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**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – 20 JULY 2015**

[Q43]

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**1.0 ISSUE/RECOMMENDATION**

1.1 That the Committee notes the content of the following information items:

**A. ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ON THE GROUNDS OF URGENCY**  
**(Author: John Hill - Chief Executive)**

In accordance with Paragraph 5.1 of the Terms of Reference for Corporate Governance and Finance Committee, the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and relevant Service Delivery Champion, and having notified the Spokespersons of the action taken, has agreed the following actions on the grounds of urgency:

**A.1 WITCHFORD COMMUNITY LAND TRUST – SET-UP GRANT**

The Chief Executive is proposing to approve the award of a set-up grant application for £5,000 from Witchford Community Land Trust, as a matter of urgency.

The Corporate Governance and Finance Committee in September 2014 recommended a one year extension of the community land trusts programme to Full Council in February 2015. The programme was agreed, which includes a £10,000 provision for community land trust set-up grants. No other application has been submitted for this set-up grants provision to date.

Witchford Community Land Trust have requested £5,000 to fund public meetings, pay for legal advice, purchase of model set of rules, registration with the FCA, assistance to prepare a constitution, and bespoke policies for the new trust. The full application from Witchford Community Land Trust is attached.

Assessment of the application by the housing team confirms that the key information required by an applicant has been included, specifically:-

- Vision for the organisation and initial views on the appropriate legal model
- Outline of the project specifically, the type and extent of community facilities to be delivered, i.e. number of properties.
- Evidence of initial housing needs assessment and community engagement
- Benefits of the project
- Allocations policies
- Key objectives and milestones

- Local expertise including support from Parish Councils
- Details of expenditure

Approval for the grant is required prior to the next meeting of the Corporate Governance and Finance Committee (scheduled for July 2015), in order to avoid a loss of momentum of this newly formed community land trust group.

<b><u>Background Documents</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Contact Officer</u></b>
Item A 1 – Memorandum on action taken by the Chief Executive on the grounds of urgency dated 17 April 2015	Room 102 The Grange, Ely	John Hill Chief Executive (01353) 616274 E-mail John.hill@eastcambs.gov.uk