

SOUTHERN RURAL AREA FORUM
22 June 2023

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

TITLE OF INFORMATION NOTE: GRANT & COMMUNITY UPDATE

INFORMATION NOTE OF THE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS OFFICER

EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND PARTNERSHIP

PRIORITY: PEOPLE FIRST, SUSTAINABILITY, A BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 To advise the Southern Rural Area Forum on the current expenditure and balances of the Community Grant budgets.
- 1.2 To bring to the Forum's attention details of recent requests received for Community grant funding, made by community groups and local organisations.
- 1.3 To enable Forum Members to make recommendations to the Executive Member for Communities and Partnership on grant applications.
- 1.4 To advise the Forum of the activities and schemes with which Community Partnerships officers have been involved in and some important community-based activities that will take place during the next few months

2. STEPS TO DATE

- 2.1 The Community Partnership officer has liaised with all grant applicants to advise and complete their applications.
- 2.2 Robust and thorough assessment of all grant applications have taken place by the Community Partnerships Team and have been approved by the Policy and Communities Manager to progress the applications for Members' recommendation.

3. INFORMATION TO NOTE

3.1 Southern Rural Area Community Grant Budget 2023-24

As outlined in Appendix 1.

- 3.1.1 The 2023/24 base budget is **£8,700**, with **£2,231** carried forward from the 2022/23 budget. This leaves a budget available of **£10,931**.
- 3.1.2 The grant applications for this meeting total **£3,610**. If the grants are awarded as outlined in Appendices 2-4, the remaining balance will be **£7,321**.

3.2. Grant Applications to consider for recommendation for a decision from the Executive Member for Communities and Partnership in consultation with the Director of Legal & Community.

- 3.2.1 Kimpton Parish Council - funding towards refurbishing Kimpton Pavilion on Kimpton Recreation Ground. **£1,000** requested as outlined in Appendix 2.

- 3.2.2 Ickleford Parish Council - funding towards a new Eco Tumble safety surfacing for the play area at the recreation ground in Chambers Lane, Ickleford. **£2,000** requested as outlined in Appendix 3.
- 3.2.3 Offley Parish Council - funding towards two new benches for the Offley Recreation Centre where there is currently very little public seating in and around the playing field. **£610** requested as outlined in Appendix 4.

4. NEXT STEPS

4.1 Recommendations and comments on Grant Applications made by the Forum Members

- 4.1.1 Recommendations and comments will be outlined in the delegated decision report produced following this meeting.
- 4.1.2 The Executive Member for Communities and Partnership will take recommendations into account when making their decision under their delegated authority in consultation with the Director of Legal & Community.
- 4.1.3 The decision will be subject to a five-day call-in period, following publication in the Members Information Service (MIS).

5. APPENDICES

- 5.1 Appendix 1. Southern Rural Community Grant Budget 2023-24
- 5.2 Appendix 2. Kimpton PC - Grant Application
- 5.3 Appendix 3. Ickleford PC - Grant Application
- 5.4 Appendix 4. Offley PC - Grant Application
- 5.5 Appendix 5. Community Updates

6. CONTACT OFFICERS

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7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Terms of Reference for Area Forums, Section 9 of Council Constitution updated May 2023.
- 7.2 Review of Grant Policy, Cabinet July 2021.