

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leader and Cabinet

9 June 2005

AUTHOR: Chief Executive

THE CURRENT BALANCE FOR VILLAGE SPORTS FACILITY GRANTS 2005/6 IS
£100,510.

APPLICANT: HISTON AND IMPINGTON RECREATION GROUND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Purpose

1. To consider the following request for grant aid and make a decision on the level of award.

Effect on Corporate Objectives

2. Quality, Accessible Services	A new sports pavilion and multi-use games area would ensure the facility is available to all members of the community and will increase physical activity levels.
Village Life	Village facilities help improve the sense of community and enrich rural community life for everyone.
Sustainability	The new sports pavilion and multi-use games area will ensure the facility will be available for future generations to use and will allow sports clubs the opportunity to develop.
Partnership	Working with the community enables residents to identify local needs and achieve improvements in their quality of life.

Proposal

3. To increase the grant offered to Histon and Impington Recreation Ground Project to build a new sports pavilion (including kitchen and community room), multi-use games area/new hard tennis court and improvements to the current car park.

Background

4. On 13th November 2003 Cabinet awarded the Histon and Impington Recreation Ground Project £75,000 towards a new pavilion and £15,000 towards a new multi-use games area. The project group have since been working hard to raise local funds and have been successful in securing grant aid from the Football Foundation and WREN.
5. Tenders for the project were received in April 2005 for the proposed project. Under the lowest tender the project cost has increased from the budgeted £636,000 to £797,000 a rise of £161,000.
6. The following additional requirements have been identified:
 - Football Foundation – two officials changing rooms
 - Pathing to sports courts to ensure DDA compliant
 - Additional gravel parking by side of tennis courts
 - Extent of paving around pavilion
 - Landscaping

- Additional section columns for building
- Others from structural, mechanical and electrical engineer, building control, planning approval and development of design

Considerations

7. The tenders for the project have been examined in detail and whilst some small savings have been identified the project group feel that further cuts cannot be made to the project without seriously compromising the project. The proposed new pavilion is very much a basic functional building, which they would like to retain as designed, and the two new sports courts are desperately needed as there are no similar adequate public facilities in the two villages.
8. After allowing for direct project expenditure to date the shortfall for the project is about £125,000 and the project group are determined to raise at least 50% of this shortfall to reduce the burden of the increase on Histon and Impington Parish Councils. Both Parish Councils will be approached to increase their support by a further £60,000 increasing their commitment to the project to £362,000.
9. The project group are hopeful of securing new grant funding from Sport England Community Investment fund and from the Foundation of Sports and Arts. Further community fundraising of £30,000 from Friends of Histon & Impington Recreation Ground will hopefully total over £50,000 but this still leaves a shortfall.
10. If the project group are successful in securing further funding to meet the shortfall, building work could start in August 2005 with completion by the end of March 2006. The project group are going to present their final report to both Parish Councils on Wednesday 22nd June at which they are hopeful that the project will get the final go ahead.
11. There are also plans to employ a Recreation Ground Activity Coordinator funded by Sport England to promote and develop sport and community activity on the recreation ground.

Options

12. To offer a grant will help assist with the additional funding required to meet the tenders deadline. This will then ensure that the new sports facilities will be provided on schedule. The new facilities will provide increased access and benefit the health of all members of the community.
13. A decision not to offer a grant will increase the possibility of further delays to the start date and a chance that the project will incur even more increases in the overall costs.

Financial Implications

14.	Total cost	£797,000	
	Pavilion and external works	£703,000	
	Sports courts	£94,000	
	Amount raised	£250,000	Parish Councils
		£216,000	Football Foundation
		£90,000	SCDC
		£31,000	WREN

	£25,000	Enventure
	£16,000	Friends of Histon and Impington
	£5,000	Sports Clubs
	£5,000	Histon Feast
Total Raised	£638,000	
Population	4,420	Histon
	4,010	Impington
Total Grants since 77/8	£20,500	Histon (excluding the £90,000
	£14,000	Impington offered previously)

Legal Implications

15. None.

Staffing Implications

16. None.

Risk Management Implications

17. The building would be the responsibility of the Parish Councils.

Consultations

18. Both Parish Councils have been kept fully up to date as the project has developed and residents have been notified via their village newsletters on the progress and the opportunities to support the project by becoming involved in fundraising activities.

Local Councillor Consultation

19. **Councillor A Muncey** "I fully support the application for the recreation ground. We are one of the largest villages in the district and the only one that has not got a proper village hall or community centre. This will be a very great asset to both villages. The fundraising committee have done a tremendous amount of work to get this project of the ground. They have run have lots of events and are still planning more which attract all sections of the community. Both Parish Councils are fully committed to the project"
20. **Councillor J Chatfield** "I support this application for an additional £10,000 towards the increased costs of the recreation ground project. There is much local fundraising taking place within the villages of Histon and Impington and this grant will help significantly towards the achievement of the project "
21. **Councillor M Mason** " I support the application from the Histon and Impington recreation ground project for an increase in grant from SCDC. I am sure you are aware of the financial situation in regard to the tenders and other fundraising which has been very well supported within the parishes"

Conclusions/Summary

22. Histon and Impington recreation ground is the home to four large sports clubs (Cricket, Football, Tennis and Bowls). The clubs have identified the need for these new facilities to ensure their development work can continue. The club development plans identify how the new facilities will provide opportunities for all ages and abilities to take part in sport and become physically active.

Recommendations

23. The Portfolio Holder for Community Services and officers recommend that Cabinet approves an increase of £10,000 towards the project making the total grant award £100,000.
24. Please note that the maximum grant for 1 village for a new pavilion is £50,000. This project offers very good value as it is for 2 large villages with a joint population of over 8,000 people and is providing a new pavilion and a multi-use games area.

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report: Application form and attached information.

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