

**TITLE: GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE FUND SCORING PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

Committee: Finance & Assets Committee

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Author: Director Community

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Contact Officer:

Sally Bonnett, Director Community

[Sally.bonnett@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:Sally.bonnett@eastcambs.gov.uk), 01353 616451, Room No. 105, The Grange, Ely

**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 Funds from the allocated £707,182.62 to up to £1,138,066.
- ii) Approve the funding of the following projects:
  - a) £700,000 to Stretham and Wilburton Community Land Trust, The Link project
  - b) £423,107.60 to Witchford Parish Council, Ely Road Cycleway project
  - c) £14,958.40 to Wilburton Parish Council, Wilburton Recreation project
- iii) Delegate authority to the Director Community, in consultation with the Chair of Finance & Assets Committee, to complete funding agreements for the funding and projects identified in 2.1ii) a-c) 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 28 September 2023 to score applications for the 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 on the Committee on 25 January 2024.

3.2. The Panel met via Teams on 4 January 2024, a summary of this meeting can be found at Appendix 1.

#### **4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSION(S)**

- 4.1. Seven applications were received. Two did not meet the Cambridgeshire Horizons Objectives. The five 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 that there was insufficient funding available to meet all the funding requests and recommend that the funding be allocated to those projects that scored the highest as far as the budget will permit. However, if all the remaining Cambridgeshire Horizons money held by the Council was allocated to the Growth and Infrastructure fund more projects could benefit.
- 4.4. The Panel therefore recommended that Finance and Assets Committee be requested to increase the Growth and Infrastructure Fund budget to utilise the remaining Cambridgeshire Horizons money to enable funding of the Stretham and Wilburton Community Land Trust and Witchford Parish Council projects and the remaining funding to be allocated to the Wilburton Parish Council project as set out in 2.1ii) a-c), subject to 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 STATEMENT / 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**

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

Appendix 2 - Growth and Infrastructure Fund Application Summaries and Scores

#### **Background Documents:**

Minutes of the Finance & Assets Committee meeting held on 28 September 2023