

Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families

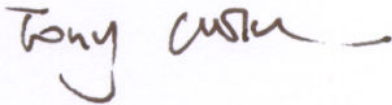
***Tuesday, 2 February 2010 at 12.00 pm
County Hall***

Items for Decision

The items for decision under individual Cabinet Members' delegated powers are listed overleaf, with indicative timings, and the related reports are attached. Decisions taken will become effective at the end of the working day on 10 February 2010 unless called in by that date for review by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.

Copies of the reports are circulated (by e-mail) to all members of the County Council.

These proceedings are open to the public



Tony Cloke
Assistant Head of Legal & Democratic Services

January 2010

Contact Officer: *Deborah Miller*
Tel: (01865) 815384; E-Mail: deborah.miller@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Note: Date of next meeting: 2 March 2010

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, but please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.

Items for Decision

1. **Declarations of Interest**
2. **Questions from County Councillors**

Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am on the working day before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Cabinet Member's delegated powers.

The number of questions which may be asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.

Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.

3. **Petitions and Public Address**
4. **Banbury New Futures Centre** (Pages 1 - 8)

Forward Plan Ref: 2009/217

Contact: John Phipps, Service Manager, School Organisation & Planning (01865 816455)

12.20 pm

Report by the interim Director for Children, Young People & Families (**CMDCY4**)

The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families is RECOMMENDED to approve Detailed Project Appraisal ED735 for the replacement of the existing youth centre at the Woodgreen site in Banbury.

5. **Chill Out Fund 2009/10** (Pages 9 - 16)

Forward Plan Ref: 2009/059

Contact: Ruth Ashwell, Area Service Manager, Youth (Central) (01865 810649)

12.30 pm

Report by the interim Director for Children, Young People & Families (**CMDCY5**)

The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families is

RECOMMENDED to consider the application (listed in paragraph 6 of this report) for grant support in the light of the officer recommendation as set out in the application annexed to this report.

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Division(s): Banbury Neithrop

DETAILED PROJECT APPRAISAL

APPRAISAL NO. ED 735

NAME OF SCHEME: New Futures Centre, Banbury

COMMITTEE(S): Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families

START YEAR: 2010/2011

BASIS OF ESTIMATE: Oxford Architects estimate based on agreed sketch scheme.

1. INTRODUCTION

The proposed New Futures Centre is the result of a successful bid for support from the Cross-Government Co-location Fund and will replace the existing youth centre at the Woodgreen site in Banbury.

A series of meetings between Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council to discuss priorities for young peoples' provision in the area clearly identified this site which is based at the intersection between two of the most deprived areas of Banbury. Further meetings with Banbury Town Council confirmed that all three local authorities had plans to increase leisure and support services at the Woodgreen site. An unsuccessful bid was made in September 2008 to the Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) under the Myplace programme. The bid offered options for a partial new build and a total new build. The subsequent successful bid for funding by the cross-government co-location fund was made in April 2009 based upon the total new build option and demolition of the existing building.

The proposed new build development will provide a multi-purpose facility for young people and families with the aim to:

- improve access for service users
- assist integrated working between professionals
- help children and families to access a range of services simply and directly
- to give young people and the community access to a performance hall, band practice rooms and a recording studio, multi-functional workshops e.g. construction and arts, IT facilities, fitness areas and a café style 'chill out' area.
- To provide co-located support services on site including Connexions, specialist advisers, mentors, youth workers, health workers and educational advice and guidance

The scheme has the full support of the Council's Integrated Youth Support Service and the principal partner organisations at Cherwell District Council and Banbury Town Council. The proposed scheme meets the objectives of the County Council's Corporate Plan by improving services through better partnership with the public, communities and partner organisations.

2. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

The proposed project works comprise:

- Covered external entrance area, entrance lobby, social area, café / reception with secure external café / social area.
- Large hall for music / drama / dance / performance able to accommodate groups of 150 - 200 people with removable stage and full stage lighting provision. 2 large storage areas will provide space for tables, chairs, stage and other equipment
- 2 performance / music practice rooms with recording control room and acoustic lobby
- Art room with store and kiln room
- ICT room with 6 computer workstations
- Kitchen serving café and main hall
- Multi-purpose meeting room for small groups
- 2 x 1:1 meeting rooms
- Office space for centre staff, youth workers, counselling staff and Connexions staff
- Youth fitness suite
- Motor vehicle maintenance workshop
- Toilets and disabled WC
- Storage for internal and external equipment, cleaners store, plant rooms
- An external all weather play court for basketball and kick about football fully fenced and floodlit
- Access road with staff car parking places, bicycle parking and other site works

The project includes fitting out the new centre with all new furniture, fittings and equipment including full ICT infrastructure and computer equipment, stage lighting and control boards, fitness machines and kitchen / servery equipment.

3. JUSTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT OF NEED

The co-location bid identified the following eligibility criteria:

1. Relevant local context

The young people's centre will be located on the edge of two of the most deprived wards in Oxfordshire – Neithrop and Ruscote. Significant indications of need include 45.5% of primary school children on SEN register, 44.4% of the population with no qualifications and 11.4% are lone parents with dependent children. In recent meetings with Police and in reports from voluntary and statutory organisations issues raised include concerns about low aspirations, anti-social behaviour, incidents of drug and alcohol abuse and rising teenage pregnancies.

2. Innovative/unusual features

The proposed project actively engages young people in defining the services to be offered and managing activity via the Youth Forum. The building design and activities result directly from the involvement of fifty young residents and the wider community. It will provide an integrated provision of services and activities catering for young people, children, families and the wider community. The impetus to community regeneration of facilities and spirit in a centre with a comprehensive mix of activities

3. Outcomes for children and young people and families

- The **outcomes for children and young people** are derived from the Every Child Matters agenda as follows: Being healthy, Staying safe, Enjoy and achieve, Making a positive contribution, Achieving economic well being
- The **outcomes for families** derive from the Oxfordshire Parenting Strategy and include: Accessing home/community link workers for supporting vulnerable families, Providing 'whole family' programmes for joint work with parents and young people/children, Developing local family networks and parenting champions

4. Relationship to strategic priorities

- The **Children's Trust strategies** for 2009 are as follows: Educational attainment for all children and young people, Teenage pregnancy and sexual health counselling, Substance misuse support and counselling, Assisting disabled individuals
- **Wider capital strategies** – Our project supports Oxfordshire County Council's Capital Strategy as follows: Assists in meeting new priorities (such as co-location) in changed economic circumstances Addresses a key capital objective: 'Improvements in the condition and suitability of youth centres' (Annex 10 p 7)
- **Government priorities** - Healthy Lives, Brighter Futures outlines a strategy for young people's health and well being, Aiming High for Young People outlines a vision of integrated services delivered by a range of organisations – a key part of our proposal for co-located services
- **Positive Futures** promotes sport and leisure to engage disadvantaged young people – our centre serves the most vulnerable youth locally and offers leisure activities
- **Every Child Matters** is central to the services to be offered at our centre and draws upon a range of providers to contribute

4. OTHER OPTIONS

1. Do nothing and leave the building with its current problems

The existing Youth Centre dates from the 1960's and is located on two levels causing issues of movement and control and the layout does not allow for

easy separation of activities or adaptability for the changing needs of the Youth Service.

The building is single glazed and poorly insulated and as a result has a high heat loss resulting in energy consumption at least 2.5 times that normally expected for a building built to current standards.

Externally the building is in a poor condition with a felt covered flat roof prone to leaks and readily accessible to people who wish to climb onto it presenting the County Council with a continuing Health and Safety problem that is not easily resolvable. The building is not welcoming and its design does not excite or encourage people to use it.

2. Refurbish and adapt the building

The assessed need for the centre is £12,200 but the cost of refurbishing the building to current building standards would be more than £1 million but the layout of the building would limit the level of adaptation necessary to achieve the improvements required to meet the current needs of the Youth Service.

3. Relocate and rebuild the centre

An investigation into the availability of other sites in the town has been carried out but it was recognised that the current centre is ideally located in a super output area between two secondary schools and in an area where 40% of the town's resident live. Any relocation would incur the cost of acquiring a new site in addition to the build and relocation costs with the capital receipt of the disposal site being held to a minimal value due to status for leisure use.

