

Halstead Local Committee
Local Committee Funding and Assessment of Business cases for 2009-2010

Item 6(a)(i)

Portfolio Area: Customers and Communication
Report Presented by: Alastair Peace – Member Services Manager

Background Papers: Action Plan for the Local Priorities for 2009-2010.
Corporate Implications: Please refer to table at end of report.
Options: To approve or not approve the recommendations for funding.
Risks: None Identified.

Executive Summary.

At the Halstead Local Committee Meeting held on 11th November 2009 it was agreed that a Sub-group be established to assess the business cases for projects that were identified in the Committee's action plan as priorities for 2009-2010.

The Sub-group met on 13th January 2010 to consider twelve business cases.

This report also provides a summary of the financial position should the Committee approve the recommendations of the Sub-group.

Decision

The Committee:

Approves the recommendations of the Sub-group.

Seeks funding from the balance in the residual fund from the previous Rural Development Fund to further support certain projects.

Notes the financial summary.

Background

On the 8th July 2009, a meeting of Halstead Local Committee identified its priorities and developed an Action Plan and allocated the Committee's budget for 2009/10. The Committee supported the draft Action Plan in principle, but decided that specific funding should not be allocated until detailed costs had been calculated for each potential project. At this same meeting a lead Member was appointed for each project contained in the Action Plan.

To ensure that each potential project has been carefully considered and accurately costed it was agreed that a business case needed to be completed by Members who are leading on projects and submitted for assessment before releasing funds.

At the Meeting on 11th November 2009, it was agreed to establish a Sub-group to assess the business cases for projects and make recommendations to the Committee on 20th January 2010.

Assessing Business Cases

The sub group met on 13th December to assess the twelve Business cases. The detailed recommendations are listed in the table below.

The criteria for the General Fund is that funding will support a Community Facility, the application would be around £2,500 (exceptions can be made), and that the project could be completed within 6 months. For those business cases which did not meet the criteria the Sub-group has recommended a contribution to the projects in the business cases. In making a contribution to those projects, the Sub-group has remained within the funding limits within the general Fund. However, the Sub-group noted that there is a balance in the residual fund from the previous Rural Development Fund and recommends that the Committee seeks funds from that balance to further support those projects.

General Fund Business Cases that fall within the Criteria

Project No.	Theme/Designated Fund	Project Title	Lead Member
HAP 03a	General fund for community projects Designated fund £20,000	Security Fence and Lighting for Play Area and Car Park at Sturmer Capital £ 2,000	Cllr Collar
Recommendation			
That the Committee approve funding of £2000 for security fencing and lighting for the play area and car park at Sturmer subject to ensuring planning conditions on lighting are adhered to.			
HAP03b	General fund for community projects Designated fund £20,000	Ramp access - Yeldham Pavilion Capital £1,780	Cllr N McCrea
Recommendation			
That the Committee approve funding of £1780 for ramp access at Yeldham Pavilion.			
HAP03c	General fund for community projects Designated fund £20,000	Youth Club - Colne Engaine Revenue £960	Cllr C Siddall
Recommendation			
That the Committee approve funding of £960 for setting up of a youth club in Colne Engaine.			
HAP03d	General fund for community projects Designated fund £20,000	New Playing Equipment for Little Maplestead Capital £2,400	Cllr W Scattergood
Recommendation			
That the Committee approve funding of £2400 for new playing equipment for Little Maplestead.			
HAP03e	General fund for community projects Designated fund £20,000	Seating for Great Yeldham Reading Room - A Charity organisation Capital £2,500	Cllr N McCrea
Recommendation			
That the Committee approve funding of £2500 for seating for Great Yeldham Reading Room.			

HAP03f	General fund for community projects Designated fund £20,000	Castle Hedingham Memorial Hall - New Floor Lacquer Revenue £1,400	Cllr J Beavis
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Recommendation

That the Committee approve funding of £1400 for sanding and floor lacquer at Castle Hedingham Memorial Hall.

**General Fund Business Cases that are outside the Criteria
(ie either not a Community Facility or over £2,500)**

HAP03g	General fund for community projects Designated fund £20,000	Sible Hedingham Petanque Court Capital £2,950	Cllr F Swallow
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Recommendation

That the Committee approve £1500 as a contribution to the cost of the Petanque Court proposed for Sible Hedingham.

HAP03h	General fund for community projects Designated fund £20,000	Halstead Cricket Club Anniversary Book Revenue £2,000	Cllr M Gage
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Recommendation

That the Committee approve £500 as a contribution to the cost of the Halstead Cricket Club Anniversary Book.

HAP03i	General fund for community projects Designated fund £20,000	Halstead Cricket Club pitch cover Capital £6,000	Cllr M Gage
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Recommendation

That the Committee approve £1500 as a contribution to the cost of the Halstead Cricket Club pitch covers.

HAP03j	General fund for community projects Designated fund £20,000	Play Equipment - Bulmer Coe's Meadow Capital £7,471	Cllr N Harley
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Recommendation

That the Committee approve £3000 as a contribution to the cost of the play equipment for Coe's Meadow in Bulmer.

HAP03k	General fund for community projects Designated fund £20,000	Allotment Site Earls Colne Capital £14,532.50	Cllr G Spray
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Recommendation

That the Committee approve £5000 as a contribution to the start-up costs of the deer and rabbit proof fencing, subject to leasing arrangements for the site to the satisfaction of the Council.

Community Transport Business Case

The Sub-group also assessed the following Business Case contained within the Action Plan:

Project No.	Theme/designated Fund	Project title	Lead Member
HAP 01	Community Transport	Provision of a Volunteer Bus for weekly shopping trips for vulnerable citizens Revenue £15,000	Cllr N McCrea

Recommendation

That the Committee approve funding of £15000 for the provision of a volunteer bus for weekly shopping trips for vulnerable citizens solely for the benefit of the Halstead Local Committee area.

Financial Summary

This report provides a summary of the financial position should the committee approve the recommendations of the Sub-group.

Halstead Local Committee Funding - as at 14th January 2010

	Capital	Revenue	Total
Budget 2009/10			
2008/09 b/fwd	17,570.00	61,319.98	78,892.30
2009/10 approved	40,000.00	16,000.00	56,000.00
Total	57,570.00	77,319.98	134,892.30
Application Approved	65,210.00	7,591.00	72,801.00
Spend to Date	36,238.00	4,400.00	40,638.00
Unspent Commitments	28,238.00	3,191.00	32,163.00
Budget Remaining 09/10	-7,640	69,728.98	62,088.98
Business Cases Submitted to 8th Dec Sub Group			
Extension to Community Transport Scheme – Feasibility Study	0.00	15,000	15,000
General Fund for Maintenance of Community Facilities	18,540.00	0.00	20,000.00
	18,540.00	15,000	35,000
Budget Remaining 09/10 (assuming business cases recommended are approved)	-26,180.00	54,728.98	27,088.98

Corporate Implications	
Financial:	None Identified.
Legal:	There are none.
Equalities & Diversity:	There are none.
Customer Impact:	An opportunity to be involved with the work of the Local Committees.
Environment & Climate Change:	There are none.
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Local Committees Partners, Public and Staff
Key Decision:	No.
Public/Private Report:	Public
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