currently working towards obtaining charity status. Owing to only minimal investment over years, the play equipment in the community recreation areas has slowly deteriorated and is now beyond economic repair.

The group are working to involve the whole community in all aspects of the project from designing possible enhancement schemes, raising funds all the way through to implementation.

The group is working very closely with Codicote Parish Council to ensure that any preferred schemes not only meet the needs of the residents but that the resulting provision is sustainable with regards to the ongoing maintenance costs and general upkeep of any new equipment installed.

Matched / linked funding: **Various**

Funders: **See Below**

Comments from Development Officer:

Over the last five months the group have been actively seeking community views, opinions and concerns to ensure that they carefully consider the most appropriate options, while simultaneously seeking numerous quotes from playground suppliers and exploring potential funding options.

On the 30th January 2015 they held an extremely successful open community consultation session at Codicote Primary School where preliminary designs and plans were displayed for people (adults & children) to have the opportunity to meet the team and pass comment / preferences on the indicative scheme on show.

Following a meeting with the Parish Council and taking on board comments from residents, the group has scaled back aspects of their provisional plans in order to focus on urgently needed renovations and enhancements.

The group plans to host local level fundraising events throughout the course of the project such as running cake sales, Village Day stalls, fitness fundraisers and a Gala Dinner evening with some fantastic operatic entertainment.

They also plan to approach various grant providers such as Biffa, Awards for All, Luton Airport Community Fund and Hertfordshire Police to help raise the much needed funds.

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 to put before the Committee.

Amount recommended: **£1,500**

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: