



Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Forward timetable of consultation and decision making

Scrutiny Commission 9 May 2024

Wards affected: All Wards

Parish and Hinckley Community Initiative Fund Allocation of Grants 2023/24

Report of Director of (Corporate Services)

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To request that the Scrutiny Commission endorses the allocation of the Parish and Community Initiative Fund and Hinckley Community Initiative Fund 2024/25.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That the scrutiny Commission endorses the funding allocations of £91,892 for the schemes as detailed in section 3.3.

2.2 That the Scrutiny Commission supports allowing 7 previous years schemes totaling £11,374.60 to be completed and continue to be funded as detailed in section 3.4

3. Background to the report

3.1 Since 2005 the Parish Community Initiative Fund and Hinckley Community Initiative Fund have distributed £1,830,950 towards 456 local parishes or voluntary organisation schemes.

3.2 In 2023/24 the scheme received 35 applications from across the Borough and a total of £90,383 was awarded to 21 schemes.

3.3 Applications for 2024/25:

The table in Appendix 1 of this report provides an objective scoring summary from the assessments made of all the applications by the following Officers:

Ian Pinfold – Green Space Manager, Paul Scragg – Senior Green Space Officer, Gary Upton- Housing Repairs Manager, Graham Chilvers – Health and Recreation Manager, Danielle Leggett – Climate Reduction and Climate Change Officer, Paul Grundy – Senior Planning Officer (Conservation and GIS)

The assessment panel then determined which applications they felt should be awarded grant funding. This panel consisted of Caroline Roffey Head of Street Scene Services, Ian Pinfold – Green Space Manager, Amie Carroll – Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer, Paul Scragg – Senior Green Space Officer, Gary Upton- Housing Repairs Manager, Graham Chilvers – Health and Recreation Manager, Danielle Leggett – Climate Reduction and Climate Change Officer, Paul Grundy – Senior Planning Officer (Conservation and GIS)

The grant will fund a maximum of 50% of the project costs. Each applicant must seek support from their Parish Council and Borough Councillor. Only capital items over £5,000 in value are funded and the lowest submitted quote has been used to calculate the maximum eligible grant, unless a good reason has been provided for using a higher quote. Each application has been scored individually against the criteria by 2 officers and an average score given.

To reflect the scale and cost of some climate change projects, it was agreed after a review in 2023 that the maximum grant award will be increased to £20,000 / 50% of project costs. This increased grant size would overrule the £12,000 per parish limit and would only be applied for significant carbon reduction projects.

13 applications have been received requesting a total of £102, 610.

Based on the information in Appendix 1 the assessment panel recommends funding the following schemes totalling £91,892. This includes £4,225 for HCIF schemes. (Applications are set out in alphabetical order by parish and parish name is given in brackets).

1. Community Outdoor Gym – Barwell Parish Council (Barwell). Outline: The installation of 8 x items of outdoor gym equipment at Barwell Park. £4,797.
2. Chapel House Restoration and preservation Projects – Market Bosworth Free Church (Market Bosworth)
Outline: The installation of damp proofing, the eradication of woodworm and redecoration of the Chapel House for use as a community building. £3,692.
3. Replacement Aerator – Market Bosworth Bowling Club (Market Bosworth)
Outline: The purchase of a new aerator to ensure quality maintenance of the greens. £3,823.
4. Swimming Pool Filtration System Upgrade – Bosworth Academy Trust (Desford)

Outline: The replacement of the swimming pool filter for the school and community swimming pool. £10,047

5. Project Net Zero – Sport in Desford (Desford)
Outline: The installation of air source heat pumps and solar panels at the sport in Desford facility. £20,000
6. Improvement works at Hurst Road Play Area – Earl Shilton Town Council (Earl Shilton).
Outline: The installation of new items of play equipment at the play area. £2,554
7. Baptist Church landscaping scheme – LBC Earl Shilton (Earl Shilton)
Outline: Landscaping in outside area at Earl Shilton Baptist Church. £9,446
8. Trinity Community Church Youth and Children’s Room – Trinity Community Church (Hinckley Castle)
Outline: 4 x new windows and the refurbishment of the children’s and youth space at Trinity Community Church, Wesley House. £4,225 *
9. Church Meadow Power Supply – Nailstone Parish Council (Nailstone)
Outline: The installation of a mains electricity supply to Church Meadow in Nailstone to facilitate further community events that require a power supply. £5,552
10. Solar Panels – Sheepy Memorial Committee (Sheepy)
Outline: The installation of solar panels at sheepy Village Hall. £3,759
11. Car park Extension – Stoke Golding Parish Council (Stoke Golding)
Outline: The extension of the car park at Hall Drive recreation ground for park users and for users of the village hall. £9,332
12. Disabled WC/Shower Facility – Without Walls Church (Stanton-under-Bardon)
Outline: The installation of a new disabled WC and shower facility within the church building. £8,875.
13. Improvements to Community Area – DCC Orton-on-the-Hill (Twycross)
Outline: Repairs to the porch area of the church building and the reconfiguration of the internal area to create a community function area. £5,790.

**Hinckley CIF schemes funded from Special Expenses total £4,225*

3.4 Previous Years’ Applications

There are 5 applications totalling £8,799 which were approved in 2022 and 2023 where the projects have been delayed. These projects will be completed in 2024/25. The projects are:

1. Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs – Peckleton Parish Council (Peckleton)
Outline: The installation of a mobile vehicle activated sign in Kirkby Mallory. £2,000.

