

**GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE FUND SCORING PANEL  
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Committee: Finance and Assets Committee

Date: 24 November 2022

Author: Director Community

[X107]

1.0 ISSUE

1.1 To consider the recommendations from the Growth and Infrastructure Fund Scoring Panel.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 Members are requested to:

- i) Increase the Growth and Infrastructure Fund from the allocated £2,000,000 to up to £2,307,216
- ii) Approve the funding of the following projects:
  - a) £250,000 to National Trust- Wicken Fen Burwell Lode Crossing
  - b) £124,056.00 to Viva Arts and Community Group- Apprenticeship, Traineeship & Learning Hub with Solar
  - c) £800,000 to Soham Town Council- Soham to Wicken Cycleway
  - d) £700,000 to Stretham Parish Council- Stretham Community Hub
  - e) £191,535 to Witchford Playing Fields Association- Village Hall Expansion Project
  - f) £105,000 to Bottisham Parish Council- Bottisham New Cemetery
  - g) £51,360 to Soham Town Rangers Football and Social Club- Community Club Refurbishment
  - h) £22,265 to Isleham Community Association- Commercial Kitchen
  - i) £63,000 to Little Thetford Village Hall- Moving to an all-electric village hall using renewable energy
- iii) Delegate authority to the Director Community, in consultation with the Chairman of Finance & Assets Committee, to complete funding agreements for the funding and projects identified in 2.1 ii) a-i) which will contain the conditions set out in 4.4 of this report.

3.0 BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

3.1 The Growth and Infrastructure Fund Scoring Panel was established by Finance & Assets Committee on 23 June 2022 to score applications for the £2M Growth and Infrastructure Fund against the criteria approved by the parent Committee

and to make recommendations for approval of grant funding back to the meeting of the Committee on 24 November 2022.

3.2 The Panel met via Zoom on two occasions on 27 October and 1 November 2022, a summary of these meetings can be found at Appendix 1.

#### 4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

4.1 14 applications were received, 1 was submitted after the closing date and 4 did not meet the Cambridgeshire Horizons objectives. The remaining 9 eligible applications were scored by the Panel using the criteria approved by this Committee.

4.2 A summary of each application, details of the score awarded by the Panel and the amount of Growth and Infrastructure funding requested can be found at Appendix 2.

4.3 The Panel noted the high quality and community 'worthiness' of all of the projects and the fact that, if the £2M funding threshold was adhered to, potentially some projects might not receive a funding allocation.

4.4 The Panel therefore recommended that Finance and Assets Committee be requested to increase the Growth and Infrastructure Fund budget, to enable all of the 9 eligible applications to be funded, subject to confirmation of the sum requested by Isleham Community Association, and the following conditions for the payment of any funding awarded:

Evidence being provided that:

- All necessary permissions are in place
- Match-funding is secured
- Funding is only utilised for Capital elements
- Payment be made on receipt of invoices

#### 5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT/CARBON IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 There is sufficient Cambridgeshire Horizons money remaining to allow for the proposed increase in funding.

5.2 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required.

5.3 Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA). Directly, the provision of funding would have no direct carbon implications on ECDC operations.

6.0 APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1 – Report of the Growth and Infrastructure Fund Scoring Panel

6.2 Appendix 2 – Growth and Infrastructure Fund Application Summaries and Scores

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<u>Background Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
Minutes of the Finance and Assets Committee held on 23 June 2022	Room 105 The Grange, Ely	Sally Bonnett Director Community (01353) 616451 <a href="mailto:sally.bonnett@eastcambs.gov.uk">sally.bonnett@eastcambs.gov.uk</a>
Grant applications [contain Exempt Information]		