

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – Allocation of CIL funds

Report of the Planning Portfolio Holder

Recommended:

That the applications for CIL funding set out in this report are determined in accordance with the recommendations contained in paragraph 3 and release of £1,202,808 be authorised.

Recommendation to Council

SUMMARY:

- This report sets out a summary of the bids received during September-November 2020, an evaluation of each project, and
- Funding recommendations made for each project.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report outlines 7 projects that were submitted during the September-November 2020 round of the CIL bidding process and the resultant funding recommendations.
- 1.2 The report includes a brief description of each project, a percentage score against the Spending Protocol scoring criteria and a funding recommendation.
- 1.3 There is currently £2,451,000 in the main infrastructure fund. This is after taking into account the Neighbourhood Portion passed to Parish and Town Councils as well as administrative expenses.

2 Background

- 2.1 The CIL Spending Protocol and scoring methodology was adopted by Council on the 8 November 2017.
- 2.2 This round of CIL bidding ran between 1 September and 30 November 2020.
- 2.3 The following paragraphs outline each project and provide a recommendation for funding based on the approved scoring methodology.
- 2.4 The approved Bid Assessment document is attached at Annex 1 to the report. This is made up of 10 questions with a maximum score of 120 points. Questions 1 and 2 are heavily weighted as they are linked to CIL's main purpose which is to enable or mitigate the impacts of development. An average percentage score is presented below alongside a funding recommendation.

- 2.5 All bids are assessed against the same criteria meaning that a scheme with a total cost of £15,000 will be scored in the same way as a scheme with a total cost of £15,000,000.
- 2.6 Smaller schemes are likely to score lower as the level of detail required for the project is not as significant as a large scheme. This means that the threshold for recommendation reduces along with total project cost.

3 Funding Recommendations

3.1 Project 1 – New Community Clubhouse at Trojans Sports Club

Lead Organisation – Trojans Sports Club

Description – Develop a 2 story clubhouse with changing rooms and social facilities.

Evaluation of project – A well evidenced need alongside a range of benefits from the proposed clubhouse. Supporting documentation showed teams representing a range of sports fully supported the proposals. The new clubhouse will provide a high class sports facility for residents in the South of the Borough.

Average Score – 74%

Recommendation – That Cabinet approve the release of £350,000 towards a new community clubhouse at Trojans Sports Club.

3.2 Project 2 – Construction of a new Village Hall in Monxton

Lead Organisation – Monxton Parish Council

Description – Demolition of current village hall and construction of a new oak framed design maximising natural lighting and energy efficiency.

Evaluation of project – A detailed bid that made a strong case for a new community hub in Monxton. Detailed consultation has shown key issues from users of the existing village hall. This has allowed for a design that focuses on the requests of the intended user groups. The Parish have undertaken a good risk assessment and have addressed potential issues at the pre-development stage.

Average Score – 67%

Recommendation – That Cabinet approve the release of £345,000 towards the construction of a new village hall in Monxton.

3.3 Project 3 – New Sports Pavilion at Broughton Playing Field

Lead Organisation – Broughton Parish Council

Description – Replacement sports pavilion to serve football and cricket teams in the locality in addition to use for non-sporting and community events.

Evaluation of project – Clearly evidenced submission with strong support from the clubs that utilise the formal recreation facilities. The project looks to address issues of compliance with sporting bodies from the current outdated pavilion. A strong project that will deliver clear benefits to the many regular users of the playing fields.

Average Score – 62%

Recommendation – That Cabinet approve the release of £200,000 towards a new sports pavilion at Broughton Playing Field.

3.4 **Project 4 – Abbots Ann Sports Field and Community Clubhouse**

Lead Organisation – Abbots Ann Parish Council

Description – A new Clubhouse and Multi Use Games Area at Bulbery Sports Field.

Evaluation of project – A proposal to improve the formal recreation offer in Abbots Ann. Effective communication and consultation has shown that the project is a top priority for the local community. This project delivers on these local aspirations.

Average Score – 60%

Recommendation – That Cabinet approve the release of £250,000 towards a community clubhouse and Multi Use Games Area at Bulbery Sports Field. Subject to £325,000 of additional funding being secured by 31 December 2023.

