

Report to: Community Grant Panel



Date of Meeting 17 March 2023

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release [Click here to enter review date for release of document if currently covered by exemption above or state "N/A"](#)

Community Buildings Fund

Report summary:

East Devon District Council has a Community Buildings Fund. This gives out grants of up to £5,000 to community buildings and community shops in rural areas, so not in areas covered by town councils.

We have had three applications in from Kilmington Village Hall, Umborne Village Hall and Payhembury Provisions Community Shop, decisions need to be made on those. The Community Grants Panel has the authority to make decisions on those applications.

Is the proposed decision in accordance with:

Budget Yes No

Policy Framework Yes No

Recommendation:

- (1) That the Community Grant Panel consider the three attached applications to the Community Buildings Fund and make decisions on whether to give them the grant they are requesting.
- (2) That the Community Grant Panel recommends to Cabinet that the remaining balance within the fund is carried forward in to the fund for 2023/24.

Reason for recommendation:

The Community Grant Panel has the authority to make decisions on the Community Buildings Fund applications.

Officer: Joanne Avery, Management Information Officer, javery@eastdevon.gov.uk

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- Climate Action and Emergency Response
- Coast, Country and Environment
- Council and Corporate Co-ordination
- Democracy, Transparency and Communications
- Economy and Assets
- Finance
- Strategic Planning
- Sustainable Homes and Communities

Tourism, Sports, Leisure and Culture

Equalities impact Low Impact

If choosing High or Medium level outline the equality considerations here, which should include any particular adverse impact on people with protected characteristics and actions to mitigate these. Link to an equalities impact assessment form using the [equalities form template](#).

Climate change Medium Impact

Risk: Low Risk; Click here to enter text on risk considerations relating to your report.

Links to background information [Community Buildings Fund - East Devon](#)

Appendix A - [Kilmington Village Hall information pack](#)

Appendix B - [Umborne Hall information pack](#)

Appendix C - [Payhembury Community Shop information pack](#)

Link to [Council Plan](#)

Priorities (check which apply)

- Better homes and communities for all
- A greener East Devon
- A resilient economy

Report in full

1. Every year, for at least 15 years, East Devon District Council has had a Community Buildings Fund.
2. There are two closing dates each year, to allow for more timely decisions on grants. This financial year the closing dates were the 27 June 2022 and 9 January 2023.
3. The attached are the two latest applications to that fund from:
 - a. Kilmington Village Hall applying for £5,000 to help fund solar panels on the hall. They have a shortfall of £1,565 which they have plans in place to raise
 - b. Umborne Hall applying for £1,458.98 to help fund replacement decking. They have all the remaining funding in place. New quotes were needed as they had become out of date from the time of application to the panel meeting, so the cost as increased slightly.
 - c. Payhembury Provisions Community Shop applying for £3,000 to help fund solar panels. They have all the funding in place.

I have done an initial eligibility check and an assessment of those applications, purely as a guide to Councillors on the decision making panel. Councillors can disagree with any part of my assessment if they wish.

4. There is enough money available in the fund to fund both these applications if Councillors wish to do so. The fund is £35,000 for the year 2022/23 with only two grants being agreed so far this year totalling £5,620.20. The total monies requested by the three applicants is £9,458.89.
5. Unfortunately this fund has not been published and promoted as it has been in previous years due to the absence of the Funding and Engagement officer. Due to this ongoing

absence the Management Information officer has picked up this work and has made best endeavours to get the applications received to this panel.

6. The panel may wish to consider a recommendation that the remaining funds from this year are carried forward into 2023/24. Usually with this fund any remaining balance is not carried forward to the next year. However due to the difficult circumstances faced this year with the funding not being promoted as usual to panel may wish to recommend that for this year the balance is carried forward.

Financial implications:

Contained within the report and its attachments.

Legal implications:

There are no legal implications requiring comment.