

LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND UPON THAMES

DATE:

DECISION OF: Cabinet Member for Equality, Communities and Voluntary Sector Cllr Wilson. Cabinet Member for Environment, Planning and Sustainability Cllr Elengorn. Cabinet Member for Business, Economy and Employment (including property) Cllr Acton.

SUBJECT: Community Fund

WARDS: The Borough of Richmond upon Thames

PUBLIC REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The community infrastructure levy (CIL) is a levy that local authorities may raise from developers who are undertaking new building projects in their area. The funds raised must go towards infrastructure necessary to support the development of the area. The CIL (Amendment) Regulations 2013 require local authorities to allocate a proportion of CIL receipts as Neighbourhood CIL (NCIL). Neighbourhood CIL (NCIL) must be used in the locality directly affected by development, and is to be spent on priorities in accordance with the wishes of the residents. Richmond has named NCIL the Community Fund.
- 1.2 Following approval of a report to Cabinet on 16th March 2017, the criteria, process and allocation were developed and the Village Planning Fund (NCIL) was launched on 14 June 2017. In the first round of the fund; 35 applications were received, 16 were validated by the Programme Board and 3035 residents voted across the borough. A total of £826,750 was allocated to 15 projects across the borough.
- 1.3 In the second round 28 applications were received, 9 were validated by the Programme Board and 2,394 valid responses were received from residents voted across the borough. Please see Appendix A for further information on all validated applications and Appendix B for a breakdown of the consultation results. The Council aims to maximise spend on validated applications. The factors taken into consideration are;
 - Community Fund Programme Board validation
 - Public consultation results
 - Evidence of community benefit
 - Amount requested and match funding
 - Other funding received from the Council
 - Ability to deliver within agreed timescales and viability

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 In consideration of the factors listed in paragraph 1.3 it is recommended that the following projects are funded;

Barnes, East Sheen and Mortlake

- Improvement to Suffolk Road Recreation Ground in Barnes - £15,000

Ham and Petersham

- Grey Court Community Sports Centre - £56,666

Twickenham, East Twickenham, St Margarets, Whitton and Heathfield, Strawberry Hill

- East Twickenham Neighbourhood Association Community Kitchen - £12,000
- Crane Park Island Nature Trail - £4,228
- A Village Green for Whitton - £8,000

Hampton, Hampton Hill, Hampton Wick and Teddington.

- The Bungalow – MTV Youth £75,000
- A Place to Go - £110,000
- The Pavilion Appeal - £52,500*

Those schemes annotated with * will only proceed if the bidders secure sufficient match funding for the scheme to be completed. Any which are unsuccessful in this area will return funding into the area pot for distribution in a future round of bids.

2.2 It is recommended that the following projects should not be funded.

Ham and Petersham

- Enhancing St Richard's Square – Feasibility study £50,000

Barnes, East Sheen and Mortlake - £24,979 available

3. The Council received a total of 4 applications for this cluster, one of which was validated and is shown below. One application received from FiSH for the Barnes Green Centre has been completed using existing approved property services budgets under our obligations within the lease. It is proposed the full amount requested is approved for the following scheme:

Village	Organisation	Project Title/number	Amount requested by project	Match funding	Rank overall in votes
Barnes	Friend of Suffolk Road Recreation Ground	Improvement to Suffolk Road Recreation	£15,000	£5,000 BCA Further funds	9

		Ground in Barnes/ BS003		from Parks Service	
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3.1 BS003 – Suffolk Road Recreation Ground This application is by the Friends of Suffolk Recreation Ground who plan to create a new dog-free area which will include a natural playground, as well as improved planting and more seating. The start date is Autumn 2018. The benefit for the community is likely to include:

- To provide facilities so that local families and families from outside Barnes can enjoy this green space.
- To provide a playground for children of all ages to enjoy but particularly older children (8-12) who are not well catered for in Barnes.
- To create an attractive space for elderly residents to rest and enjoy the improved planting and watch children play.
- To unite the communities of north and south Barnes in this central green space.

Ham and Petersham - £56,666 available

4. The Council received a total of three applications for this cluster, two of which were validated by the Community Fund Programme Board.

Village	Organisation	Project Title/number	Amount requested by project	Match funding	Rank overall in votes
Ham	Grey Court School	Grey Court Community Sports Centre/ HP008	£56,666	£220,500	2
Ham	Ham and Petersham Neighbourhood Forum	Enhancing St Richard's Square – Feasibility study/ HP010	£50,000	£47,280	6

4.1 HP008 – Grey Court Community Sports Facility aims to make the changing rooms fit for community use, which means making them fully accessible for the variety of club fixtures currently using the site. The start date is September 2018. It is proposed the full amount requested is approved for this bid.

