
TITLE: S106 GRANT UPDATE

Committee: Commercial Services Committee.

Date: Tuesday 13th January 2015.

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1.0 ISSUE

1.1 To receive a report setting out the S106 grants awarded between 8th July – 18th December 2014.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 To note the S106 grants awarded between 8th July – 18th December 2014.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 At Community & Environment Committee on 4th March 2014, Councillors expressed a wish to reduce the bureaucracy surrounding the process for allocating S106 grants. They requested that officers be given the ability to approve all grant applications and report back to Committee accordingly.

3.2 The Commercial Services Committee agreed at their meeting on 8th July 2014, to allow grant approval for any amount of S106 funding within officer delegation. It was also agreed to amend the grant application process to ensure that the Council is meeting its legal obligations around how developer contributions are allocated, and that the grant supports the priorities of the District Council and communities.

3.3 This report provides the first 6 monthly update on S106 grants that have been allocated since the revised process was implemented.

4.0 S106 FUNDING AWARDS

4.1 Three S106 grants have been awarded between 8th July and 18th December 2014, totalling £58,770.00 (See Appendix 1 attached for details).

5.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Removing the £5,000 limit on officer delegation has reduced bureaucracy and quickened the decision making process as a Committee decision is no longer required before an offer letter is issued.

5.2 Re-focusing the application form and assessment criteria, is ensuring that the S106 application process is robust and resources allocated fairly and appropriately.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 S106 grants are only awarded where there are sufficient S106 allocations available. No further monies will be added to the S106 grant pot as individual parishes now have CIL allocations (the 'Meaningful Proportion') where development is taking place.

6.2 An Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) is not required.

7.0 APPENDICES

7.1 Appendix 1 – Table of S106 Grants awarded between 8th July – 18th December 2014.

<u>Background Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
Community Facilities S106 Allocated Funding Grant application form.	Room FF115	Julie Cornwell Partnerships Officer (01353) 616352 E-mail: julie.cornwell@eastcambs.gov.uk
Community Facilities S106 Allocated Funding Grant assessment form.		

Table illustrating the S106 grants awarded between 8th July – 18th December 2014.

Project Name	Applicant Organisation	S106 Amount Awarded	Project Details	Outcomes if project complete
Replacement Lighting System	Burwell Community Sports Centre	£4,000 Community Infrastructure	The replacement of the lighting in the main sports hall, following several sports clubs contacting the centre stating their concerns about the low lighting levels, indicating that they would have to move their club activities elsewhere if the lighting was not brought up to a safe standard.	The new lights have now been installed which not only helps secure the future of the centre through maintaining its regular bookings, but as the new system is more energy efficient it will save approximately 30% of the running costs compared to the old system.
Phase I, Ely Magistrates Refurbishment	City of Ely Council	£40,000 Community Infrastructure	The internal renovation of the former magistrates court. The building will be used as the City of Ely Council Offices and potentially for wider community use. The works will preserve the building to ensure that the community can continue to enjoy it, whilst enabling the City of Ely Council to expand the services they offer.	Project not complete at time of writing.
Riverside Improvement Works	City of Ely Council	£14,770 Public Open Space	To carry out a number of Riverside improvement works including replacing the slipway wall, lowering a curb, installing new safety railings and installing two benches. The works are due to be completed by the spring of 2015. The overall aim of the initiative is to attract more residents and visitors to use the facilities on offer and to increase tourism in the area.	Project not complete at time of writing.