

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Richard Samuel, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Resources	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	On or after 10 May 2022	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 3353
TITLE:	Grant for Freshford Village Memorial Hall	
WARD:	Bathavon South	
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 £50k grant contribution to the development of Freshford Village Memorial Hall which is used for community activities.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member is asked to;

- 2.1 fully approve £50k as allocated from Community Infrastructure Levy in 2019/20 Council Budget Setting for the purpose of financing a contribution towards the development of Freshford Village Memorial Hall.

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 Following a request for CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funding, £50K was allocated for Freshford Community Centre, incl Surgery & Early Years as part of the 2019/20 budget setting by the Council. It is included as a provisional budget within the approved capital programme for 2021/22.

- 3.1 This is the first phase of work to enhance, modernise and extend Freshford Village Memorial Hall to provide a welcoming and attractive multi-purpose focus

for local community activity complementing its outstanding rural setting. The funding is towards the cost of work on the cladding and glazing of the existing main hall and meeting rooms to provide much higher levels of insulation, reduced heat loss, better waterproofing and an improved appearance.

3.2 This project will significantly improve and ensure the long-term viability of a building which acts as the community hub for the villages of Freshford and Limpley Stoke.

3.3 The £50k 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 2019/20 included £50k for Freshford Community Centre, incl Surgery & Early Years, which was therefore included as provisional capital in the Capital Programme.

4.2 The hall provides facilities and services accessible to all residents across the communities of Freshford and Limpley Stoke.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

5.1 The funding allocation of **£50k** will be financed from Strategic CIL allocation from 2019/20.

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 trustees of The Freshford Village Memorial Hall that sufficient funding has been raised from sources, including this grant, to complete the build.

6.3 The trustees confirm this first phase of development can be undertaken without the submission of a Construction Management Plan because it relates solely to the refurbishment of the existing village hall.

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

7 EQUALITIES

7.1 The objects of the CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) are to establish and run a village hall and to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Freshford and the neighbourhood, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, race or political, religious or other opinions, the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age,

infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the conditions of life of the residents.

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

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

8.1 The strategy is to arrive at a sustainable, low-impact design which includes the reduction of energy-use through an efficient building form and construction method able to achieve high levels of energy efficiency. The insulation work and replacement of single glazing with double glazing is expected to reduce heat loss and carbon emissions. It should also result in a shorter heating season.

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

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 Not to award a grant for Freshford Village Memorial Hall. There is a real risk that without this grant there would be a shortfall in funding the development of the 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 South.

Contact person	<i>Maria Newton 01225 477358</i>
Background papers	<i>None</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	