

Grant Working Party 12 June 2012

Rural Initiatives Grant Scheme: Application for Project Funding: 2012/2013

1. Financial Background

- 1.1 The current Rural Initiatives Grant Scheme budget available for 2012/2013 is £33,026.89 (this consists of £4,079.21 for grants of £4,000 or less and £28,947.68 for grants of £4,000 or more). For information, a breakdown of grants awarded to projects since 2004/2005 have been previously circulated to the Working Party by email.

2. Fornham All Saints Parish Council

- 2.1 Fornham All Saints Parish Council would like a grant to purchase and install a skatepark on land adjacent to the Fornham All Saints Community Centre.
- 2.2 The project will be beneficial in the following ways:-
- (a) it will satisfy a local demand: 48 young people signed a petition on July 2011;
 - (b) it will provide physical activity for local young people, without having to travel into Bury St Edmunds (sport and physical education benefit);
 - (c) having a local skatepark will stimulate 'ownership' of the facility by local young people (to encourage civic responsibility and reduce anti-social behaviour);
 - (d) elimination of 'ferrying' mileage (sustainability benefit); and
 - (e) a local skatepark will encourage young people to avoid using local side roads with their equipment (safety and good neighbourliness).
- 2.3 The land on which the skatepark is due to be built, is leased from Fornham All Saints Parish Council to the Fornham All Saints Community Council. Planning officers at St Edmundsbury Borough Council have confirmed that planning permission will not be required for this project.
- 2.4 The application has been approved by the local Ward Member, Councillor Mrs Hopfensperger: *'This project is a much needed amenity for the young people in*

Fornham, they are currently being transported to the Bury St Edmunds skate park or using their skate boards in the cul-de-sacs. The use of the skate boards can prove to be annoying to residents and also parents are worried about their safety. A designated skate area would solve both of these concerns. The young people of Fornham have asked for the skate park, a 48 signature petition was sent to myself and the parish council. They have helped design the project and are raising funds towards the project. This shows their commitment to the cause and also instils a sense of ownership. I very much support this application the young people deserve to be rewarded for their hard work and commitment'.

- 2.5 The project complies with the following existing corporate priorities:-
- (a) to improve the safety and well being of the community; and
 - (b) to secure a sustainable and attractive environment.
- 2.6 The cost of the project is £34,800 (excluding VAT since the applicant can reclaim this). Fornham All Saints Parish Council has £6,000 from its own funds and £500 from collection jars (these were situated in the local shop and village pub). Local young people have planned a series of tombolas and car boot sales where they hope to raise up to £1,000 (their first tombola raised £268). The applicant also has confirmed funding of £8,000 from Havebury Housing Partnership.
- 2.7 The applicant has applied for, but not had confirmed, £4,000 from Suffolk County Council's Locality Budget and £5,000 from the Suffolk Foundation. Depending upon the success of these applications (and the total funding approved) the applicant will apply to other funders.
- 2.8 The cost of the project is made up of the skate park equipment (£28,000) and the tarmac (£6,000). The construction equipment (JCB) will be loaned free of charge from a local resident; the driver hire will be free of charge (a local qualified driver has volunteered his time); the hardcore will be supplied free of charge from a local resident; and local volunteers will assist with the labour involved in the site preparation. This volunteer work will come to an estimated 126 man hours.
- 2.9 The Grant Scoring Matrix for this application is attached as Appendix A to the report.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 It is **RECOMMENDED** that a grant of £8,000 be awarded to Fornham All Saints Parish Council to install a skatepark in the village.

For further information, please contact:-

Kirsty Pitwood, Economic Development Officer

Telephone: (01284) 757109, or email kirsty.pitwood@stedsbc.gov.uk

Appendix A – Grant scoring matrix

APPENDIX A

Grants Scoring Matrix –

Applicant: Fornham All Saints Parish Council
Date: 12 June 2012
Summary of project: To purchase and install a skatepark
Amount requested: £10,000
Amount recommended: £8,000
Total project cost: £34,800 (ex. VAT)

Criteria	Available points	Score
Matched Funding Sources	1 point = up to 50% external funding 3 points= 50% external funding and over Plus out of the matched funding element the local contribution: 2 points = if over 10% but under 20% 3 points = over 20%	3+3 (out of 6)
Council's priorities	Priorities that apply from Corporate Plan - 1 point per priority	2 (out of 4)
Risk to the Council	Low (1 point), Medium (3 points) or High (5 points) - an example of a low priority is something that does not cause a loss of service to the Council.	1 (out of 5)
Risk to the Applicant	Low (1 point), Medium (2 points) or High (3 points) - an example of a high priority is the loss of a facility such as a village hall that is well used.	1 (out of 3)
Community Impact	Low (1 point), Medium (3 points) or High (5 points) - high priority will generate increased usage, increased social inclusion and benefit others.	5 (out of 5)
Number of beneficiaries	1 point = exclusive group 2 points = groups open to all 3 points = village groups and Parish Councils	3 (out of 3)

Total Score (maximum score = 26 points): 18