3.5 **Project 5 – North Baddesley Fitness Equipment**

Lead Organisation – Test Valley Borough Council

Description – To purchase and install three outdoor gym stations at Fleming Avenue, Lavington Gardens and North Baddesley Recreation Ground. An accessible 5km circular route will be formed as part of the installation.

Evaluation of project – The project addresses an identified need in the locality and provides additional informal recreation opportunities for residents. Consultation showed widespread support for the scheme.

Average Score – 60%

Recommendation – That Cabinet approve the release of £40,000 towards the procurement and installation of three outdoor gym stations in North Baddesley and the creation of a 5km circular route.

3.6 **Project 6 – Traffic Calming in Kings Somborne**

Lead Organisation – Kings Somborne Parish Council

Description – A series of traffic calming measures including gateways, signage and posts on various roads in Kings Somborne.

Evaluation of project – The scheme is supported by the County Council and is already part funded through Section 106 contributions. Consultation showed support for the measures from residents, businesses and community groups.

Average Score – 53%

Recommendation – That Cabinet approve the release of £17,808 towards a series of traffic calming measures in Kings Somborne.

3.7 **Project 7 – Wellow Groundsman’s Hut**

Lead Organisation – Wellow Parish Council

Description – Replacement of cricket groundsman’s hut at West Wellow Recreation Ground.

Evaluation of project – A lack of supporting documentation and evidence of community consultation meant low scores. The project is not deemed to address an identified need in the community and would be best placed within a larger scheme to improve formal recreation opportunities in the parish.

Average Score – 20%

Recommendation – That Cabinet refuse the request for £10,000 for a replacement groundsman’s hut. Feedback will be provided to the Parish Council.

4 **Objectives and Priorities**

4.1 This report covers the following Corporate Priorities set out in the Corporate Plan 2019 – 2023 as shown below.

4.2 Communities – Five of the successful bids are being led by Parish Councils. Three of which are large schemes that have had extensive community involvement. Trojans Sports Club’s project will result in a high quality community asset that will be used by many Test Valley residents.

5 **Consultations/Communications**

5.1 There has been no external consultation because the report reflects the outcomes of an approved methodology. Projects listed have gone through various forms of consultation prior to bids being submitted as is required by the assessment criteria.

6 **Options**

6.1 **Option 1** – To approve the recommendations and the release of £1,202,808.

6.2 **Option 2** – To refuse or approve any or all of the projects against the recommendations.

7 Option Appraisal

Option 1

- 7.1 Option 1 is the recommended Option. The recommendations contained in the report are a result of a transparent and fair assessment of each application using the criteria approved by Cabinet on the 18 October 2017.

Option 2

- 7.2 Any or all of the projects may be approved or refused against the recommendations. As set out at Option 1, the recommendations contained in this report are arrived at as a result of careful assessment using established and Council-approved criteria. Therefore Option 2 is not recommended.

8 Risk Management

- 8.1 An evaluation of the risks associated with the matters in this report indicate that further risk assessment is not needed because the changes/issues covered do not represent significant risks or have previously been considered by Councillors.

9 Resource Implications

- 9.1 The funding for these projects will come from the Council's CIL receipts. No other resources will be used.

10 Legal Implications

- 10.1 No legal implications for Option 1.

11 Equality Issues

- 11.1 An EQIA screening has been completed in accordance with the Council's EQIA methodology and no potential for unlawful discrimination and/or low level or minor negative impact have been identified, therefore a full EQIA has not been carried out.

12 Other Issues

- 12.1 Wards/Communities Affected – The projects listed affect the following communities: Chilworth, Monxton, Broughton, Abbots Ann, North Baddesley, Kings Somborne, Wellow.

13 Conclusion

- 13.1 Approval is sought to release CIL funds to the following projects:

- New Community Clubhouse at Trojans Sports Club – £350,000
- Construction of a new Village Hall in Monxton – £345,000
- New Sports Pavilion at Broughton Playing Field – £200,000

- Abbotts Ann Sports Field and Community Clubhouse – £250,000
- North Baddesley Fitness Equipment – £40,000
- Traffic Calming in Kings Somborne – £17,808

Background Papers (Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D)

Cabinet report from the 18 October 2017.

Confidentiality

It is considered that this report does not contain exempt information within the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and can be made public.

No of Annexes:	1	File Ref:	N/A
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(Planning Portfolio) Councillor N Adams-King

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Report to:	Cabinet	Date:	18 August 2021
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