

SUBJECT:	<i>Applications for the Community Development Grants</i>
REPORT OF:	<i>Healthy Communities Portfolio Holder – Councillor Paul Kelly</i>
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	<i>Martin Holt – Head of Healthy Communities</i>
REPORT AUTHOR	<i>Claire Speirs – 01895 837306 – Claire.Speirs@SouthBucks.gov.uk</i>
WARD/S AFFECTED	<i>Denham</i>

1. Purpose of Report

To consider requests for funding through the Community Development Grant scheme (2016-17), from the following organisations:

- Denham Cricket Club
- Butterfly Conservation Thames Branch

FOR DECISION

The Portfolio Holder with advice from the Policy Advisory Group is asked to consider the grant request outlined in the report and decide the level of funding that should be awarded.

2. Executive Summary

The Portfolio Holder has received the following applications:

Organisation	Details of Request	Sustainable Community Strategy	Sum Requested
Denham Cricket Club	Purchase of ride on mower	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote Healthy Lifestyles • Improve the Quality of Life for an Ageing Population • Sustain and Grow a Thriving Voluntary and Community Sector 	£1,500
Butterfly Conservation Upper Thames Branch	Planting of Elm trees, to replace those killed by Dutch Elm Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance and Protect the Local Environment 	£549

3. Reasons for Decision

Decisions to award grants through the Community Development Grant Scheme are reserved to members.

4. Content of Report

4.1 Application from Denham Cricket Club

- 4.2 Denham Cricket Club has been operating since 1870 and has 40 adult players and 40 junior players. Currently Denham CC is responsible for maintaining its cricket square and Denham Parish Council (DPC) maintains the remainder of the Way and Tillard Recreation Ground including the cricket outfield which is used by the general public. DPC has advised the Club that the grounds maintenance costs now outweigh rent paid by the Club.
- 4.3 Both parties are agreeable to the club taking on responsibility for mowing the ground both for the benefit of the club and the general public. The club will organise and supply volunteers but that the current tractor and gang mowers are not suitable for use by volunteers.
- 4.4 The club is requesting funding to provide a suitable ride-on mower. The purchase of a Ransomes Parkway mower was considered, however the cost is prohibitive. Second-hand reconditioned machines are available at around £7000.
- 4.5 Following an extensive demonstration and trials usage by three volunteers it has been decided however that the best machine for use by a group is a Baroness LM180C. The demonstration model (as new) is available for £9,060 inc VAT. Community Development Grant criteria states that funding is available for 50% of the project costs up to a maximum of £1,500. The maximum amount of funding available to Denham Cricket Club is £1,500.
- 4.6 The advantage to the public of the use of the ride-on mower will be to provide regular maintenance of the grass and as the machine can be used in soft and wet conditions, fewer matches will be cancelled.
- 4.7 Denham Cricket Club received Discretionary Rate Relief for 2016/17 of £263.41. They received a Community Development Grant in 2010/11 of £ 459.19 for the purchase of cricket and first aid equipment.
- 4.8 A condition attached to the grant will be South Bucks District Council must be acknowledged on any publicity material relating to the purchase of the mower, it is suggested that the mower be branded with 'Supported by South Bucks District Council' and the Council's logo affixed.

4.9 Application from Butterfly Conservation Upper Thames Branch

- 4.10 Butterfly Conservation Upper Thames Branch (BCUTB) has been operating for 25 years with the aim of conserving the habitats of butterflies and moths. The group lead walks around local sites attracting a range of people including school children and pre-arranged walks with U3A
- 4.11 The group are requesting funding to purchase and plant Elm Trees in 3 parks in the district, permission has been sought from the land owners. The parks are:
- Holtspur Bottom and Holtspur Bank, Holtspur HP9 1BT;
 - Swan Meadow, Iver SL0 9LA

- Black Park Country Park

4.12 BCUTB have not provided quotes for the purchase of the elms, the market value of the trees is around £40 but this often fluctuates. BCUTB are intending on purchasing 20 x Dutch Elm Disease resistant Elm trees, 20 x deer proof tree guards and 20 x 1.2m stakes with tree ties, they estimate the total cost of the project to be £549.

4.13 Conditions of Environment Grants state that community groups can be awarded up to 100% of the cost of the project.

5. Consultation

Not Applicable

6. Options

The Community Development Grant scheme gives discretion over the sum awarded. The total sum of funding requested in this report amounts to £2,049. The balance of the capital grants budget is currently at £15,000, should both grants be awarded the remaining balance would be £12,951.

7. Corporate Implications

7.1 Financial

The total requested for allocation at this time is £2,049. There is sufficient funds in the allocated budget for the Scheme to enable these applications to be funded

7.2 Legal - No specific implications

8. Links to Council Policy Objectives

Sustainable Community Strategy Links

- Encouraging and supporting healthy lifestyles. Anticipating and meeting the needs of an ageing population.
- Increasing the feeling of belonging to the community
- Protect and enhance the natural and built environment, in particular the Special Area of Conservation (SAC), the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and our cultural, leisure and historical assets, promoting biodiversity

9. Next Steps

If grant applications are approved successful applicants are required to submit receipts within 12 months for payment. Evidence of other conditions attached to the grant is also required. Payment is made to the applicant for 50% of the project cost up to their grant amount

Background	Grant applications.
Papers:	