RURAL/URBAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPLICATION FOR 14th JANUARY 2015 EXECUTIVE:

Applicant:

Achieving Results in Communities (arc)

Description of scheme:

The composting toilet at Foundry Wood was recently destroyed by fire. This project is to build an improved composting toilet facility which cannot be easily destroyed by fire; a toilet is essential at the woodland for school visits and other events held there. A composting toilet is appropriate as there is no water or sewerage on site.

Evidence of need:

There has been a composting toilet at Foundry Wood for the last 2 ½ years, unfortunately, it was burnt down by two boys during a visit by WAYC youth group in August 2014. The toilet facility was regularly used and is an essential facility in the woodland during school visits and other events. Naturally there is a Health and Safety requirement for providing toilet facilities in the woodland, in addition to this Arc have had requests from the public to participate in the rebuilding of the compost toilet as they are interested to learn how it works; WAYC and The Way Ahead Project have also made requests for their clients to have an opportunity to participate. The community participation has been evidenced within the quotes for the project work.

3 years accounts received?

2012 - 2014 accounts have been received, along with a recent bank statement covering the period 13th October to 24th November 2014.

Financial Performance; minus figure = deficit

Year ended Year ended Year ended 31/3/14 31/3/13 31/3/12 £1,290 £16.772 £642 Year ended Year ended Year ended 31/3/14 31/3/13 31/3/12 £18,704 £17,414 £642

Available Funds (cash and reserves)

Details of membership.

None

fees etc:

Foundry Wood is an urban community woodland in the heart of Leamington and Warwick; it is free and open to the public on a daily basis for enjoyment and learning about nature. A range of educational and craft events are also run at the woodland, which this year has included:

Details of usage: Foundry Wood is a

- * 18 curriculum based school visits approx 450 children and adults
 * 25 craft based visits by schools and after school groups (guides, brownies, etc) approx 250 children and adults
- * 2 forest school sessions every fortnight on Saturday mornings approx 10-15 children and adults
- * 30 drop in workshops such as walks, art classes, basket making, candle making approx 150 people
- * Weekly toddler session every Wednesday approx 6-8 children and adults per session
- * Monthly plus ad hoc volunteering sessions approx 4-8 adults per session

Other ad-hov events have included:

- * Halloween Party, Nov 2014 200 people
- * Mikron Theatre, August 2014 100 people
- * Music gig and AGM, April 2014 50 people

Details of Organisations equalities policies:

Foundry Wood is open to anyone, regardless of age, gender, race or any other factor.

3 quotes provided:

behaviour

Yes - three quotes have been received.

Which of the Council's Corporate Priorities are met? Reduce anti-social

Evidence

The previous toilet was burnt down as a result of anti-social behaviour by boys from a local youth group. The youths were identified and they have been going to the woodland to make amends for their actions. ARC are also engaging with members of the youth group to help with the rebuilding of the compost toilet. This will help them to find enjoyment in contributing to a community goal, help them to learn skills, and allow them to enjoy the natural environment. ARC will also engage members of the Way Ahead Project at the Salvation Army for homeless people in Leamington; clients of the Way Ahead Project have participated in other activities at the woodland and are keen to get involved in this project. It gives them a sense of purpose, it is a social activity and it builds self esteem. This all helps to reduce anti-social behaviour.

Reducing obesity, particularly in children

As noted above, this project will engage youth and other members of the community in an outdoor activity which will involve physical activity. Participating in the project will also familiarise people with the woodland where they can come on a regular basis to exercise and enjoy the outdoors. This should help to reduce obesity.

Increase opportunities for everyone to enjoy and participate in sports, arts and cultural activities Events and activities held at Foundry Wood allow the community to participate in physical activity, arts and cultural activities. Many of these would not be possible without the existence of a composting toilet as there are no nearby public facilities. Recent events include a Halloween Party (200 people, Nov 2014), an outdoor theatre event (100+ people, Aug 2014), a music gig (50 people, April 2014) and outdoor films. To retain, as well as potentially increase, opportunities for the community to enjoy and participate in physical, arts and cultural activities it is imperative that the compostable toilet is rebuilt.

Engaging and strengthening communities The building of the compost toilet will engage various groups as outlined above, as well as other members of the community interested in getting involved in woodland projects (ARC have a mailing list of over 800 people to whom activities are advertised). This helps to engage and strengthen the community.

Targeting disadvantage in rural / urban areas:

As noted above, disadvantaged groups including youth and homeless will be engaged in this project and will benefit from long term access to the woodland. The wider woodland project aims to engage all groups, and access to nature is an important factor in addressing many problems, including low self esteem, depression, other mental health problems, and disengagement of youth.

Total cost of scheme (including VAT where appropriate)

£2,450

Funded by: Status

> **Town Council** £500 An application has been made, now waiting for a decision

Crimebeat £500 An application has been made, now waiting for a decision

Friends of Foundry

Wood

£225 Approved

Total RUCIS

£1,225 50.0%

equates to