

The former Chairman of the Grant Working Party has agreed that this can be considered as a matter of urgency, in accordance with S100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, in order that this matter can be resolved within the necessary timescale

D35

Grant Working Party 12 June 2012

Rural Initiatives Grant Scheme: Application for Project Funding: 2012/2013 – Kedington Community Association

- 1. Kedington Community Association**
- 1.1 Kedington Community Association would like a grant to upgrade the heating and hot water system at Kedington Community Centre to a modern, efficient and effective system.
- 1.2 This project is necessary because the current boiler heat exchanger is leaking and in need of urgent replacement. The cost of replacing the exchanger is significant, plus it would not offer the advantages of the proposed upgrade. This situation has provided the Community Association with an opportunity that they do not want to miss.
- 1.3 The community centre was built 40 years ago, at which time a basic gravity fed heating system was installed operated by a single boiler, which is either on or off. The existing boiler is about 16/17 years old and is at the end of its life expectancy. Two years ago the Association installed wireless Thermostatic control of the heating. Sadly this had limited success in terms of energy saving due to the inefficient nature of the system, with a lack of radiators in strategic locations to combat heat loss. The hot water is currently run by an electric immersion heater.
- 1.4 The proposed upgrade will result in substantial benefits, including:-
 - (a) a fully pressurised hot water system;
 - (b) new radiators in areas previously excluded (for example, toilets);
 - (c) additional radiators in areas to combat heat loss and help maintain an adequate room temperature (less gas); and
 - (d) zonal control of the building (hitherto impossible) for greater energy efficiency (for example, library only when the community centre is closed).

- 1.5 The application has been approved by the local Ward Member, Councillor Mrs Rushbrook: *'I fully back the Kedington Community Association's application for this grant to update and improve the community centre. It is 7 years since they last received money from the borough council. The association provide the centre and facilities for many clubs/groups in Kedington'*.
- 1.6 The project fits 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.
- 1.7 The cost of the project is £13,027 (including VAT since the applicant cannot reclaim this). Kedington Community Association has £3,027 from its own funds, and applied for, but not confirmed, funding of £5,000 from the Suffolk Foundation.
- 1.8 The Grant Scoring Matrix for this application is attached as Appendix A to this report.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 It is **RECOMMENDED** that a grant of £5,000 be awarded to Kedington Community Association to upgrade the heating and hot water system at Kedington Community Centre.

3. Note of Importance

- 3.1 It should be noted that applications for grants of £5,000 or less are usually only put forward once the applicant has had all their match-funding confirmed. In this particular instance, however, the Suffolk Foundation has also stipulated this requirement. Officers have therefore decided that the sensible solution is to present this application to the meeting of the Grant Working Party for consideration in order to avoid delaying its determination any further. Should Members wish to approve the grant, it may be appropriate to add a stipulation that the grant is subject to the remaining match-funding being secured.

For further information, please contact:-

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Appendix A – Grant scoring matrix

Grants Scoring Matrix

Applicant: Kedington Community Association
Date: 12 June 2012
Summary of project: To upgrade the heating and hot water system at Kedington Community Centre.
Amount requested: £6,500
Amount recommended: £5,000
Total project cost: £13,027 (inc. 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.	2 (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.	1 (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): 15