

	AGENDA ITEM NO.
Report Cover Sheet	
Name of Meeting:	Executive
Date of Meeting:	22 nd October 2007
Report Title:	Rural Initiatives Grant
Summary of report:	The Executive considers an application for a Rural Initiatives Grant in the light of the criteria and budgetary implications.
For further information please contact (report author);	Roger Wyton, Principal Accountant (01926 456808 roger.wyton@warwickdc.gov.uk)
Business Unit:	Finance
Would the recommended decision be contrary to the policy framework:	Yes/No
Would the recommended decision be contrary to the budgetary framework:	No
Wards of the District directly affected by this decision:	Cubbington
Key Decision?	No
Included within the Forward Plan?	No
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	No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 name of meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number:	N/A
Background Papers:	Rural Initiatives Scheme details as amended in April 2007 Rural Initiatives Scheme Applications file no. 105 onwards. Correspondence with the Applicant.

Consultation Undertaken		
Below is a table of the Council's regular consultees. However not all have to be consulted on every matter and if there was no obligation to consult with a specific consultee they will be marked as n/a.		
Consultees	Yes/ No	Who
Other Committees	N/A	
Ward Councillors	N/A	
Portfolio Holders	Yes	Customer and Community Services – Felicity Bunker
Other Councillors	N/A	
Warwick District Council recognised Trades Unions	N/A	
Other Warwick District Council Service Areas	N/A	
Project partners	N/A	
Parish/Town Council	N/A	
Highways Authority	N/A	
Residents	N/A	
Citizens Panel	N/A	
Other consultees	N/A	
Officer Approval		
With regard to officer approval all reports must be approved by the report authors relevant director, Finance Services and Legal Services.		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Relevant Director(s)	N/A – on leave	Mary Hawkins
Chief Executive		
CMT	27/10/07	
Section 151 Officer	N/A – on leave	Mary Hawkins
Legal	No reply	Simon Best

Finance		None – report from Finance
Final Decision?		Yes
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)		

1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 1.1 That the Executive considers for approval the request for a grant under the Council's Rural Initiatives Scheme as shown in paragraph 6 and Appendix 1.

2. REASON(S) FOR THE RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 To provide funding to help the scheme progress.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S) CONSIDERED

- 3.1 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 Initiatives.
- 3.2 Members may choose not to approve the grant funding, or to vary the amount awarded.

4. BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK

- 4.1 The Council has a £80,000 budget for Rural Initiatives grants approved for 2007-2008, supplemented by a further £1,887 unallocated at the end of 2006 - 2007. As demonstrated in Appendix 2, approval of this application in full would leave £32,782 available for further applications submitted during 2007/2008.

5. POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 5.1 The assistance provided to applicants under this scheme will contribute to the Council's Objective of targeting resources to the areas of greatest need.
- 5.2 The appendix attached to this report details how the scheme contributes to the Council's Corporate Objectives (2004-2007).

6. APPLICATION RECEIVED

- 6.1 An application has been received from Bubbenhall Spring and Village Green Restoration Project Committee which is summarised here and further details including how the application meets the Council's Corporate Objectives can be found in Appendix 1.
- 6.2 The Committee is a village inspired voluntary group who are restoring various features of Bubbenhall including the village spring, pond, green and bus shelter in order to put some additional "heart" into their village. This follows a long period of decline where much of the village amenities such as the shop, reading room and school have disappeared. It is felt that the re-creation of an attractive and community based centre to the village will be of real benefit to villagers and visitors alike.
- 6.3 The project is estimated to cost £36,300 of which £25,000 is already in place through grants from Smiths Concrete and Veolia Environmental Trust. £3,300 has been granted by the Parish Council toward the new bus shelter and £5,000 has been requested from Awards For All leaving £3,000 which is being requested from this Council.