

 Executive – 12th February 2014		Agenda Item No. 18D
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	Old Milverton and Blackdown	
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?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	21.1.14	Andy Jones
Head of Service	21.1.14	Mike Snow
CMT	21.1.14	Chris Elliot, Bill Hunt and Andy Jones
Section 151 Officer	21.1.14	Mike Snow
Monitoring Officer	21.1.14	Andy Jones
Finance	21.1.14	Mike Snow
Portfolio Holder(s)	21.1.14	Cllr Mobbs
Consultation & Community Engagement		
Community Partnership Team – Copy of report forwarded 7.1.14 Manoj Sonecha (Active Communities Officer) - Copy of report forwarded 7.1.14		
Final Decision?		

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report provides details of a Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme grant application by Leamington RFC to build an extension to install disabled toilet facilities, refurbish female and male toilet facilities and create disabled access to the main entrance.

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Executive approves a Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Grant from the Rural cost centre budget for Leamington RFC of 41% of the total project costs to install disabled toilets, refurbish female and male toilets and create disabled access to the main entrance, up to a maximum of £36,000 subject to receipt of the following:
- Written confirmation from Sport England Inspired Facilities (or an alternative grant provider) to approve a capital grant of £50,000
 - Written confirmation from Leamington Town Council (or an alternative grant provider) to approve a capital grant of £1,169 or if unsuccessful, written confirmation that Leamington RFC will contribute £1,169 from their cash reserves

As supported by appendix 1.

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 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 installation of disabled toilet facilities and creating disabled access to the main entrance will also increase opportunities for members of the community to enjoy and participate in sports and cultural activities.

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 2012/13 has been added to this and sits within a separate cost centre budget; this can be added to either Rural or Urban schemes once the 2013/14 budget has been used.
- 5.2 There is £54,600 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 Leamington RFC for 41% of the total project costs, up to a maximum of £36,000 is approved, £18,600 will remain in the Rural Cost Centre budget.
- 5.3 There are no funds remaining for Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme Grants from the Urban cost centre budget for 2013/14.
- 5.4 There is £17,049 available to be allocated for Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme Grants from the unallocated 2012/13 budget.

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

Leamington RFC

- 7.1 Leamington RFC has submitted a RUCIS application to install disabled toilet facilities, refurbish female and male toilet facilities and create disabled access to the main entrance.
- 7.2 The RUCIS application is for 41% of the total project costs up to a maximum of £36,000.
- 7.3 Leamington RFC are registered for VAT (Registration number 272935339) although they will not be reclaiming VAT in connection to this project therefore the award will be inclusive of VAT
- 7.4 Leamington RFC has stated that they have limited funds available; they have therefore not committed any of their cash reserves to the project. However, the project costs do not include any contingency funds; the club have therefore agreed that should additional funds be required they will be met by the club's cash reserves.
- 7.5 Whilst endorsing the club's plans, Old Milverton and Blackdown Joint Parish Council have advised that they are unable to make a financial contribution to the project on this occasion. Leamington RFC has now requested a grant from

Leamington Town Council; a decision on this application should be made in February 2014.

7.5 Leamington RFC has previously had successful RUCIS applications:

- £1,914 (50% of the total project costs) for replacing the drainage / sewage system in December 2010
- £3,013 (50% of the total project costs) for energy saving alterations to the cellar coolers in November 2011

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 Leamington RFC of 41% of the total cost of the project inclusive of VAT subject to a maximum of £36,000.