

 Executive – 16th November 2011		Agenda Item No. 11A
Title	Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Application	
For further information about this report please contact	Chris Brown Finance and Admin Support Manager 01926 456204 e mail: fasteam@warwickdc.gov.uk	
Wards of the District directly affected	Leek Wootton, Cubbington, Warwick West and Stoneleigh	
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?	No	
Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number	N/A	
Background Papers	Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme details. Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Applications file No.147-162 and 163 onwards Correspondence with Applicant.	

Contrary to the policy framework:	No
Contrary to the budgetary framework:	No
Key Decision?	No
Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)	No
Equality & Sustainability Impact Assessment Undertaken	Yes

Officer/Councillor Approval		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive	19/10/11	Andy Jones
Head of Service		N/A
CMT	18/10/11	Chris Elliot, Bill Hunt and Andy Jones
Section 151 Officer	19/10/11	Mike Snow
Monitoring Officer		N/A
Finance	10/10/11	Chris Brown
Portfolio Holder(s)	12/10/11	Cllr Grainger
Consultation & Community Engagement		

Final Decision?	Yes
------------------------	-----

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides details of a Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Application by Leek Wootton Village Hall Ltd for the enlargement and refurbishment of the Village Hall Kitchen.

An original application for £5,000 was approved at the July 2010 Executive but they were waiting on Lottery Funding of £10,000 to start and complete the project, this has not been awarded and Leek Wootton Village Hall Ltd would like the shortfall to be made up by the Rural and Capital Improvement Scheme.

The report also contains details of an application by Leamington Rugby Football Club for energy saving alterations in the club house, including a new lighting system.

The report also contains details of an application by Warwick Sports Club to replace the ceiling above the lounge, bar and dining room along with more energy efficient lights.

The report finally contains details of an application by Baginton Village Hall to resurface the car park at the village hall and the redecoration of the Gents toilet and main hall.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Executive approves an extra Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Grant of £10,000 to Leek Wootton Village Hall Ltd for the kitchen refurbishment, which equates to 18% of the cost as detailed in paragraph 7.1 supported by appendix 1.
- 2.2 It is recommended that the Executive approves a Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Grant of £3,013 to Leamington Rugby Football Club's clubhouse for the energy saving alterations, which equates to 50% of the cost as detailed in paragraph 7.2 supported by appendix 2.
- 2.3 It is recommended that the Executive approves a Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Grant of £26,000 to Warwick Sports Club for the new ceiling work to the club including lighting, which equates to 43% of the cost as detailed in paragraph 7.3 supported by appendix 3.
- 2.4 It is recommended that the Executive approves a Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Grant of £12,900 to Baginton Village Hall Committee for the car parking resurface and redecoration which equates to 50% of the cost as detailed in paragraph 7.4 supported by appendix 4.

3. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Council operates schemes to award Capital Improvement Grants to organisations in urban and rural areas. The grants recommended are in accordance with the Council's agreed scheme and will provide funding to help the schemes progress.
- 3.2 To provide funding to help the schemes start and progress as the kitchen needs enlarging and has not been upgraded since 1999 at Leek Wootton Village Hall, to reduce energy costs by 25% at Leamington Rugby Football Club's clubhouse, to improve Warwick Sports Club to increase membership and income generation and to improve the facilities and to meet Health and Safety guidelines at Baginton Village Hall.

4. POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 4.1 The Rural and Urban Capital Improvement Scheme Review supports the Sustainable Community Strategy and the cross cutting themes which form the Priorities for funding are as follows:-

Engaging and supporting communities including community cohesion and Embedding sustainability.

Targeted geographical areas (Neighbourhood Anchors).

Narrowing the gaps/ families at risk

Rurality

5. **BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**

- 5.1 The budget for the Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme Applications for 2011/12 is £150,000 (£75,000 for Rural Projects and £75,000 for Urban Projects). To this has been added £114,586 which is the unallocated budget from 2010/11 which will sit in a separate cost centre and be allocated to either Rural or Urban schemes as the main budgets are used up.

