



Report to:	Grants Advisory Committee 26/11/2021
Lead Cabinet Member:	Cllr John Williams
Lead Officer:	Bode Esan

Grants to Voluntary Sector: Zero Carbon Communities Grant 2021/22

Executive Summary

This report sets out proposals to the Grants Advisory Committee (GAC) for the use of remaining Zero Carbon Communities (ZCC) Grant Scheme funds, and to consider the application made by Gamlingay with Hatley St. George and East Hatley (the outcome of which was previously undecided) for funding. Members are asked to consider the options set out and make a recommendation to the Lead Cabinet Member for Finance.

Key Decision

1. This is not a key decision as the decision is regarding existing Zero Carbon Communities Grant Scheme funding.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that the GAC:
 - a. reviews all options for the remaining funding as indicated below;
 - b. considers the application made by Gamlingay with Hatley St. George and East Hatley (the outcome of which was previously undecided) for funding; and
 - c. agrees recommendations to the Lead Cabinet Member for Finance for re-allocating the ZCC Grant funding.

Reasons for Recommendations

3. The priorities for the ZCC grant fund were recommended by CEAC (4 Feb 2019) and by GAC (29 Mar 2019) and approved by Cabinet on 01 May 2019. The aim of the fund is to enable parish councils and community groups to run projects which engage communities in climate and environment-related projects and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.
4. Due to a series of unforeseen circumstances detailed in **Appendix A**, £20,544 remains unallocated to any project.

5. The outcome of the application made by Gamlingay with Hatley St. George and East Hatley was undecided and recommended for consideration at this GAC meeting.

Details

6. The advantages and disadvantages of the following options for re-allocating unspent ZCC Grant Funds are detailed in **Appendix B**.
7. Options for re-allocation unspent ZCC Grant funding are:
 - a. Option 1: Funding is rolled over to the ZCC Grant scheme in 2022.
 - b. Option 2: Funding is redirected to the Community Chest Grant (CCG) provided that the Biodiversity Grant, as proposed by the Sustainable Communities Team within this meeting, is added to the criteria.
 - c. Option 3: Funding is redirected into unfunded projects in Round 3 of the GAC. A summary of unfunded projects in Round 3 can be seen in **Appendix C**.
 - d. Option 4: Funding is returned to Council reserves.
8. It is recommended that “Option 1: Funding is rolled over to the ZCC Grant scheme in 2022.” is selected.
9. Details of the application made by Gamlingay with Hatley St. George and East Hatley PCC (Parochial Church Council) can be found in **Appendix D**.

Implications

10. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk, equality and diversity, climate change, and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered: -

Financial

11. The funding available remains within the Council’s budget for 2021-22.

Legal

12. Funding agreements with grant recipients will be drawn up in accordance with templates approved by the legal team. Funding agreements will allow variation or recovering of the grant in specific circumstances.

Consultation responses

13. This report has been circulated to the Climate and Environment Advisory Committee and Members of this committee have been invited to attend the GAC meeting to contribute their views.

Effect on Council Priority Areas

14. The Zero Carbon Communities grant scheme has attracted significant interest. All the aims below from the SCDC Business plan 2019-24, will be furthered by the project recommended for funding and by the recommendations for the allocation of the remaining funding.

Growing local businesses and economies

15. Promoting village-based businesses to encourage people to use local shops and food outlets.

16. Investing in renewable technologies.

17. Helping to ensure people's homes are close to their jobs and can be accessed by walking, cycling and using public transport.

Being green to our core

18. Supporting community groups to promote behavioural change and reduce the reliance on fossil fuels.

19. Helping communities to secure grants to fund green projects.

20. Protecting and enhancing the district's heritage and environment.

A modern and caring Council

21. Funding community and voluntary groups that benefit local people

Background Papers

Climate and Environment Advisory Committee Meeting, Monday 4th February 2019
[Agenda for Climate and Environment Advisory Committee on Monday, 4 February 2019, 3.00 p.m. \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](http://modern.gov.co.uk/Agenda%20for%20Climate%20and%20Environment%20Advisory%20Committee%20on%20Monday%2C%204%20February%202019%2C%203.00%20p.m.%20(modern.gov.co.uk))

Grants Advisory Committee Meeting, Friday 29th March 2019
[Agenda for Grants Advisory Committee on Friday, 29 March 2019, 10.00 a.m. \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](http://modern.gov.co.uk/Agenda%20for%20Grants%20Advisory%20Committee%20on%20Friday%2C%2029%20March%202019%2C%2010.00%20a.m.%20(modern.gov.co.uk))

Cabinet, 01 May 2019
<http://modern.gov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=293&MId=7365&Ver=4>

Climate and Environment Advisory Committee, Friday 27th November 2020
[Grants Advisory Committee Meeting Friday, 27 November 2020
http://modern.gov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1096&MId=7968&Ver=4](http://modern.gov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1096&MId=7968&Ver=4)

Grants Advisory Committee, 26 February 2021
<http://modern.gov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1096&MId=7971&Ver=4>

Climate and Advisory Committee Meeting, Tuesday 9 March 2021
[Agenda for Climate and Environment Advisory Committee on Tuesday, 9 March 2021, 2.00 p.m. \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Grants Advisory Committee, Friday 24th September 2021
[Agenda for Grants Advisory Committee on Friday, 24 September 2021, 1.30 p.m. \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Appendices

Appendix A: Reasoning behind remaining ZCC Funding.

Appendix B: Evaluation of options for funding re-allocation

Appendix C: Summary of unfunded projects in Round 3 of the ZCC Grant Scheme.

Appendix D: Summary of ZCC Grant application from Gamlingay with Hatley St. George and East Hatley PCC

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