All options

All options are dependent upon funding provision and/or site availability.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

(i) Capital

The estimated cost of the project inclusive of fees is £3,000,000.

These costs will be met from DCFS Co-Location Grant. The grant is time limited with all expenditure claims required to be made by 31 August 2011. Any expenditure after this date will be a financial risk to the OCC capital programme.

The scheme is identified in the Capital Programme Forward Plan.

(ii) Revenue

As a stand alone Centre, the building's repair and maintenance costs will be non-delegated and the corporate responsibility of

OCC. The building is designed to be low-maintenance and robust with a low carbon footprint.

The Integrated Youth Support Service, as occupiers of the building, will be responsible for the revenue cost of running the building. The new building area will be 754 m² giving an increase of 315 m² to the area of the existing youth centre. Property Services have confirmed that the building running costs will be cost neutral due to benefits gained from the incorporation of the latest design technology for low maintenance and sustainable buildings together with the aim of keeping energy costs as low as possible (details in Section 7).

The co-location project will offer the opportunity to bring efficiency savings for the IYSS by ensuring better co-ordination of learning and support services and by reducing running costs. The co-location model ensures on-going cost benefit and value for money as facilities management costs will be significantly lower than the same range of services each operating in isolation. This will have the opportunity to redistribute the overall budget to make more spend available for front line delivery.

(iii) **Risk**

Regular risk assessments have been carried out by Property Services and the project consultant, Oxford Architects. A Risk Register will be maintained to manage, reduce or remove identified risks. The major risk to the Council relates to the external funding that is time limited until 31 August 2011. The Council will be liable for any expenditure after this date. The project is programmed to complete on or before 31 July 2011 and a review of all risks will be made before contract letting.

(iv) **Whole Life Appraisal**

Whole life appraisal techniques have been integrated within the design development of this project to reduce running costs to the end user. The design will make use of appropriate materials and components – balancing the requirement for a non institutional building with that of durability and low maintenance requirements. A large consideration throughout the design discussions has been the balance of security and safety with providing an attractive building that welcomes young people and adults.

6. **STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

There are no new staffing implications as a result of this project as services are already in place and being delivered from existing accommodation.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The building work will be carried out in accordance with the planning permission issued by the County Council. The design, materials and landscaping will be as specified in the planning consent.

Consideration will be given to the use of air source heat pumps, photovoltaic cells and natural ventilation via windcatchers, stack effect or trickle vents. The project seeks to achieve 60% reduction in CO2 emissions over that required by the 2002 Building Regulations, using low carbon technologies. Key elements will include high insulation standards, good air tightness for the building and the selection of low energy fittings and equipment.

The new building is expected to receive a "Very Good" rating in the Building Research Establishment's Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) Pre-Assessment estimation, which allows a quick evaluation of the likely environmental rating a building would achieve under a formal BREEAM Schools assessment.

The sustainability principles applied to the design incorporate the values of comfort, good internal environment (heating, lighting, ventilation) and adequacy to the learning and leisure areas. The existing quality of the site and landscape will be enhanced by re-provision of the same number of trees that will be lost. The scheme takes into account the current services and building features and in so doing will make efficient use of the available resources.

JIM CROOK

Interim Director for Children, Young People & Families Directorate

SUE SCANE

Assistant Chief Executive & Chief Finance Officer

NEIL MONAGHAN

Head of Property, Environment & Economy

Contact Officer: John Phipps, Service Manager – Capital Planning, School Organisation and Planning, Children, Young People and Families Directorate Tel: (01865) 816455

January 2010

Resource Appraisal

Status: Detailed Project Appraisal
Approval Ref: ED 735

Capital Project: New Futures Centre, Banbury

Price Base: 2nd Qtr 2010

Capital Expenditure and Financing

Cost of Project	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	20011/12	2012/13	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Purchase - Land & Buildings							-
Construction				1,400	850		2,250
Furniture/Equipment					270		270
Other works							-
Consultant Fees			75	100	75		250
Other Fees & Charges							-
Risk / Contingency					230		230
Total Estimated Payments	-	-	75	1,500	1,425	-	3,000

