

RURAL/URBAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPLICATION FOR 31ST MAY 2018 EXECUTIVE :

Applicant :	Brunswick Healthy Living Centre (BHLC)		
Description of scheme:	The community hall needs to be refurbished to transform it into an adapted flexible community space, project work involves: * Audio visual system install * Air conditioning, removal of existing storage radiators and defective ceiling ducting system * Remove existing flooring and install new * Install new fire doors * Re-docartion throughout the hall * Install acoustic panelling * Knock through the main wall to create community storage space and access * Install new lighting fittings * Supply Gopack tables x 14 * New storage trolley * Seating x 70		
Evidence of need:	The project has evolved because of information gathered from community groups, external organisations, beneficiary feedback and declined bookings due to the limitations of current space and the lack of facilities. The project will enable use of the community hall, including weekend and early evening, for local social activities and it will create an important social event and conferencing space. Increased business will help sustain BHLC and enable it to reinvest income in community activities and services; their strong relationships with local agencies such as Remploy and the Shaw Trust (both use the building to deliver services), local research and direct client feedback from employment and volunteer programmes, has identified the need to offer a wider range of activities for the local community including family activities, parent and toddler groups and parenting classes. Consultation with parents has shown a need to run parent/toddler sessions at Brunswick as there is an identified gap in this service provision locally; a planned reduction in local authority parents/toddler services due from 2018, will greatly exacerbate this need.		
3 years accounts received?	2015 to 2017 accounts have been received along with bank statements for all accounts held for the January 2018 period		
Financial Performance; minus figure = deficit	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
	31/03/17	31/03/16	31/03/15
	£43,346	-£14,463	-£24,478
Available Funds (cash and reserves)	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
	31/12/17	31/12/16	31/12/15
	£89,221	£82,253	£148,654
	NOTE: These figures are for unrestricted funds		
Details of membership, fees etc:	All of the services outlined below are free at the point of use with the exception of some fee paying activities for keep fit and Thai Chi classes which are kept at a minimum to ensure access.		
Details of usage:	BHLC offers a range of services and activities to improve the lives of local people, individual's register to use their services and access; an employment programme, inclusive volunteering and work experience opportunities, digital mentoring services, dementia services, support for vulnerable and isolated people locally and they are a hearing aid battery distribution hub. Their services link with agencies including: Citizens Advice, housing, money and debt advice, Remploy, Springfield Mind. Additionally there are opportunities such as work experience placements, volunteering, keep fit and Thai Chi classes and a community coffee shop. During 2016/17, 1617 individuals accessed a range of community services, they provided 77 volunteering opportunities to people with a range of abilities, 146 people obtained advice from welfare and debt advice services, 61 people were helped into employment and 66 individuals were supported to get on line and use computers.		
Details of Organisations equalities policies: 3 quotes provided:	BHLC have provided a copy of their Employee Handbook (December 2017), Section 3 covers "Diversity and Dignity", 3.1 "Diversity and Equality". Yes		
Which of the Council's Corporate Priorities are met?	Evidence		
Reduce anti-social behaviour:	BHLC, working with Warwickshire college and schools, currently offer work experience placements from the age of 16 giving structured opportunities for young people; in 2016/17, 12 work experience programmes were completed. BHLC also provides volunteering opportunities which gives young people something to do and help prepare for future employment. The provision of a community coffee shop and activities such as keep fit and Thai Chi classes also enables people to be occupied and have something to do. The project will enable more opportunities to be available for the community such as weekend/early evening social events such as live screen sports, film matinees, live local theatre, stay and play for children & parents and new physical activities to promote health & wellbeing. This all helps to reduce anti-social behaviour.		
Reducing obesity, particularly in children:	BHLC works with Waterside Medical Centre and Lisle Court to provide a route for patients to access weight management, keep fit and realxion; these are preventive sessions designed to aid health & wellbeing. Keep fit and Thai Chi classes are currently held at BHLC and the project will enable more physical activities to be offered such as "stay and play" for children and parents which will also help to promote diet and nutrition. This all helps to reduce obesity including within children.		

Increase opportunities for everyone to enjoy and participate in sports, arts and cultural activities

The project will increase opportunity for the community to enjoy and participate in physical, cultural and social activities; new AV equipment (automated projector screen and ceiling mounted projector) in the community hall will enable BHLC to be able to engage in a variety of events that people say they want to see happening such as a community space for children's parties to increase opportunities for families to hold their parties in an affordable local venue, provide weekend/evening social events (film matinees, live local theatre), "stay and play" sessions for children and parents and enable bookings from Asian men's groups that want to see live screen sports in a venue that doesn't serve alcohol (last year several booking requests had to be declined due to the lack of facilities).

Engaging and strengthening communities

The project will build upon BHLC's existing work in the areas of volunteering, employability and health and well-being. In 2016/17, 284 individuals engaged with the employment club with 61 securing employment. The impact on a person's general health and being can be hugely detrimental and is one of the reasons BHLC offer an inclusive volunteering programme and with 65 active volunteers currently, it offers people, including people that are vulnerable, the chance to engage in a structured opportunities to support them; 48 per cent of the volunteer base currently are affected by mental ill health. The project will enable new activities to be provided and will increase volunteering opportunities which will bring a new and more diverse client group into BHLC. This all helps to engage and strengthen the community.

Targeting disadvantage in rural / urban areas:

BHLC is based at the heart of a local neighbourhood in one of the most disadvantaged Wards in Warwick District, the project will create a multi-function community hall that will provide a facility where much needed community activities and events at affordable prices can be run in a fit-for-purpose space. The existing community hall is inadequate to do this as it lacks facilities, has no storage and very poor lighting. The new dementia café that runs twice monthly has identified that the acoustics are impeding some of the activities as people cannot hear very well; it is estimated that in Warwickshire, the increase of people living with dementia will increase by 34% in the next 8 years (Warwickshire Observatory). The project will also help tackle some of the issues relating to social exclusion, including 27% of children in poverty, through positive parenting programmes that link with health visitors and healthy eating as well as running family projects which will help address some of these issues.

Total cost of scheme (including VAT) 52,513

Funded by: Status

Organisations Own Funds £1,599

Leamington Town Council £250 Agreed

Big Lottery Grant £4,350 Agreed

Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust Grant £2,000 Agreed

Asda Foundation Grant £18,058 Application made; waiting for a decision

Total RUCIS £26,256

equates to 50.0%