

Appendix 1: Community Re-investment Projects Fund 2015/16 Summary of Applications and Assessments

Applicant	Leechwell Garden Association		
Project	Leechwell Garden Play Structure		
Amount Requested	£30,000	Total Project Cost	£37,162
Project summary	A key feature (trunk of a Eucalypt tree) of the Leechwell Garden play area while previously very popular, requires removal following the annual engineers insurance report. The project will remove the trunk, and replace with a new, primarily timber structure meeting safety standards and offering challenging and creative play opportunities to children aged 4-12 years.		
Assessment Criteria	Score (1-3)	Officers' Comments	
Community Need	3	The last engineers insurance report highlighted the existing play structure was not meeting safety standards There is no other play area in central Totnes – this is a popular site for local children and benefits the local primary school	
Community Support	3	Letter of support from Grove Primary School advising that the play area is used by 240 pupils on a weekly basis 69 parents signed letter of support for the proposed project Letter of support from Daisy Play Centre which uses facility weekly Ward Members, Totnes TC support project Extensive consultation was undertaken in 2010 which evidenced community support	
Provides/Improves Community Infrastructure	2	Replaces and substantially improves an existing play structure. Is an imaginative proposal offering varied play experiences.	
Deliverable	3	In 2010, the LGA secured external funding for landscaping and furnishing of Leechwell Gardens. Since 2010, the LGA have maintained and delivered projects to improve the gardens.	
Value for Money	2	The proposal delivers a significant amount of play equipment and experiences for the sum of money. The intervention rate is 81%, with all remaining funds pending (including SDHC Locality Fund bids, LGA funds, and community fundraising).	
Lasting Impact	3	The lifetime of the play structures is anticipated to be 15 years.	
Total Score	16	Recommended Grant Amount	£30,000

Applicant	Totnes Community Development Society		
Project	Mansion Totnes		
Amount Requested	£24,140	Total Project Cost	£24,140
Project summary	<p>The Mansion is a Grade II listed building in the centre of Totnes on the High Street.</p> <p>The application is for funds to install a solar PV power system on the roof of the library to the rear of the Mansion complex. DCC holds the building in a Trust on behalf of the town – DCC acknowledge the building is not being used to its full capacity and the building was running at a circa £30K annual shortfall which was not sustainable in the long term. The Totnes CD Society are in advanced stages of negotiating the transfer of trusteeship of the building from Devon County Council.</p> <p>The proposal for installation of PV panels is forecast to provide annual savings of around £2,400 on energy bills to assist with the financial sustainability of the building.</p>		
Assessment Criteria	Score (1-3)	Officers' Comments	
Community Need	2	<p>The current building is a centre for community education for over 300 people a week. There is a café serving those attending classes and external customers. The town library has a footfall of 200 people per day and the nursery below has 60 children in its care. The building also houses Rethink, a mental health charity, Transition Town Totnes and Proud2Be, an LGBT empowerment CIC. In the future, the Society hope to provide a space for a one stop shop for information about the services offered by this network of providers to enable better care of all residents. Aspiration is to increase usage of the building by two thirds.</p>	
Community Support	2	<p>The wider aspiration for community trusteeship of the Mansion is clearly well supported and there is evidence of significant consultation.</p> <p>There is less evidence of support for the PV panel project – this is limited to letters of support from local SHDC Members, and from user groups of the Mansion.</p>	
Provides/Improves Community Infrastructure	1	<p>The wider project clearly aims to sustain the Mansion which is operating at a shortfall. The specific PV panel project provides new infrastructure but direct benefit is limited to the annual saving on running costs.</p>	
Deliverable	2	<p>The Directors of the Society have a strong track record in delivering similar projects.</p> <p>Listed Building consent may be needed – no enquiries have been made to date.</p>	
Value for Money	2	<p>The intervention rate is 100%.</p> <p>The £24,000 investment would result in £2,400 annual savings on running costs.</p>	
Lasting Impact	2	<p>Panels are guaranteed for 10 years and their output is guaranteed for 80% of their initial performance after 25 years.</p>	
Total Score	11	Recommended Grant Amount	£24,140

