

 Executive – 8th January 2014		Agenda Item No. 7A
Title	Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Application	
For further information about this report please contact	Jon Dawson Finance Administration Manager 01926 456204 e mail: fsteam@warwickdc.gov.uk	
Wards of the District directly affected	Leek Wootton and Whitnash	
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?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. 190 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	16.12.13	Andy Jones
Head of Service	16.12.13	Mike Snow
CMT	16.12.13	Chris Elliot, Bill Hunt and Andy Jones
Section 151 Officer	16.12.13	Mike Snow
Monitoring Officer	16.12.13	Andy Jones
Finance	16.12.13	Mike Snow
Portfolio Holder(s)	16.12.13	Cllr Mobbs
Consultation & Community Engagement		
Community Partnership Team – Copy of report forwarded 20.12.13		
Manoj Sonecha (Sports Development Manager) - Copy of report forwarded 20.12.13		
Final Decision?		

1. **SUMMARY**

1.1 This report provides details of two Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme grant applications:

- Leek Wootton and Guys Cliffe Parish Council to be the third party funding payment provider for a capital grant application made to BIFFA for updating / replacing playground equipment
- Leamington Football Club to install crush barriers, turnstiles, medical unit, catering unit, replacement toilets and new disabled toilets to meet mandatory Step 2 League Ground Grading Requirements and Health & Safety requirements.

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 It is recommended that the Executive approves:

Leek Wootton and Guys Cliffe Parish Council

A Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Grant from the Rural cost centre budget for Leek Wootton and Guys Cliffe Parish Council of 11% third party funding payment to release a £40,000 BIFFA capital grant award, up to a maximum of £4,400 subject to receipt of the following:

- Written confirmation from BIFFA (or an alternative grant provider that requires a third party payment) to approve a capital grant of £40,000 once the third party payment has been made

As supported by appendix 1.

Leamington Football Club

A Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Grant split between the Urban cost centre budget and the Slippage cost centre budget for Leamington Football Club of 48% of the total project costs to install crush barriers, turnstiles, medical unit, catering unit, replacement toilets and new disabled toilets, up to a maximum of £30,000 subject to receipt of the following:

- Written confirmation of planning permission to carry out the work
- Written confirmation of FA Football Foundation approval (or if the application is declined, another capital grant provider) to fund £31,000 of the project cost to ensure that the RUCIS grant remains as 48% of the total project cost
- Written confirmation of Leamington Town Council approval (or if the application is declined, another capital grant provider) to fund £1,300 of the project cost to ensure that the RUCIS grant remains as 48% of the total project cost
- Written confirmation that the Shareholders, within the January 2014 AGM, have agreed that any surplus funds / "profits" at the end of each financial year are re-invested in the club and that share dividends will not

be paid; therefore evidencing that the club is a “not-for-profit organisation”

- Written confirmation that an addendum has been included in the club’s Articles of Association that also states that any surplus funds / “profits” at the end of each financial year are re-invested in the club and that share dividends will not be paid; therefore evidencing that the club is a “not-for-profit organisation”

As supported by appendix 2.

3. **REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 The Council operates a scheme to award Capital Improvement Grants to organisations in rural and urban areas. The grant recommended is in accordance with the Council’s agreed scheme and will provide funding to help the project progress.

3.2 Leek Wootton and Guys Cliffe Parish Council

This project contributes to the Council’s Sustainable Community Strategy as without the playground there would be less opportunity for the community to enjoy and participate in physical and creative activities which could potentially result in an increase in anti-social behaviour and also potentially have a negative impact on child obesity. A well used playground will also help to further engage and strengthen the community as it will bring together a wide range of people; young people, parents, grand-parents, play groups and organisations such as the Brownies. The new playground will also provide access and facilities for disabled people therefore increasing the opportunity for all of the community to enjoy and participate in physical activity.

Leamington Football Club

This project contributes to the Council’s Sustainable Community Strategy as without this club there would be fewer opportunities for the community to enjoy and participate in sports activities which could potentially result in an increase in anti-social behaviour and an increase in obesity, particularly in children. The club also has a large number of volunteers from across the community who help to maintain and run the club which engages and strengthens the community as a whole.

