

## NHB Community Grants Scheme 2020/21

### APPLICATION SUMMARY – Grant HIGHER

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	<b>Project Warmth</b>
<b>Organisation:</b>	Bentley Village Hall
<b>Amount of Funding Requested:</b>	£15,250
<b>Total Cost of Project:</b>	£18,300
<b>Location of Project:</b>	Bentley Village Hall
<b>Aim of Project:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Installation of new, rear-facing windows and fire exits to improve security, thermal protection and visitor comfort and maintain the hall as a viable venue in the medium term.</li></ul>

<b>Category</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>1. Signed by Ward Councillor and supporting comments.</b>	Councillor Peter Whittaker
<b>2. Evidence of how the impact of growth on the community will be met by the project.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• new housing developments that adjoin the perimeter of the village. This is expected to result in an increase in demand for the hall's services in the coming years.</li></ul>
<b>3. Evidence that the Project is sustainable (if applicable)?</b>	Bentley Village Hall has demonstrated significant year on year investment in delivering and sustaining, a well-appointed public amenity. Its success is evident from a busy calendar of usage; however essential/ spending in the current year is particularly challenging. Monies have been earmarked for renovations to the children's play area in the grounds of the village hall but it is urgent improvements to the main building for which NHB support is sought. New housing developments will bring additional visitors to the hall and the project will help ensure the hall will cope with the volume and continue to go from strength to strength as a public building.
<b>4. Evidence that the Project has other funding streams</b>	From reserved funds

<b>in place (if applicable)?</b>	
<b>5. Which Council Strategic Purpose does it meet?</b>	
Help me to live my life independently	Yes
Help me to be financially independent	No
Keep my place safe and looking good	Yes
Help me run a successful business	No
Provide good things for me to see, do and visit	Yes
Help me find somewhere to live in my locality	No
<b>6. Details of any Additional Information Provided</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covid-19 has severely depleted BVH 2020 income when essential improvements are required to ensure the hall's long-term viability.</li> <li>• Recent extraordinary weather challenges have rendered the existing windows and exits unfit for purpose.</li> <li>• visitors seated by the window areas complained of being cold despite heating being at maximum.</li> <li>• concern for older visitors that this might be detrimental to their comfort and reduce the attractiveness of the hall as a venue</li> <li>• concern that the high heating costs could render the hall uneconomical to maintain in the medium term</li> <li>• only community meeting place in our village</li> <li>• no public transport in the village. The project will enable the hall to be made available for additional community opportunities.</li> <li>• Our project seeks to replace existing emergency doors and windows to the main hall with reinforced units which will address issues of durability, security and major heat loss.</li> <li>• Heating is our principal operating expense.</li> </ul>

	<p>The project is intended to commence in the late Autumn to ensure a prompt resumption of the hall's role in the community. This is particularly relevant both post Covid-19, which is likely to see the hall being used more intensively, particularly by the elderly who will be reluctant to travel further afield, and with the provision of major new house building in the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The new housing developments are expected to bring additional visitors to the hall, given that our facilities are open to those both within and outside of the Parish. Our project will help ensure that we are able to cope with additional visitor volume and that the hall continues to go from strength to strength as a public building.</li></ul>
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