Applicant	Totnes Trust		
Project	Rotherfold Improvement Project		
Amount Requested	£22,100	Total Project Cost	£42,100
Project summary	<p>The project aims to complete improvements to the Rotherfold Square (owned by SHDC) which is situated at the top of Totnes Town.</p> <p>4 years ago Totnes Development Trust started improving the area so that it could be used for community events, plays, etc. This project will lay new paving, install lighting, create and plant shrub beds, install benches.</p>		
Assessment Criteria	Score (1-3)	Officers' Comments	
Community Need	2	The applicant described the Rotherfold (in 2013) as poor condition, dangerous paving, and an unfriendly/unusable alcove due to lack of investment.	
Community Support	2	The Trust undertook an initial consultation in 2013 which had 139 responses. These responses guided the design. Events in the square held since works commenced have been well attended. No letters of support were submitted with the application.	
Provides/Improves Community Infrastructure	3	The works will improve the visual appeal of the site, and make the space welcoming and usable.	
Deliverable	3	The Totnes Trust have a strong record of delivering similar projects, and have already delivered early phases of this project (some paving and seating in the alcove).	
Value for Money	3	The intervention rate is 52%. The Totnes Trust have committed £20,000 of their own funds towards this project	
Lasting Impact	3	The project contributes to increasing community ownership and pride in the area, and will regenerate that part of Totnes.	
Total Score	16	Recommended Grant Amount	£22,100

Applicant	Totnes Town Council		
Project	Totnes Civic Hall rebranding		
Amount Requested	£10,000	Total Project Cost	£10,000
Project summary	<p>Following improvements to the Civic Hall, TTC wish to focus on promoting the hall widely to maximise benefits from those improvements.</p> <p>The project will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produce a new name and logo for the hall - Pay for professional photos for website and marketing - Create a dedicated website with online booking - Produce new leaflets (e.g. town maps) 		
Assessment Criteria	Score (1-3)	Officers' Comments	
Community Need	2	Weakness of the Civic Hall product is the name, website, and lack of online booking.	
Community Support	3	Various letters of support from user groups and local SHDC Ward Members are submitted with the application – these recognise the good work that has taken place to improve the hall, and highlight the need for more effective promotion to maximise bookings.	
Provides/Improves Community Infrastructure	1	Borderline. Whilst officers consider this application eligible, the project is clearly focused on promotion rather than further capital improvements to the Hall. Nonetheless, this project would enable the full economic realisation of previous investment to improve this Hall by drawing in additional bookings.	
Deliverable	3	TTC can clearly deliver projects such as that proposed, and improvement works delivered to date at the Civic Hall have been well received.	
Value for Money	1	This project has the potential to draw in significant additional bookings through reaching new markets. It is noted however, that the intervention rate is 100% hence the low value for money score.	
Lasting Impact	3	Securing additional bookings will greatly contribute to the financial sustainability of the Hall, particularly given that historically the Hall has run at a deficit.	
Total Score	13	Recommended Grant Amount	£10,000

Applicant	Salcombe Town Council		
Project	Community Link Path		
Amount Requested	£26,750	Total Project Cost	£26,750
Project summary	<p>The project proposes to improve the surface of an informal path between the estuary and road, running from Salcombe town centre to Batson village centre.</p> <p>The existing path is well used, however is largely unusable in wet weather due to condition and material.</p> <p>The proposed path would be circa 400m long, and 1.5m wide, of compacted stone suitable for pushchair and wheelchair use,</p>		
Assessment Criteria	Score (1-3)	Officers' Comments	
Community Need	2	Users of the existing path are currently forced onto the adjacent road, due to the muddy nature of the path. This route is well used by the local community and tourists.	
Community Support	2	There is no evidence of community consultation. This is a Town Council proposed project based on their observation and understanding of the community need. The project has the support of the local SHDC Ward Members.	
Provides/Improves Community Infrastructure	3	The proposal would provide a much improved path along a well-used route.	
Deliverable	3	The applicant has a strong track record in delivering capital projects, including footpath creation.	
Value for Money	1	The intervention rate is 100%.	
Lasting Impact	2	The Town Council would take on maintenance of the proposed path. Given the type of construction proposed, it is anticipated that periodic maintenance would be required, however would be straightforward.	
Total Score	13	Recommended Grant Amount	£26,750