

Date: 6 October 2008

TO: All Members of the South East
Area Committee
FOR ATTENDANCE

TO: All Other Members of the Council
FOR INFORMATION

Dear Sir/Madam

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE** to be held in the **CIVIC HALL, WANTAGE** on **TUESDAY, 14TH OCTOBER, 2008** at **6.30 PM**.

Yours faithfully



Carole Nicholl
Head of Democratic Services

Members are reminded of the provisions contained in the Code of Conduct adopted on 30 September 2007 and Standing Order 34 regarding the declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

A G E N D A

Open to the Public including the Press

A large print version of this agenda is available. Any background papers referred to may be inspected by prior arrangement. Contact Steve Culliford, Democratic Services Officer, on telephone number (01235) 540307; e-mail: steve.culliford@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

Please note that this meeting will be held in a wheelchair accessible venue. If you would like to attend and have any special access requirements, please let the Democratic Officer know beforehand and he will do his very best to meet your requirements.

Map and Vision

(Pages 3 - 4)

A map showing the location of the venue for this meeting, together with a copy the Council Vision are attached.

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence.

2. Minutes

To adopt and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee South East Area Committee held on 10 June 2008, (previously circulated with the Council Summons dated 16 July 2008).

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

In accordance with Part 2 of the Local Code of Conduct and the provisions of Standing Order 34, any Member with a personal interest must disclose the existence and nature of that interest to the meeting prior to the matter being debated. Where that personal interest is also a prejudicial interest, then the Member must withdraw from the room in which the meeting is being held and not seek improperly to influence any decision about the matter unless he/she has obtained a dispensation from the Standards Committee.

4. Urgent Business and Chairman's Announcements

To receive notification of any matters, which the Chairman determines, should be considered as urgent business and the special circumstances, which have made the matters urgent, and to receive any announcements from the Chairman.

5. Statements and Petitions from the Public Under Standing Order 32

Any statements and/or petitions from the public under Standing Order 32 will be made or presented at the meeting.

6. Questions from the Public Under Standing Order 32

Any questions from members of the public under Standing Order 32 will be asked at the meeting.

7. South East Area Committee Community Grants

(Pages 5 - 15)

To receive and consider report 90/08 of the Strategic Director.

Exempt Information Under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972

None



OUR VISION AND AIMS

Our Vision is to build and safeguard a fair, open and compassionate community

The Vale of White Horse District Council aims to:

Strengthen local democracy and public involvement through access to information, consultation, and devolution of power so that everyone can take part in our community and contribute to the decisions which affect our lives

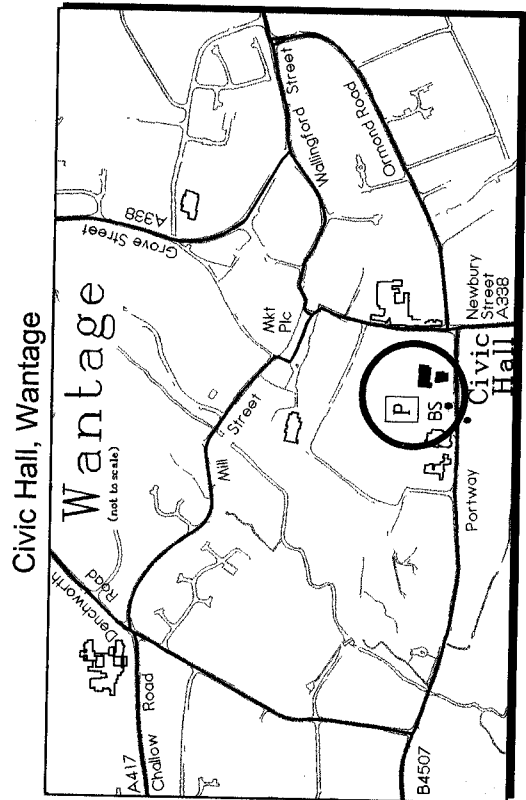
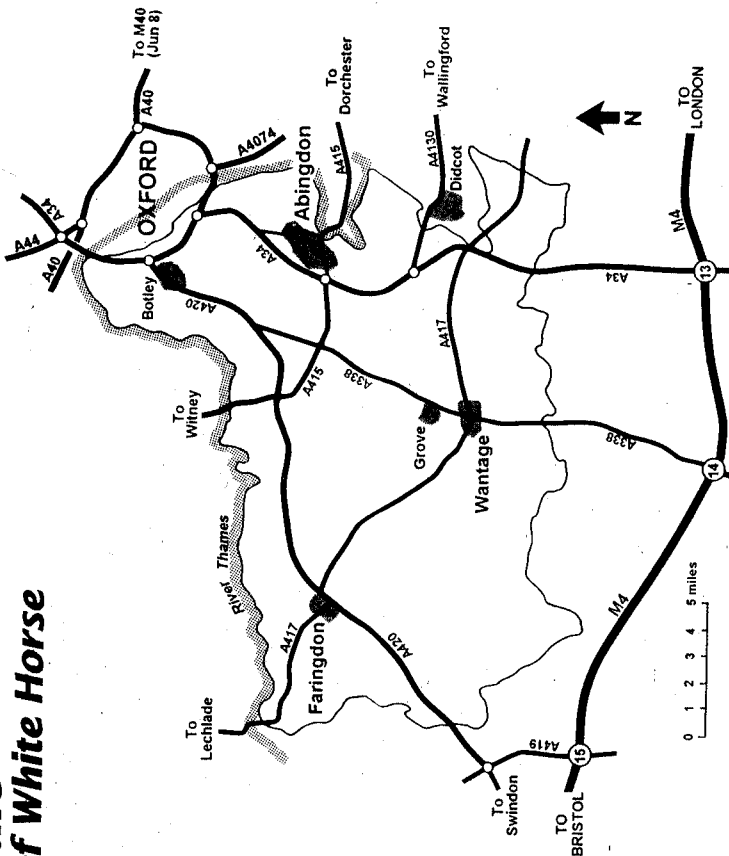
Create a safer community and improve the quality of life among Vale residents

