

 Executive – 19th June 2013		Agenda Item No. 15
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	Warwick West	
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006?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. 177 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	28.5.13	Andy Jones
Head of Service	28.5.13	Mike Snow
CMT	28.5.13	Chris Elliot, Bill Hunt and Andy Jones
Section 151 Officer	28.5.13	Mike Snow
Monitoring Officer	28.5.13	Andy Jones
Finance	28.5.13	Mike Snow
Portfolio Holder(s)	8.5.13	Cllr Mobbs
Consultation & Community Engagement		
Final Decision?		

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report provides details of a Rural/Urban Capital Improvement application by Warwick Sports Club to; a) build an extension to create disabled toilet facilities, baby changing facilities and provide a new entrance to the club with easier and closer access to/from the car park, b) make improvements to the veranda for disabled access to the club, c) refurbish the kitchen, and d) widen and resurface the roadway entrance.

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Executive approves a Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Grant of 50% of the total project cost up to a maximum of £31,450 broken down as follows:
- 50% of the total project cost excluding VAT up to a maximum of £26,200 to Warwick Sports Club for; a) building an extension to create disabled toilet facilities, baby changing facilities and provide a new entrance to the club with easier and closer access to/from the car park, b) making improvements to the veranda for disabled access to the club, c) refurbishing the kitchen, and d) widening and resurfacing the roadway entrance, subject to receipt of the following:
 - Written confirmation of SITA approval (or if the application is declined, another capital grant provider) to fund £20,000 of the project cost to ensure that the RUCIS grant remains as 50% of the total project cost
 - Written confirmation of King Henry VIII Trust approval (or if the application is declined, another capital grant provider) to fund £4,200 of the project cost to ensure that the RUCIS grant remains as 50% of the total project cost and £2,200 to cover the Third Party Payment to SITA to release the £20,000 funding noted above
 - 50% of the total VAT for the project that Warwick Sports Club are unable to reclaim from HMRC up to a maximum of £5,250

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 it will provide further opportunities for everyone to enjoy and participate in sports, arts and cultural activities as the improved facilities will give greater access to disabled people and will enable more events to be planned for the wider community. It will also help to continue to engage and strengthen the community as the project will make the club more welcoming especially to disabled people and people with young families.
- 3.3 The project will potentially help the sports club to become more self efficient in the future by money raised through increasing events and the number of people attending the club.

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 £169,685.49, subject to approval as part of the Final Accounts report in June, 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 £75,000 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 for 50% of the total project cost (as noted in the recommendation) up to a maximum of £31,450 is approved, £43,550 will remain in the Urban Cost Centre budget.
- 5.3 There is £75,000 available to be allocated for Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Scheme Grants from the Rural Cost Centre budget in 2013/14.

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 as discussed in paragraph 7.

7. BACKGROUND

Warwick Sports Club

- 7.1 Warwick Sports Club has submitted an application to; a) build an extension to create disabled toilet facilities, baby changing facilities and provide a new entrance to the club with easier and closer access to/from the car park, b) make improvements to the veranda for disabled access to the club, c) refurbish the kitchen, and d) widen and resurface the roadway entrance.
- 7.2 Warwick Sports Club is voluntarily registered for VAT but they cannot recover all their VAT as they have a mixture of standard rated and exempt supplies. They have to do an annual calculation to see how much they can recover so it will be after the works have

been contracted and completed before the final cost of the project is known and a VAT claim submitted. Warwick Sports Club will undertake a short term loan from Warwick Tennis Club to cover the VAT element of the project, the VAT reclaimed will go towards repaying the loan. This RUCIS application covers up to 50% of the VAT that cannot be reclaimed which will also go towards repaying the loan from the tennis club. Members of Warwick Sports Club will be responsible for paying off any remaining balance on the tennis club loan.

- 7.3 The application is for 50% of the total project cost up to a maximum of £31,450 broken down as follows:
- 50% of the total project cost excluding VAT up to a maximum of £26,200
 - 50% of the total VAT for the project that Warwick Sports Club are unable to reclaim from HMRC up to a maximum of £5,250
- 7.3 Currently the building and access to it are not conducive to easy access for disabled people and there are no suitable toilet facilities. Without these facilities the club cannot be regarded as being a fully inclusive and non-discriminatory club. The project will enable the club to fulfil its legal requirements with regards to access and hygiene.
- 7.4 Additionally, improved facilities will enable new activities to be started such as coffee mornings and lunch clubs for the residents of the local estates which will mean an increased usage of the clubhouse.
- 7.5 Warwick Sports Club has stated that they have cash reserves to provide £1,000 towards the project.
- 7.6 The Town Council support the project and have approved a £1,000 contribution towards the total costs.
- 7.7 Warwick Sports Club has previously made two successful Rural/Urban Capital Improvement Grant Fund applications, details as follows:
- November 2011 – 43% grant awarded which equated to £26,000 for replacing the ceiling and supporting joists in the bar, lounge and dining room area as well as to install more energy efficient lighting.
- August 2012 – 50% grant awarded which equated to £10,000 for foundation work that was needed to carry out the main project as noted above.