2. Information boards and heritage signs – Peckleton parish Council (Peckleton)
Outline: The installation of information boards telling the history of Kirkby Mallory. £673.
3. New internal porch – St Margaret’s Church (Stoke Golding)
Outline: The installation of an oak framed double glazed interior porch. £5,358.
4. Shenton lighting – Sutton Cheney Parish Council (Sutton Cheney)
Outline: The conversion of 4 heritage lights in Shenton to more energy efficient LED lanterns. £558.
5. Enhanced Planting around the Village – Sutton Cheney Parish Council (Sutton Cheney)
Outline: Planting around the 4 gateway areas across the village of Sutton Cheney. £210.

A further 2 further projects totalling £2,575.60 - Streetlight improvement schemes at Sutton Cheney and Peckleton have been completed, however the applicants have agreed to pay the contractor over a 5 year period. It has therefore been agreed that these grants will also be paid over a 5 year period on receipt of an invoice from the contractor. Outstanding amounts for these 2 applications are Sutton Cheney £1,339.60 and Peckleton £1,236.

4. Exemptions in accordance with the Access to Information procedure rules

- 4.1 This report will be taken in open session.

5. Financial implications (IB)

- 5.1 The allocation of £91,892 for 2024/25 will be funded from £134,000 set aside in the capital programme which includes £10,000 for HCIF schemes.
- 5.2 For 2023/24 schemes, £11,374.60 will be carried forward to fund the delayed projects.

6. Legal implications (ST)

- 6.1 None

7. Corporate Plan implications

- 7.1 The Parish & Community Initiative fund supports parishes and community groups to achieve the following aims and objectives of the Corporate Performance Plan:
 - Creating a vibrant place to work and live
 - Empowering Communities
 - Providing value for money and pro-active services

8. Consultation

- 8.1 Scrutiny Commission is consulted as part of the decision to agree grant applications.
- 8.2 A review of the scheme was carried out in 2020 and a number of amendments were agreed.

9. Risk implications

- 9.1 It is the council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.
- 9.2 It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.
- 9.3 The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of significant (Net Red) risks		
Risk description	Mitigating actions	Owner
The projects rely on third party delivery and there is therefore a risk that some of the projects may not be delivered	Only projects that are likely to be completed in the following 12 months are recommended for funding	Paul Scragg
Certain projects have conditions attached.	Applicants are required to meet condition, before final grant is awarded.	Paul Scragg
Misuse of funds	Funding for projects is only released once scheme is completed and evidence of completion and payment of the works is received.	Paul Scragg

10. Knowing your community – equality and rural implications

- 10.1 All grants are awarded to the rural areas, and parish council support is sought for each application.
- 10.2 Equalities issues are considered as part of the assessment process.

11. Climate implications

- 11.1 The recommendations for proposed changes to the scheme include an increase in scoring for environmental projects which have a positive effect on the climate.
- 11.2 The sustainability of each projects is consider during the assessment process and is scored accordingly.

12. Corporate implications

- 12.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:
- Community safety implications
 - Environmental implications
 - ICT implications
 - Asset management implications
 - Procurement implications
 - Human resources implications
 - Planning implications
 - Data protection implications
 - Voluntary sector

Background papers: Appendix 1 attached

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Executive member: Cllr M Cartwright – Executive Member for Rural Affairs

Appendix 1

Name of Scheme	Parish	Max Eligible Grant	Total Scheme Cost	Amount of Grant Applied for	Assessed by	Average Score	Amount recommended for award and Assessor Recommendation
Community Outdoor Gym Equipment	Barwell	£4,797	£9,594	£4,797	IP/PS	77.5	£4,797
Swimming Pool Filtration System upgrade	Desford	10,0047	£20,095	£10,047	GC/PS	60	10,047. Based on cheapest quote and that they can reclaim VAT
Project Net Zero. Sport in Desford	Desford	£20,000	£94,626	£20,000	GU/DL	77.5	£20,000 Not all funding currently in place.
Hurst road play area improvements	Earl Shilton	£3909	£7819	£3909	PS/IP	72.5	£2,554 based on lowest quotes
Baptist Church landscaping scheme	Earl Shilton	£12,000	£37,000	£12,000	GC/PS	62.5	£9,446. Scored lower than other earl Shilton application, Fund remainder of parish allocation
Trinity Community Church Youth	Hinckley	£4,225	£8,450	£4,225	PG/GU	67.5	£4,225

and Children's room							
Chapel House Restoration and preservation project	Market Bosworth	£12,000	£25,000	£5,000	GU/PG	77.5	£3,692. No quotes have been submitted for carpentry works. Recommended grant award is for 50% of lowest damp course quote.
Replacement Aerator	Market Bosworth	£4,588	£9,177	£4,500	IP/GC	70	£3,823. Based on figures supplied in breakdown of funding which is less than 50% of lowest quote
Church meadow Power Supply	Nailstone	£5,551.70	£11103.50	£5551.70	GC/IP	75	£5,552. Only 1 quote option works carried out by national grid.
Solar panels for Sheepy Village hall	Sheepy	£10,509	£21,018	£3,759	DL/GU	95	£3,759. Not used lowest quote.
Construct new Disabled WC facility	Stanton Under Bardon	£8,875	£17,750	£8,875	GU/PG	70	£8,875. Building regs approval confirmed. Check it is fully DDA compliant.
Car park extension	Stoke Golding	£12,000	£30,315	£12,000	PS/IP	65	£9,332. Based on the lowest

							quotes. Awaiting Planning permission confirmation.
Improvements to Community Area St Edith's Church	Twycross	£5,790	£11,581	£5,790	PG/GU	70	£5,790. Other grant funding not yet in place.