Encourage a strong and sustainable economy which benefits all who live in, work in or visit the Vale

Help disadvantaged groups and individuals within the Vale to realise their full potential

Provide and support high quality public services which are effective, efficient and responsive to the needs of people within the Vale

Protect and improve our built and natural environment



LOCATION MAP





The Council's Vision Statement

Our Vision and Aims-

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Protect and improve our built and natural environment

*Adopted by the Vale of White Horse District Council
16th November 2005*

**REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR
TO THE SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE
14 OCTOBER 2008**

Community Grants

1.0 Introduction and Report Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the current budget position for this Committee in respect of Community Grants and to invite Members to consider and determine the grant applications received since the last meeting of the Committee.
- 1.2 The contact officer for this report is Lorna Edwards, Community Strategy Officer, telephone (01235 547626). **Email address: lorna.edwards@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.**

2.0 Recommendations

- (a) *that Members note the current budget position for the South East Area Committee;*
- (b) *that Members consider and determine the grant applications for the following organisations and agree the Agenda and priority:*
- (i) **Childrey Playing Field Trust, £2,499**, towards fitting out the sports pavilion, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
 - (ii) **Wantage Parish Music Guild, £1,750**, towards staging a musical community project, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
 - (iii) **DAMASCUS Youth Project, £3,500**, towards the costs of employing youth workers, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
 - (iv) **White Horse Croquet Club, £500**, towards the costs of maintenance equipment and a storage facility
 - (v) **Springline Amateur Dramatic Society, £6,000**, towards the cost of repairs to the stage and installations in the village hall, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

3.0 Relationship with the Council's Vision, Strategies and Policies

This report supports the Council's Vision and Priorities in that it supports creating a cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment. It does not conflict with any Council strategy or any Council policy.

Furthermore, the award of grants to community and voluntary sector groups helps to deliver actions set out in the draft Sustainable Community Strategy which aims to improve the quality of life for everyone in the Vale.

4.0 The Community Grants Budget

- 4.1 The current budget position of the South East Area Committee is as follows:

Budget b/f 2007 /08	Budget 2008/09	Total budget 2008/9	Environmental Agenda Proportion	Social Agenda Proportion	Economic Agenda Proportion	Discretionary Proportion
£1,135.88	£22,587.00	£23,722.88	£7,905.45	£7,905.45	£2,258.70	£5,653.28
	Allocated	£10,474.88 (less £1,000 grant not needed)	£4,224.88 (less £1,000)	£6,250.00	£0	£0
	Remaining	£14,248.00	£4,680.57	£1,655.45	£2,258.70	£5,653.28

4.2 Since the last meeting of the Committee, the Council has been advised that the grant of £1,000 awarded to the Wantage War Memorial Committee on 31 July 2007 is no longer required as sufficient funding was raised from other sources. This sum is therefore returned to the Committee's budget giving a total remaining budget for 2008/09 of £14,248.

