

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY FUNDING IN HIGH WYCOMBE UNPARISHED WARDS

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Wards affected: High Wycombe unparished wards

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION TO CABINET

The Committee is asked to consider the recommendations in Paragraph 9 which have been put forward by the CIL working group on the projects to be implemented in the 2015/16 financial year and to make recommendations to Cabinet on the release of funds from the 15% local allocation of Community Infrastructure Levy funding received from developments in the unparished area.

Reason for Decision

So that the recommendations of the High Wycombe Town Committee on the use of the local allocation of CIL for 2015/16 can be publicised prior to a decision by Cabinet on the release of funds.

Corporate Implications

1. The introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is provided for by Part 11 of the Planning Act 2008 and the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended). After a public examination, the Wycombe CIL Charging Schedule was adopted at full Council on 1 October 2012 and came into effect on 1 November 2012.
2. The District Council is the charging and collecting authority for CIL. 15% of the funds raised are passed to relevant parish councils. As per the adopted CIL and Planning Obligations Funding Decision Protocol, the High Wycombe Town Committee will make a recommendation to Cabinet annually on the use of the local allocation in the unparished wards.

Executive Summary

3. The Committee is asked to consider the recommendations put forward by the High Wycombe Town Committee CIL working group on the proposed use of CIL funds for the 2015/16 financial year.

Sustainable Community Strategy / Council Priorities - Implications

4. Effective use of CIL and planning obligations will ensure the provision of improved infrastructure to support the development of the area. This contributes to the broad themes of the Sustainable Communities Strategy, notably a thriving economy, sustainable environment and cohesive and strong communities.

Background and Issues

5. At the June 2014 meeting of the High Wycombe Town Committee, Members were advised that they would be asked as a Committee to recommend the use

of £200,000 CIL funding for projects to be undertaken in the 2015/16 financial year. Submissions for potential schemes were invited until 8 August.

6. To assist in this process, Members requested that a working group of the High Wycombe Town Committee be established to assess applications before they are brought to the Committee.
7. The CIL working group comprised Cllrs Green, Ahmed, Snaith, Pearce and Mrs Clarke, and a meeting was held on 13 August 2014 to assess the applications made.
8. The working group has put forward the following recommendations.

9. CIL Working Group recommendations

Scheme	Proposed allocation
Investment in Frogmoor which may include works to establish a café, outdoor play area and a centrepiece feature including a water feature	£70,000
Feasibility and business case for a redeveloped café on the Rye including toilets	£30,000
Re-opening of the Paul's Row toilets	£30,000
Fire safety works to building adjacent to Kingsmead Depot, Fennels Road to enable use of upper floors	£10,000
Refurbishment of the Guildhall to enable greater use	£5,000
Community notice boards in locations across the town	£15,000
Redevelopment of Pastures Church to full scale community building	£20,000
Feasibility study for the extension of the changing rooms at Shelley Road playing fields to provide a new community facility	£20,000
Mayoral public art scheme	Members' views sought

10. Further information on all the projects including project leads and next steps is set out in Appendix A.

Options

11. Members have the option to put forward different recommendations than those put forward by the CIL working group, and for the Committee to vote on these if it wishes.

Conclusions

12. The HWTC CIL working group have put forward recommendations for the use of the local allocation of CIL funding for financial year 2015/16. Agreement is sought from the Committee that these recommendations are put forward to Cabinet to approve the release of the funds.

Next Steps

13. The recommendations from the Committee will be put forward to Cabinet at their February meeting to seek the release of funds for the identified projects. Where appropriate background work will get underway to ensure that the appropriate resource is in place to support the Committee priorities. Updates on the progress of schemes will be report in the Quarterly Financial Monitoring Reports to Cabinet.

Background Papers

None.