The benefit for the community is likely to include:

- Having more opportunities to take part in sport/leisure/wellbeing activities in a modern fit-for-purpose facility providing well designed, safe and secure changing rooms.
- Ham & Petersham is an area within the Borough of Richmond identified as in need of greater community facilities. The Richmond Playing Pitch Strategy report and the Recreation Needs Assessment Strategy reports, (by Knight Kavanagh & Page) identified that Ham remains an area requiring better sports facilities to serve the local community for both existing and known future usage.

4.2 HP010 – Enhancing St Richard’s Square Feasibility Study. The Ham and Petersham Neighbourhood Forum would carry out the feasibility study to create a new public space in front of the shops with attractive paving, landscaping and seating. The start date is September 2018 providing the funds are all secured. The request for funding is only for the feasibility study which will need to identify funds for delivering this project. There are limited funds available in this neighbourhood and therefore it is not proposed to approve this bid.

The benefit for the community is likely to include:

- The upgrading of St Richard’s Square will improve the facilities and quality of life for residents and support the planned population increase in Ham and Petersham including Ham Close development (and other developments).
- It will offer benefits to shop owners, the children’s centre, school, Woodville Centre and the church

Twickenham, East Twickenham, St Margarets, Strawberry Hill, Whitton and Heathfield - £24,228 available

5 The Council received a total of five applications for this cluster, three of which were validated by the Community Fund Programme Board as follows:

Village	Organisation	Project Title/number	Amount requested by project	Match funding	Rank overall in votes
East Twickenham	ETNA	ETNA Community Kitchen/ TW006	£24,000	£66,000	1
Whitton	London Wildlife Trust	Crane Park Island Nature Trail/ WH003	£7,314	£531	3
Whitton	St Phillips and St James’ Church	A Village Green for Whitton/ WH005	£15,428	£12,300	7

- 5.1 TW006 – ETNA Community Kitchen Project aims to improve the facilities for the local community by building a new extension, incorporating a kitchen and a café area. This will provide extra space for more meetings, events and activities to be hosted for local residents. The start date is Spring 2019. Due to limited funds available and a desire to spread the funding fairly between projects in this neighbourhood, it is proposed to approve £12,000 of the £24,000 requested for this bid.

The benefit for the community is likely to include:

- The creation of a community kitchen would free up the old kitchen area which will be converted into more accessible community space.
- ETNA will look to offer new and interesting activities to the local community in the new fully accessible space which will also be located close to the community kitchen. For example, coffee mornings hosted by The Real Junk Food Project, cookery clubs, older peoples' lunches, activities linked with Richmond Good Neighbour etc. All fitting with one of ETNA's main goals of reducing isolation in the community

- 5.2 WH003 – Crane Park Island Nature Trail London Wildlife Trust have proposed a nature trail which will comprise of a numbered oak post, linked to an informative map, around a wheelchair friendly path. The start date is September 2018. Due to limited funds available and a desire to spread the funding fairly between projects in this neighbourhood, it is proposed to approve £4,228 of the £7,314 requested for this bid.

The benefit for the community is likely to include:

- The community will gain increased knowledge of the history and wildlife of the nature reserve as well as being encouraged to be involved in healthy outdoor activity.
- Both long term residents and those that are new to the area will be encouraged to visit the nature reserve as a result of the trail

- 5.3 WH005 – A village green for Whitton is proposed by SS Philip and James Church by transforming a long-neglected green space into a unique and valuable resource for the whole community. The start date is September 2018. Due to limited funds available and a desire to spread the funding fairly between projects in this neighbourhood, it is proposed to approve £8,000 of the £15,428 requested for this bid.

The benefit for the community is likely to include:

- Upgrading the pathways and paving to allow easier access generally, together with disabled access and parking where there has been no provision before.
- Opening up the Hall directly to the grounds will facilitate combined use of the Hall and its adjoining green space in a safe way for all, particularly children and those with mobility issues. The project will also benefit the community by

encouraging a wide range of activities, groups and new initiatives involving all ages. This will provide greater community participation and cohesion and address loneliness and isolation of certain people.

Kew, Richmond and Richmond Hill - £206,806 available

- 6 The Council received a total of four applications for this cluster, none of which were validated by the Community Fund Programme board.