5.0 Applications

5.1 Applications totalling £14,249 have been received from the following organisations.

(i)**Childrey Playing Field Trust, £2,499**, towards fitting out the sports pavilion, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

(ii)**Wantage Parish Music Guild, £1,750**, towards staging a musical community project, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

(iii)**DAMASCUS Youth Project, £3,500**, towards the costs of employing youth workers, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

(iv)**White Horse Croquet Club, £500**, towards the costs of maintenance equipment and a storage facility

(v)**Springline Amateur Dramatic Society, £6,000**, towards the cost of repairs to the stage and installations in the village hall, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

5.2 A narrative for each of the applications is set out in Appendix A to this report.

TOBY WARREN
HEAD OF COMMUNITY STRATEGY

STEVE BISHOP
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

(i) Applicant: Childrey Playing Field Trust

Years in existence: 32 years

Type of organisation: Registered charity

Project, service or event details: The Childrey Playing Field Trust is seeking a grant towards the building and fitting out of a new pavilion.

In spite of repairs to the previous pavilion, the structure had become unsafe and it was clear that a new pavilion was required. The Trust has raised sufficient funding to complete the outer shell and fit out the changing rooms and showers. However, further funding is required to complete and fit out the public area (5m x 8m) including the entrance hall, disabled toilet, clubroom and small kitchen.

A safe pavilion is essential for the football teams and other users of the playing field. The old structure, a disused chicken house donated and converted in 1976, was past repair after 32 years of continuous use. The football leagues are demanding an improved standard of facilities from their participants, so a replacement pavilion is required urgently.

Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands: Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Health & Wellbeing

Area of the Vale covered: Childrey and surrounding villages (West Challow, Sparsholt, Westcot); the playing field is also used by residents from Grove, Wantage, East Hendred and other villages.

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 500+

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Home adult football teams are charged £15 and juniors £10 per home match to use the facilities. Use of the new public area of the pavilion for private events in future is likely to be subject to a fixed charge, but no levels have been set yet.

Total estimated project cost: £85,887 excl VAT; £86,451.00 incl VAT (VAT can be reclaimed)

Balances: £45,200.00 at 05.04.08 earmarked for the rebuilding of the pavilion.

Running costs: Nil due to new build

Own Contribution: Approx £65,000 raised to date including the £45,200 in balances.

Grant Sought: £2,499.00

Previous Awards (Vale): None

Parish Council Support: £3,500 (An additional £1,500 has been allocated to the replacement of the Play Area which is also being undertaken by the

Trust).

Parish Precept: £11,000 (Band D £45.03)

Other Support: Sammermar Trust £300, Godfrey and Fettiplace Trust £1,000.

Childrey Methodist Church £50, Childrey PCC £500

Local companies: Grahams, GC Interiors and other local tradesmen (£8,200 worth of materials and labour), Infineum, Brick Kiln Car Bodies – awaiting decision.

Applications also made to Childrey Welfare Trust, Country Gentlemen's Association, Waitrose Community Matters – awaiting decision.

WREN has been approached for funding for the play area so no application has been made towards the pavilion.

Football Foundation and Awards for All have been approached but they required a more substantial structure than that required for a village the size of Childrey.

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£2,499
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Health & Wellbeing
Remaining budget	£14,248
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£7,500
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	The project aims to provide good quality sports facilities for the community which is a key priority in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

(ii) Applicant: Wantage Parish Music Guild

Years in existence: 10 years

Type of organisation: Registered charity

Project, service or event details: Wantage Parish Music Guild is seeking a grant towards the staging of "Into the Light", a community oratorio. This is a major musical community project commissioned by Wantage Parish Church to celebrate completion of works (funded by the Arts council and the Parish) to develop public performance facilities and accessibility in the Grade 1 listed church building.

Harvey Brough, a noted musician and composer with an impressive record in creating community pieces was selected with librettist James Runcie to write "Into the Light". The piece is based on a first century story of a young woman who rejects society's expectations

to live a spiritual life, triumphing over family prejudice, male oppression and the threat of state execution to fulfil her destiny. The piece combines jazz, Negro Spirituals and middle-eastern tonality.

The premiere will take place in Wantage Parish Church on 15 November 2008. One of the UK's leading musicians, Andrew Parrott, has agreed to conduct the premiere without a fee. Harvey Brough will also perform and run preparatory workshops in the community, also without a fee.

The performance will be accessible to all and is the culmination of a programme to give wider accessibility (including disabled access) to arts events in Wantage Parish Church. Local schools have expressed enthusiasm for engaging with the project.

Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands: Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality

Area of the Vale covered: Wantage

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 270+ for the first performance (including audience and performers); additional people may attend the preparatory workshops. Audiences for this piece and others at the venue over the next decade are estimated to be many thousands.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Ticket price £12, concessions £8 though if full grant awarded this would reduce the ticket price by £2.00

Total estimated project cost: £6,150.00

Balances: £4,597.54 as at 31.08.07 (Large amount of balance already committed)

Running costs: £2,807.59 year ending 31.08.07

Own Contribution: £4,000 (Parish Church) to commission the work. Expect to raise at least £400 through choir events.

Grant Sought: £1,750.00

Previous Awards (Vale): None

Parish Council Support: Applied to the Town Council (outcome awaited)

Parish Precept: £121,000.00 (Band D £31.30)

Other Support: Artists and performers are donating time without fee to a total value of £1,600. Local businesses £200 to date. Private donations £200. Several musical grant making bodies have been approached without success to date.

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£1,500
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes

Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality
Remaining budget	£14,248
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£8,499
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	This project aims to encourage community cohesion by reducing barriers to faith groups playing their full part in community life; it also seeks to provide improved facilities for arts performances. These are key priorities for action in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

(iii) Applicant: DAMASCUS Youth Project

Years in existence: 9 Years

Type of organisation: Charity

Project, service or event details: The DAMASCUS Youth Project is seeking funding towards the cost of employing Youth Workers, whose objectives are:

- To enable young people to challenge and change the way communities perceive young people who congregate outside shop fronts/on street corners and get them to take young people seriously as potential young community leaders
- To raise young people's aspirations and build their confidence and skills to articulate and present their points of view at meetings with adults in community settings
- To train a small group of young people as young community leaders.
- To enable young people to reach their full potential and, where appropriate, connect them to existing provision where they have not been able to access it due to lack of confidence, awareness etc.

There is a recognition that the support young people are given must be an integral part of their life in the community and not just a service delivered through schools or community centres. The youth workers are ex-beneficiaries of DAMASCUS so they are all credible role models for the young people involved in the project. They have done an excellent job in befriending some of the most hard to reach young people in the area, giving them a sense of purpose and even transforming their lives.

To reach out to all young people a variety of provision is offered such as a mobile drop-in bus, youth clubs/drop in, street work, specific activities.

The project is at a critical stage in that all community stakeholders and young people are engaged and full of excitement at the potential for community involvement. This work relies heavily on the current youth work staffing and will receive an enormous setback should it not be possible to renew the employment contracts. The project is applying to the BIG Lottery for funding for the youth workers but will not know the outcome until at least July 2009. The Parish Councils and Champion Recruitment are providing ongoing funding. This application

is to make up the shortfall until the outcome of the Big Lottery application is known. The project expects that their financial support for the youth workers will reduce in about one year's time as the current work starts to bear fruit and less facilitating support will be required by young people.

Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands: Safe & supportive Communities, Education & Lifelong Learning, Health & Wellbeing

Area of the Vale covered: Steventon, Milton (South East Area) and Drayton, Appleford, Sutton Courtenay (Abingdon Area)

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 400+

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Nominal fee of £1 for youth clubs and sports' activities. No charge for the bus (funded by a lottery grant) or for the outreach work on the street.

Total estimated project cost: £55,744.00 excl VAT, £56,047.00 incl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Balances: £53,602.04 as at 04.05.08

Running costs: £39,935.50

Own Contribution: £6,574

Grant Sought: £3,500 (grant of £6,500 also being sought from Abingdon Area Committee)

Previous Awards (Vale): None

Parish Council Support: £7,000 has been awarded from the five "DAMASCUS" Parish Councils

Parish Precept: Drayton £24,000 (Band D £25.33)
 Appleford £6,200 (Band D £38.47)
 Milton £18,000 (Band D £37.23)
 Sutton Courtenay £34,513 (Band D £35.00)
 Steventon £23,500 (Band D £37.42)

Other Support:

This is the final nine months of funding from the Big Lottery Fund (£12,873 this year). Parochial Church Councils and All Saints' Sutton Courtenay £9,000. Champion Recruitment £10,000

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£3,500
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Safe & supportive Communities,

	Education & Lifelong Learning, Health & Wellbeing
Remaining budget	£14,248
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£6,499
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	This project supports and develops initiatives that break the cycle of deprivation, encourages young people to participate in decisions within the community and seeks to reduce anti-social behaviour. These are all key priorities for action in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

(iv) Applicant: White Horse Croquet Club

Years in existence: Formed in Spring 2008

Type of organisation: Club

Project, service or event details: The club is seeking a grant towards the cost of purchasing equipment (including a mower) to maintain two greens; it is also seeking to purchase its own storage facility.