- 5.2 After the grants are awarded by the October Executive, there is £41,531 available to be allocated for Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme Grants from the Rural Cost Centre in 2011/12 and if the applications within this report are approved, £15,618 will remain in the Rural Cost Centre.

- 5.3 After the grants are awarded by the October Executive, there is £66,077 available to be allocated for Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme Grants from the Urban Cost Centre in 2011/12 and if the applications within this report are approved, £40,077 will remain in the Urban Cost Centre.

6. **ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S) CONSIDERED**

- 6.1 The Council has only a specific capital budget to provide grants of this nature and therefore there are no alternatives if the Council is to provide funding for Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Schemes.
- 6.2 Members may choose not to approve the grant funding, or to vary the amount awarded as discussed in paragraph 7.

7. **BACKGROUND**

- 7.1 Leek Wootton Village Hall Ltd

Leek Wootton Village Hall Ltd had submitted an application in order to refurbish and enlarge the kitchen back in May 2010. The Executive awarded a grant of £5,000 in July 2010.

Since then Leek Wootton Village Hall Ltd has been waiting on National Lottery Funding before commencing work.

Unfortunately the Lottery Funding have not been able to support the project and Leek Wootton Village Hall Ltd have asked Warwick District Council if they could increase the grant awarded by £10,000 to get the project started and completed.

Leek Wootton Village Hall Ltd has £44,474 in reserves but are using £25,000 to fund this project.

Leek Wootton Village Hall Ltd's last successful application from the Rural Initiative Scheme was in July 2010 as previously stated above.

It is recommended that the Executive approves the award of a Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Grant to Leek Wootton Village Hall Ltd of 18% of the total cost of the project inclusive of VAT subject to a maximum payment of £10,000

7.2 Leamington Rugby Football Club

Leamington Rugby Football Club have submitted an application in order to renew the lighting system and bar cooler system at the clubhouse to make it more efficient and to cut utility bill costs by 25% for the 2011/12 season.

Leamington Rugby Football Club has £14,661 in reserves but this will be utilised for pitch repairs and decoration to the clubhouse at the end of the 2011/12 season.

Leamington Rugby Football Club's last successful application from the Rural Initiative Scheme was in December 2010 for £1,914 but with excellent management knowledge an improved quote was utilised and the grant payment was reduced to just £850.

It is recommended that the Executive approves the award of a Rural/Capital Improvement Grant to Leamington Rugby Football Club of 50% of the total cost of the project inclusive of VAT subject to a maximum payment of £3,013

7.3 Warwick Sports Club

Warwick Sports Club have submitted an application in order to replace the ceiling and joists above the bar, lounge and dining area to enhance the club to attract more members and general use by the Community.

Warwick Sports Club has only £9,077 in reserves and is committed if successful with Sport England funding to carry out more alterations to the clubhouse which would use this small reserve up.

Warwick Sports Club has never applied before for a grant as it was only open to rural areas before June 2011. This in fact will be the second grant (if successful) to come from the New Urban Improvement Fund.

It is recommended that the Executive approves the award of a Rural/Capital Improvement Grant to Warwick Sports Club of 43% of the total cost of the project inclusive of VAT subject to a maximum payment of £26,000

7.4 Baginton Village Hall Committee

Baginton Village Hall Committee have submitted an application in order to resurface the car park as it does not comply with Health and Safety standards and to redecorate the toilets and main hall so that hygiene standards are met and the hall can attract new hirers to increase their income stream.

Baginton Village Hall Committee has £22,637 in reserves and is committed to funding £11,065 towards this project, leaving them with a small reserve for future refurbishments.

Baginton Village Hall Committee's last successful application from the Rural Initiative Scheme was in November 2009 for only £1,540 as we acted as third party agents for a Biffa waste award.

It is recommended that the Executive approves the award of a Rural/Capital Improvement Grant to Baginton Village Hall Committee of 50% of the total cost of the project inclusive of VAT subject to a maximum payment of £12,900