Hampton, Hampton Wick, Hampton Hill and Teddington - £237,840 available

7. The Council received a total of twelve applications for this cluster, three of which were validated by the Community Fund Programme board.

Village	Organisation	Project Title/number	Amount requested by project	Match funding	Rank overall in votes
Hampton	MTV Youth	The Bungalow – MTV Youth, Hampton/ HA003	£75,000	£3434	4
Hampton Hill	United Reformed Church	A Place to Go/ HH002	£200,000	£80,000	5
Teddington	Teddington Cricket Club	The Pavilion Appeal/ TN004	£236,250	£982,000	8

- 7.1 HA003 - The Bungalow – MTV Youth. The project is to turn a derelict, dilapidated building into one that is fit for purpose for wider community use. In particular the building will provide a long term, secure home for MTV Youth, Hampton. The start date is Sept. 2018. It is proposed to approve the full amount requested for this bid.

The benefit for the community is likely to include:

- Hampton South has one of the Richmond Borough's most deprived quintiles so the work that MTV Youth delivers will enable long term sustained change.
- Every year well over 100+ young people will have their own space throughout the week to feel safe, make new friends, improve their self-esteem and social skills, learn new skills and have fun:
- Youth aged 15+ will have increased employability skills and job opportunities:
- Decrease in anti-social behaviour in Hampton.

- 7.2 HH002 - A Place to Go The Hampton Hill United reformed Church will create accommodation that can be used to provide a modern highly visible facility providing flexible accommodation that encourages community activity. This phase of the project will start in September 2018. Due to limited funds

available and a desire to spread the funding between projects in this neighbourhood, it is proposed to approve £110,000 of the £200,000 requested for this bid.

The benefit for the community is likely to include:

- Increasing the amount of usable space in our project for additional church and community usage.
- To work closely with the local community groups, the Greenwood Centre and the Norman Jackson Children's Centre to provide complementary activities.

7.3 TN004 - The Pavilion Appeal put forward by Teddington Cricket Club aims to build an exemplar pavilion that will enable TCC to increase participation in cricket and other sports whilst also providing a first-class facility for local community use. The project is due to start in Sept. 2018. Due to limited funds available and a desire to spread the funding between projects in this neighbourhood, it is proposed to approve £52,500 of the £236,250 requested for this bid.

The benefit to the community is likely to include:

- The new pavilion will provide appropriate changing, shower and toilet facilities for all of our stakeholders enabling us to cater for more men, women, junior and disability teams simultaneously and all of our visiting teams and guests and officials.
- Improved accessibility not only to the new pavilion itself, by creating our own dedicated entrance and car park located next to the new pavilion but also within the new pavilion with all areas to be accessible to wheelchairs and a lift to the first floor.
- Flexible social spaces allowing them to either be utilised as one large space or divided into two separate spaces enabling us to offer the venue to more local community groups and businesses.

8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The proposals in this report will require a capital budget of £333,400 in 2018/19 which will be included within the next review of the capital programme in February as it is fully funded by NCIL contributions.

9. PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are not any procurement implications as this report suggests a competitive grants route has been adopted for these funding applications.

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 provide for payments of CIL to the community. Payments made by London Boroughs under the CIL regulations are made under regulation 59F(3) and by reference to the regime stated at regulation 59A.
- 10.2 Under regulation 59A of the CIL Regulations 2010 a charging authority must pass 25% of CIL receipts to the parish council of the area in which a chargeable development takes place or 15% where there is no neighbourhood development plan subject to a per-dwelling limit of £100 (subject to an inflation supplement).
- 10.3 Councils have a wide discretion in relation to the use of CIL receipts, which must comply with government advice and be exercised prudently. Government advice does not prescribe a specific method for determining how the neighbourhood portion should be spent, however, it recommends the use of existing community consultation and engagement processes, including working with designated neighbourhood forums and local businesses that are preparing neighbourhood plans, and networks that ward councillors use with the use of neighbourhood funds matching priorities expressed by local communities.

11. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 An EINA was completed and considered when the criteria for assessing NCIL applications was approved in March 2017. This did not find any evidence of a potential negative impact on protected groups from the NCIL scheme. As part of the application process approved in March 2017, applicants are asked within the application form to outline the impact of their proposals on individuals with a protected characteristic. All projects which are proposed for approval indicated that they would have a positive impact on groups with protected characteristics, and provided specific examples covering protected characteristics including age, disability, gender, pregnancy/maternity, race, and gender reassignment. Applicants were also asked to identify any potential negative impact on protected groups, but none were identified by any of the nine projects proposed for approval.

12. CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

- 12.1 For this round of the Community Fund, the Community Engagement Officers did not provide direct assistance with form completion during the application period. Applicants were signposted to Richmond Council for Voluntary Services for support with the funding bid and guidance on further funding. Whilst several groups did go on to use this service we observed that this was significantly less than the number of groups that had requested support directly from the Engagement Officers. We believe that having less direct involvement with application writing led to receiving less high-quality and relevant applications as an end result.
- 12.2 The Community Engagement team also designed an outreach programme visiting libraries and community centres across the borough during the four-

week voting period. This has resulted in the inclusion of over 500 residents who would not have taken part in the consultation without this support. Overall a total of 2734 residents took part.

13. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

- 13.1 No background papers were used in the preparation of this report. Further information can be found on the Community Fund webpage https://www.richmond.gov.uk/village_planning_fund

14. CONTACTS

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Appendix A – Community Fund breakdown of project information

Cluster	Village	Project type	Organisation	Project Title/number	Percentage of total (amount available)	Amount requested by project	Rank overall in public consultation (out of 9)	Match funding (in kind/ identified/ secured/ required)
Barnes, Mortlake and East Sheen	Barnes	Sport/community/parks	Friend of Suffolk Road Rec	Improvement to Suffolk Road Recreation Ground in Barnes/ BS003	60% (£24,979)	£15,000	9	£5,000 Barnes Community Association - secured Parks department due to offer match funding depending on outcome of tender
Kew, Richmond and Richmond Hill	No applications were validated for this cluster							
Ham and Petersham	Ham and Petersham	Streetscape/environmental	Ham and Petersham Neighbourhood Forum	Enhancing St Richard's Square – Feasibility study/ HP010	89% (£56,666)	£50,000	6	£47,280 Ham and Petersham Neighbourhood Forum - secured
	Ham and Petersham	Sport/community	Grey Court School	Grey Court Community Sports Centre/ HP008	100% (£56,666)	£56,666	2	£220,538 match funding £154,979 secured LMCT £34,696 secured Grey Court Education Fund £30,863 in kind
Twickenham, East Twickenham and St Margarets, Whitton and Heathfield, Strawberry Hill	East Twickenham	Community/social	ETNA	ETNA Community Kitchen/ TW006	100% (£24,000)	£24,000	1	£66,000 match funding £30,000 ETNA secured £20,000 Garfield Weston-secured £10,000 Tesco/Waitrose/Co-op secured
	Heathfield	Environmental	London Wildlife Trust	Crane Park Island Nature Trail/ WH003	30% (£24,000)	£7314	3	£531 match funding – in kind funding
	Whitton	Environmental/social	St Phillips and St James' Church	A Village Green for Whitton/ WH005	64% (£24,000)	£15,428	6	£12,300 match funding £5000 applied for £1,000 fundraised £6,300 in kind
Hampton Wick, Hampton Hill, Hampton and Teddington	Hampton	Youth/community/social	MTV Youth	The Bungalow – MTV Youth, Hampton/ HA003	32% (£237,840)	£75,000	4	£3434 match funding in kind
	Hampton Hill	Community/social	United Reformed Church	A Place to Go/ HH002	84% (£237,840)	£200,000	5	£80,000 match funding Secured from Hampton Fuel Allotments/ fundraising
	Teddington	Sport/community/youth	Teddington Cricket Club	The Pavilion Appeal/ TN004	99% (£237,840)	£236,250	8	£982,000 match funding -secured

Appendix B – Community Fund consultation results

In total there were 2,394 valid submissions received.

Projects respondents selected from	Number of times each project was selected	Rank
Community Kitchen Project, East Twickenham Neighbourhood Association (£24,000 requested)	610	1
Grey Court Community Sports Centre, Grey Court School (£56,666 requested)	586	2
Crane Park Island Nature Trail, London Wildlife Trust (£7,314 requested)	559	3
The Bungalow – MTV Youth Hampton, MTV Youth (£75,000 requested)	537	4
A Place to Go, Hampton Hill United Reformed Church (£200,000 requested)	365	5
Enhancing St Richard's Square – Feasibility study, Ham and Petersham Neighbourhood Forum (£50,000 requested)	359	6
A Village Green for Whitton, St Philips and St James' Church (£15,428 requested)	286	7
The Pavilion Appeal, Teddington Cricket Club (£236,250 requested)	259	8
Improvements to Suffolk Road Recreation Ground, Friends of Suffolk Road Recreation Ground (£15,000 requested)	191	9
TOTAL	3752	