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 areas 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 2013/14 is £150,000 (£75,000 for Rural Projects and £75,000 for Urban Projects). The unallocated budget from 2012/2013 of £33,854 will be added to this and sits within a separate cost centre budget; this could then be added to either Rural or Urban schemes once the 2013/2014 budget has been used.
- 5.2 There is £59,000 available to be allocated for Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme Grants from the Rural Cost Centre budget in 2013/14. If the application within this report from Leek Wootton and Guys Cliffe Parish Council for 11% of the total project costs (being the third party payment for a successful BIFFA capital grant application), up to a maximum of £4,400 is approved, £54,600 will remain in the Rural cost centre budget.
- 5.3 There is £13,195 available to be allocated for Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme Grants from the Urban Cost Centre budget for 2013/14. If the application within this report from Leamington Football Club for 48% of the total project cost up to a maximum of £30,000 is approved, there will be a zero balance left in the Urban Cost Centre budget and £16,805 will need to be deducted from the Slippage cost centre budget.
- 5.4 If the application within this report from Leamington Football Club for 48% of the total project cost up to a maximum of £30,000 is approved, £16,805 will be deducted from the slippage cost centre budget for 2013/14 leaving a remaining balance of £17,049.

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 alternative sources of funding 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.

7. BACKGROUND

7.1 Leek Wootton and Guys Cliffe Parish Council

Leek Wootton and Guys Cliffe Parish Council have submitted an application for Warwick District Council to be a Third Party Funder for their £40,000 grant application to BIFFA.

The RUCIS application is for 11% of the total project costs up to a maximum of £4,400.

Leek Wootton and Guys Cliffe Parish Council are registered for VAT; this award is for a third party funding payment to release a BIFFA capital grant therefore the award has no VAT element.

The project is to replace outdated play equipment in the village playground to provide a modern and interesting play facility for the whole community.

Leek Wootton and Guys Cliffe Parish Council have stated that they will provide £1,049 (2% of the total project costs) towards the project from their own cash reserves.

Leek Wootton and Guys Cliffe Parish Council have previously had successful RUCIS applications:

- £1,299 (50% of the total project costs) for an extension to their goal complex, basketball net and kick-wall facility in October 2005
- £500 (50% of the total project costs) for an extension to a fenced off area in October 2008

This application meets the criteria whereby after a successful grant award an organisation must wait for a minimum of 2 years before re-applying for a new grant.

It is therefore recommended that the Executive approves an award of a Rural / Urban Capital Improvement grant to Leek Wootton and Guys Cliffe Parish Council of 11% of the total cost of the project (being the third party funding payment to the BIFFA capital grant application) exclusive of VAT subject to a maximum of £4,400.

7.2 Leamington Football Club

Leamington Football Club has submitted an application to install crush barriers, turnstiles, medical unit, catering unit, replacement toilets and new disabled toilets to meet mandatory Step 2 League Ground Grading Requirements and Health & Safety requirements.

The RUCIS application is for 48% of the total project costs up to a maximum of £30,000.

Leamington Football Club is registered for VAT; they will be reclaiming the VAT in connection to this project therefore the award is excluding VAT. As part of their application the club have advised that their VAT submissions are made on a quarterly basis; March, June, September and December. They plan to meet the VAT element of the contractor invoices from their existing cash-flow as it is only a short-term period before the VAT can be reclaimed.

Leamington Football Club has made an application to the FA Football Foundation for 50% of the total project costs. A copy of the application has been provided.

Leamington Football Club has also made an application to Leamington Town Council for 2% of the total project costs, however, Leamington Football Club actually falls within the remit of Whitnash Town Council. I have been verbally advised by Leamington Football Club that Leamington Town Council have previously supported / contributed to the club and are open to considering an approach for a contribution to this project. Whitnash Town Council has therefore not been approached on this occasion.

One of the RUCIS scheme criteria is that the organisation applying for a grant is a "not-for-profit organisation", this has been discussed at length, the club's stance is that they are not profit making; they have little in the way of cash

reserves and they are reliant on the help of volunteers and the supporters (fund-raising). The club have stated that if they do on occasion have surplus monies at the end of a financial year the funds are re-invested in the club, there are no dividends to share-holders or directors of the club. We have received minutes of a directors meeting to evidence this and are now waiting for this to also be confirmed in the AGM scheduled in January upon which written evidence will need to be forwarded to the Council. In addition to this the club will also add an addendum to their Articles of Association to evidence this, again upon completion written evidence will be supplied to the Council.

Planning permission is also currently outstanding although I have verbally been advised by the club that this will be granted. Written evidence will need to be supplied to the Council before any grant award is drawn against.

Leamington Football Club has not previously applied for a RUCIS grant.

It is recommended that the Executive approves an award of a Rural / Urban Capital Improvement grant to Leamington Football Club of 48% of the total project costs excluding VAT subject to a maximum of £30,000.