



NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AREA COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPROVAL FORM

1. Committee: **Southern Rural Area Committee**2. Date: **9 Jun 2016**3. Summary of application: **Funding support to part fund fixed Audio / Visual equipment at the Centre**Name of organisation: **John Clements**Sum requested: **£2,828**Total project cost: **£7,658**

Brief details:

The Southern Rural Area Committee gave generous support for the construction phase of the new Centre and after the first full year of operation the usage results have been very encouraging. Membership to the Centre has tripled to over 500 residents and combined with strong financial results for the year will allow the management trustees to pay off the £8.3k final retention fee by June, thus leaving the Trust almost debt free.

As part of an additional enhancement programme to further guarantee the long term sustainability of the new Centre, an investment has been made in phase 1 of an audio visual system to improve communications throughout the Centre.

This comprises of speakers in the lounge bar and hall, a 4 zone amplifier, an AV junction box, a fixed screen and projector in the lounge bar, a fixed and mobile microphone to all 4 zones and attendant cabling for all.

The £4,830 cost of this has been provided by the Trust with the equipment being installed in early April. All in all this part of the system has been well received by the Centre users.

Matched / linked funding: **£4,830**Funder: **Own Funds**Matched / linked funding: **£**
or DRR

Funder:

Comments from Community Officer:

Phase 2 of the system is now ready to be progressed with the scope and costs set out below

A portable projector and 2m wide screen for the main hall	£1,390
A 55" TV for the lounge/bar to replace the existing 7 year old, 40" TV	£1,040
4 weatherproof outside speakers	<u>£398</u>
Total	£2,828

The additional equipment will permit the showing of sporting, and other popular events and films to larger audiences in the main hall via a range of input sources eg lap top, DVD player or TV. The planned upgrade and additional equipment will not only provide a more up to date and reliable TV in the new Centre, but also provide external speaker links from inside the Centre to the patio, sports field and tennis courts. All of the above will help increase the usage of the Centre and help guarantee its long term sustainability and service provision to the local community.

The Communities Team 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.

Members note that the SRAC funded £19,495 towards the build side new Sports & Community Centre project from its 2014/15 budget.

Amount recommended: **£1,500**