



NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AREA COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPROVAL FORM

1. Committee: **Southern Rural Area Committee**2. Date: **01/12/2016**3. Summary of application: **Funding Support for refurbishment works to the Dacre Rooms, Kimpton**Name of organisation: **The Dacre Rooms**Sum requested: **£1,050**Total project cost: **£50k+**

Brief details:

The Dacre Rooms were given to the village 130 years ago by Lady Dacre. Up until a few years ago they had been regularly used by the village youth club, but this closed and the building fell into disuse.

The village was therefore consulted about its possible future and subsequently a small team of volunteers was formed charged with revitalising the rooms and getting them back into various forms of community use.

As a result, the rooms now have regular bookings for Coffee mornings, Farmer's markets, Music Teaching Sessions, Yoga, plus social evenings, food evenings, parties etc.

The regular bookings now more than cover the buildings running costs and the group has attracted grants / external funding in the region of £10K to date. These funds have been utilised to Replace the boiler, Fitting of a new window and replacing 6 others, Fixed wiring inspection and a new fuse board Fitting of fire alarm and emergency lights, Internal fire inspection, New tables and chairs, Replacement of light fittings and much other internal work.

Apart from the boiler, windows and the new fuse box, all the work has been carried out in kind by local volunteers.

Matched / linked funding: **£10,000**Funder: **Fundraising / Grants / s106**Matched /linked funding: **£0**
or DRR

Funder:

Matched / linked funding: **£0**

Funder:

Comments from Development Officer:

The current grant request is primarily to undertake:-

Repair work and repainting of the 5 old traditional windows £400

Roof insulation as currently only half of the roof has insulation £150

Redecoration of the interior £500

Grant requested from the Area Committee's Main Budget is £1,050

For the future, the team wishes to:-

Refurbish the WC area est. £15k

A utility kitchen in the old gents WC area est. £20k

Reconfiguration of the existing kitchen est. £15k

It is likely that an application for the above 3 capital enhancements to the Rooms will be made under the Authority's new Community Facilities Capital Projects Fund which was launched a few months ago. The team is already liaising with Officers within the Communities Team in progressing an application to the Member Grant panel in the New Year.

The application is criteria compliant and the officer recommendation is for the award of £735 This represents 70% of the value this section of the refurbishment works.