The club now has twenty-six members and one green; only eight members are able to play at one time. The club is keen to enter a league but is unable to do so with only one green.

The Club is open to anyone of any age and ability.

The Secretary of the Club is taking part in the government initiative Change4Life which is to encourage people of all ages to be more active. She was involved in the Over 50s sports activity day run by the District Council's Sports Development Team in September.

Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands: Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Health & Wellbeing

Area of the Vale covered: Wantage and Grove and surrounding villages including the Hendreds, Hanneys, Letcombes, Challows, Childrey and Faringdon.

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 70

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: £20 annual subscription

Total estimated project cost: £2,000 (to be confirmed)

Balances: £244.87 as at 07.09.08

Running costs: New club so too early for annual costs to be known.

Own Contribution: Running the club

Grant Sought: £500.00

Previous Awards (Vale): None

Parish Council Support: Wantage Town Council £100.00

Parish Precept: £121,000.00 (Band 'D': £31.30)

Other Support: Has contacted OCVA about potential sources of funding. Has received help and advice from Blewbury Croquet Club.

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£500
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Health & Wellbeing
Remaining budget	£14,248
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£9,499
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions and subject to evidence of costs involved
Other comments	This project promotes physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle. This is a key priority for action in the Sustainable Community Strategy

(v) **Applicant: Springline Amateur Dramatic Society, East Hendred**

Years in existence: 1 year (Founded in June 2007)

Type of organisation: Amateur Dramatic Society

Project, service or event details: The Springline Amateur Dramatic Society is seeking a grant towards the repair and resurfacing of the stage and the installation of the following items: a PA Sound System with induction loop and permanent wiring, a central lighting bar above the stage to enable theatre lighting and stage equipment to be safely attached and operated through a Lighting Console, permanent and separate electrical sockets backstage to enable specialist theatre equipment to be safely operated

The improvements will not only benefit the members of the Society but also the other users of the village hall such as Scouts, Play Group, Golden Age, Brownies and Guides, Women's Institute, Bowls and Tennis Club.

Snells Hall is the venue for over 200 functions a year and attracts about 3,000 local users. As such it is a vital part of village life.

The hall's management committee has identified the work described as a priority but has not been able to allocate the necessary funds to carry out the work having recently undertaken a refit of the kitchen. Its current fundraising efforts are for the repair of the cupola. A WREN grant has been awarded for this which means that the hall management committee cannot apply for another WREN grant within two years.

The management committee will take ownership of the equipment and installations as soon as they are tested and commissioned. Maintenance will be supported by the management committee as part of their operating costs but will be enhanced by Springline with ongoing upkeep and upgrades over the years.

Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands: Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Health & Wellbeing, Education & Lifelong Learning

Area of the Vale covered: East Hendred, west Hendred, Rowstock, Harwell, Ardington and Wantage

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 750

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Snells Hall will increase its charges as facilities are improved; greater use is anticipated with the improved facilities leading to a more financially viable village hall. The Society's charges are for seats, programmes and DVDs.

Total estimated project cost: £17,509.09 excl VAT; £20,293.18 incl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Balances: £774

Running costs: £2,607 for the period 18.09.07 – 31.01.08

Own Contribution: £3,774

Grant Sought: £6,000

Previous Awards (Vale): None

Parish Council Support: Parish Council provided a start-up loan of £300 in 2007 and this has been repaid. Has applied for a grant of £500 (outcome awaited).

Parish Precept: £18,000 (Band 'D': £38.03)

Other Support: Has applied to:

Awards for All (refused on basis that project benefits mainly another organisation)

WREN for £8,717 (going through review stage)

Oxford Grassroots £8,000 (outcome awaited)

Arts Council (London & South East) and Lauren Bell (declined as funds not available for small project)

Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Maximum of £2,000 but see comments.
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes but see comments
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Health & Wellbeing, Education & Lifelong Learning
Remaining budget	£14,248
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£7,999
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions.
Other comments	The level of grant sought is high because the applicant is awaiting the outcome of applications totalling £16,717 to two other funders. If these applications are successful no funding is required from the District Council. If they are partially successful it is recommended that a grant of no more than £2,000 is awarded towards the shortfall, in view of the Committee's limited budget. The project aims to improve existing facilities and should encourage more people to become involved in cultural activities locally. These are key priorities for action in the Sustainable Community Strategy.