



# REPORT TO EXECUTIVE

## PORTFOLIO AREA: HEALTH & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

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Date of Meeting: 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2005

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Public

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Key Decision: Yes

Recorded in Forward Plan:

No

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Inside Policy Framework

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Title: GRANT FOR LEISURE - BELAH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Report of: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Report reference: ECD.26/05

### Summary:

To consider a request for a grant towards refurbishment works in Belah Community Centre

### Recommendations:

Members are recommended to approve a grant of £3,500 as requested, to be taken from the Grants for Leisure budget.

Contact Officer: Rob Burns

Ext: 7352

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

## **1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OPTIONS**

- 1.1 The Portfolio Holder for Community Activities has received a request from the Belah Community Centre Management Committee for a grant. (Appendix 'A')
- 1.2 The grant is requested to help cover the cost of refurbishing the main hall in the Centre, in particular, replacing the suspended ceiling. (Appendix 'B')
- 1.3 The Portfolio Holder is minded to approve a grant of £3,500 from the Grants for Leisure Budget, but as this amount exceeds the limit of his delegated power to award, the request is brought to the Executive to seek their approval.
- 1.4 The Centre's staff and Trustees are working with officers of the City Council to develop proposals to refurbish the whole of the Centre which is currently falling behind most other Centres in terms of its amenity offer, but it is felt unlikely that sufficient funding could be attracted to replace the present building in one major project.
- 1.5 The intention is therefore to phase the re-development utilising the Council's own annual contribution to the building's maintenance and seeking additional funds targeted at specific uses e.g. sport, children and young people etc.
- 1.6 The new ceiling will enhance the aesthetic appeal of the main hall and the matched funding will come from the County Council and the Centre's own limited resources.
- 1.7 The City Council has previously agreed to support the Centre in its efforts to upgrade the building and a motion to this effect was passed at a full Council meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2004 (min no C92/04)

## **2. CONSULTATION**

- 2.1 Consultation to Date.
- 2.2 Consultation proposed.

## **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are recommended to approve a grant of £3,500 as requested, to be taken from the Grants for Leisure budget.

#### **4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

To respond to the request from Belah Community Centre to enable them to carry out work to enhance the building in order to attract more users.

#### **5. IMPLICATIONS**

- Staffing/Resources – On-going staff support in assisting the trustees to develop more detailed plans for future refurbishment of the centre
- Financial – £3,500 grant aid from existing base budget
- Legal – n/a
- Corporate – n/a
- Risk Management – n/a
- Equality Issues – refurbishment will encourage greater use of the building
- Environmental – n/a
- Crime and Disorder –n/a

Updated 5<sup>th</sup> January 2006  
Director of Community Services

APPENDIX 'A'



Registered Charity No. 1072233

Briar Bank, Carlisle, CA3 9SR (01228) 625325

Centre Manager - Teresa Preston

Councillor R Knapton  
Portfolio Holder – Health & Community  
Activities  
Gillfoot  
Walton  
BRAMPTON  
CA8 2DX

16<sup>th</sup> November 2005

Dear Councillor Knapton

As you are aware we have yet to progress the expenditure of the remainder of the grant you so kindly agreed to award to Belah Community Centre for Centre Developments.

Unfortunately things have not moved forward as we would have liked, in as much as a major player in the Development Group left us, and then there were issues with the Centre Manager, who has now also left the Centre.

This disrupted the continuity of the Group but it is hoped to reform the Group in the New Year.

In the meantime after discussions with Commercial & Technical Services and the Management Committee, it has been decided to change the focus of the development to become more achievable by refurbishing the main building over a period of time and investigating the replacement of the 'hut' that serves as our meeting and health rooms.

There has been a good deal of valuable work done by volunteers, within the Centre to carry out the redecoration of the various rooms within the Centre and it now looks more welcoming and bookings are increasing. The only area to spruce up is the main hall where the majority of activities take place.

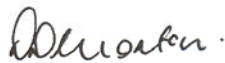
We politely request that the remainder of the monies, which we understand to be in the region of £3,500, be allocated for the purpose of renewing the ceiling and the redecoration of the main hall. This would complete the inner decoration of the building and allow us as a Management Committee, to concentrate on raising funds to replace the 'hut'.

Commercial & Technical Services have agreed to redecorate the exterior of the building as soon as weather permits, this being the first phase of their work towards improving the exterior of the building.

This letter is in confirmation of our recent discussions. However, there is only one small snag as I have explained to you, and that is that the matching funds the county council allocated to the project have been spent.

I trust this is agreeable to you.

Yours sincerely



CHAIRMAN

Signed on behalf of  
Belah Community Centre



The Centre is owned by Carlisle City Council and managed in partnership with the Local community

APPENDIX B

**CARLISLE  
CITY COUNCIL**



[www.carlisle.gov.uk](http://www.carlisle.gov.uk)

## Community Services

**Director of Community Services: M Battersby C Eng MICE**

Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG

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FAO David Trussler  
Economic & Community Development  
Civic Centre  
Carlisle

**Please ask for:**

Martin Faulder

**Direct Line:**

01228 625013

**E-mail:**

MartinF@carlisle-city.gov.uk

**Your ref:**

**Our ref:**

MAF/JMC

16 December 2005

Dear Mr Trussler

### RE: BELAH COMMUNITY CENTRE, HALL REFURBISHMENT

Thank you for your recent enquiry regarding the refurbishment of the main hall to Belah Community Centre.

We have pleasure in quoting as follows:-

Remove existing suspended ceiling and dispose	£700.00
Provide and erect a new suspended ceiling with insulation above	£3,200.00
Install light fittings within new ceiling grid	£1,500.00
Redecorate main hall area	£700.00
	<hr/>
	£6,100.00

All for the sum of £6,100 + VAT

Trusting our quotation meets with your approval.

Yours sincerely

**M A Faulder**  
Procurement Manager



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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