

Bath & North East Somerset Council

DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Richard Samuel, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Resources	
DECISION DATE:	On or after 10 July 2021 (for single Member decision)	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE: n/a
		E 3307
TITLE:	Grant for Batheaston New Village Hall	
WARD:	Bathavon North	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Please list all the appendices here, clearly indicating any which are exempt and the reasons for exemption		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 This report is for approval of £100k grant contribution to the build of Batheaston New Village Hall which will be used for community activities.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member is asked to;

- 2.1 fully approve £100k from the provisional capital programme item Batheaston Village Hall Grant for the purpose of financing a contribution towards the build of a new Community Hall in Batheaston

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 Following a request for CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funding, £100K was allocated for Batheaston Village Hall as part of the 2021/22 budget setting by the Council. It is included as a provisional budget within the approved capital programme for 2021/22.

- 3.2 The funding is towards the cost of building a new community hall designed to have a very flexible user space, a fully equipped kitchen, large storage areas and the benefit of open access to the adjacent maintained grass field. This will facilitate the use by multiple groups of all ages engaged in a wide variety of activities. The £100k will contribute towards project costs currently forecast to be £850k. The structure of the building is complete, and work is focused on the internal fitting out with completion forecast for mid October 2021.

- 3.3 The new facility and services provided by the new hall will be readily accessible by all residents across the east of Bath. The hall is located just 500mtrs outside

the boundary of the City and Batheaston is served by good local transport. It also has excellent cycling and walking routes along the valley floor between the city centre and Batheaston making access without a car a real possibility.

3.4 The £100k payment will be made using a grant agreement.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 CIL funding makes an important contribution to fulfilling the Core Strategy requirement that new development must be properly aligned with infrastructure. It also makes a significant contribution to the Council's Capital Programme. The Strategic CIL allocations for 2021/22 included £100k for Batheaston Village Hall, which was therefore included as provisional capital in the Capital Programme.

4.2 The new hall will provide facilities and services accessible to all residents across the east of Bath including areas with new housing developments.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

5.1 The funding allocation of **£100k** will be financed from Strategic CIL allocation and is included within the 2021/22 capital programme as provisional budget.

5.2 There will not be any subsequent financial implications for the Council.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision-making risk management guidance.

6.2 Assurance was requested and received from the Charity Batheaston New Village Hall that sufficient funding has been raised from sources, including this grant, to complete the build.

6.3 An agreed grant process has set up necessary conditions for the financial payment.

7 EQUALITIES

7.1 This report has undergone a public sector equalities impact assessment. No negative impacts were identified.

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

8.1 The hall is located just 500mtrs outside the boundary of the City and Batheaston is served by good local transport. It also has excellent cycling and walking routes along the valley floor between the city centre and Batheaston making access without a car a real possibility. This easy access will naturally support the Council's Climate Emergency policies. Elements of the building are being designed to use natural or recycled materials with solar power generation included.

8.2 The project is supporting local businesses as far as possible.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 Not to award a grant for Batheaston Village Hall. There is a real risk that without this grant there would be a shortfall in funding the new hall.

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 Consultation has been carried out with the S151 and Monitoring Officers, the Chief Operating Officer and Director of Place Management, as well as the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Development & Resources and the Ward Councillors for Bathavon North.

Contact person	<i>Maria Newton 01225 477358</i>
Background papers	<i>None</i>
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