



1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To request the Hinckley Area Committee approve the allocation of grants through the Hinckley Community Initiative Fund 2014/15.

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 That the Hinckley Area Committee supports the funding allocation of £419 as detailed in section 4.1, from the Hinckley Community Initiative Fund 2014/15.

3. **BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**

- 3.1 This is the first year that a grant has been made available to community groups within Hinckley as they are not eligible to apply to the long running Parish and Community Initiative Grant.
- 3.2 Despite advertising the grant widely through the Borough Bulletin, a press release, the HBBC web site, and also sending out over 100 letters to Hinckley Community Groups, the uptake on this grant has been very disappointing with only a total of three applications being received.
- 3.3 Further to this unfortunately two of the applications received have been withdrawn. This has left us with only one application for funding.

4. **APPLICATION FOR 2014/15**

- 4.1 Historic Information sign – St Mary's Church, Hinckley. (Castle Ward). Grant requested £419
Outline: The installation of an interpretation sign in St Mary's Church yard including historic information about the former priory. This project is being carried out in partnership with Hinckley Archaeological Society.

- 4.2 There were two withdrawn applications:

1. New Storage and Toilet Block – Hinckley Angling Club.
Reason for withdrawal – lack of own funding to cover 50% match funding required.
2. New television – Igirls (local community group for girls aged between 10 - 14yrs)
Reason for withdrawal – group has been disbanded due to a decrease in numbers.

5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (IB)**

- 5.1 If the application is approved a one off supplementary budget of £419 funded from special expenses balances will be required.

6. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (EH)**

- 6.1 All awards should be made in accordance with the criteria for approving applications and the key features as advertised on the council's website.

7. **CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The Hinckley Community Initiative fund supports 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. **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

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.

Misuse of funds – funding for projects is only released once scheme is completed and evidence of completion and payment of the works is received.

9. **KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

All grants are awarded to constituted community groups in Hinckley, Ward Councillor support is sought for each application.

10. **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety implications
- Environmental implications
- ICT implications
- Asset Management implications
- Human Resources implications
- Planning Implications - some schemes will require planning consent
- Voluntary Sector

Contact Officer: Paul Scragg – Senior Green Space Officer x5983
Executive Member: Cllr B Crooks – Executive Member for Rural Issues