The Net Construction Cost per square metre is ; New Build £2,430

Funding of Project	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	20011/12	2012/13	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Credit Approval (Borrowing)							-
Capital Receipt(s) (Corp.Resources)							-
Contribution From Third Parties							-
Grant(s)			75	1,500	1,425		3,000
Revenue Contribution(s)							-
Other							-
Total Financing	-	-	75	1,500	1,425	-	3,000

Revenue Implications **

Corporate Costs

Capital Financing (Cost of borrowing)							
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Service Implications

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	20011/12	2012/13	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Employees							
Running Costs							
Income							
Less net current cost							
Net Cost/(Saving) to Service	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Staffing	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	20011/12	2012/13	Total
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
Additions/(Savings) resulting from the project							

** Revenue Implications - see para 5 (ii) of the Project Appraisal Report

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Division(s): N/A

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILIES 2 FEBRUARY 2010

IMPROVING AND EXTENDING PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN OXFORDSHIRE CHILL OUT BIDS FOR 2010

Report by the Interim Director for Children, Young People & Families

Introduction

1. Oxfordshire County Council believes that YOUTH MATTERS and has set up a fund of £100,000 revenue and £100,000 capital to support work with children and young people across the county. The fund supports the aspirations of those working with children and young people in Oxfordshire to ensure all children and young people can access positive activities in their leisure-time by 2020.
2. How children and young people spend their leisure time has an important influence and impact on their resilience and quality of life. Engaging in constructive activities can increase their positive attitudes, improve motivation, increase aspirations, develop social and life skills, enhance interpersonal skills and help build social capital. Participation in positive activities can also help increase resilience of vulnerable children and young people who are trying to rebuild their lives. For children and young people with physical or learning disabilities it can be a lifeline and reduce social isolation. For groups such as young carers, positive activities provide respite and can improve their outlook and quality of life.
3. Projects must meet the broad aspirations above and be targeted at children and young people 8 – 19 years (extended to 24 years for young people with learning disabilities).
4. The Chill Out Fund will consider a wide range of bids supporting children and young people's access to positive activity. Applications for funding are invited that comply with the following criteria:
 - Capital or revenue funding – if both ensure the split is clear
 - Aimed at children and young people 8 – 19 (up to 24 for those with learning disabilities).
 - Show evidence of the involvement of young people in the application.
 - Demonstrate increased access to positive leisure-time activity.
 - Show matched funding from a source external to the county council.
 - Demonstrate the ability to account for funding.
5. Applications will be considered on a monthly basis.

Bids for February 2010

6. 1 application has been received:

Applicant organization	Revenue	Capital	Amount recommended Revenue	Amount recommended Capital
St Matthews Church		2000		2000
TOTAL		2000		2000

Revenue/Capital left (including monies returned) = £7003

Grant awarded to date are as follows:

Revenue/Capital = £198, 997
 Bids to this meeting = £2000
 Recommended amounts = £2000

If recommended amount granted, funds left

Revenue/Capital = £5003

RECOMMENDATIONS

7. **The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families is RECOMMENDED to consider the application (listed in paragraph 6 of this report) for grant support in the light of the officer recommendation as set out in the application annexed to this report.**

JIM CROOK
 Interim Director for Children, Young People & Families

Background Papers: Application

Contact Officer: Ruth Ashwell, Area Service Manager – Youth (Central)
 Tel: (01865 810649)

January 2010

CHILL OUT

2009/2010

Meeting date:

February

Name of Organisation

St Matthews Church

Name of Project

Refurbishment and re-equipping clubs

Revenue:

Capital:

£2000

Breakdown of costs	Furniture	1200
	Electrical equipment	1500
	Sporting equipment	600
	Other – disco lights etc	300
	Trips	400
	Total amount of project	4000
	Match funding	2000
	Chill out	2000

Area: Central

Northern

Southern

Brief description of project

St Matthews Church run 2 youth groups for young people in Grandpont, these are important as there are no other clubs in the area. They need to be refurbished and kept up to date, and they need new equipment to expand activities weekly and for older young people, keep them up to date and have different activities, including game consoles and sporting equipment

young people benefiting

Age range:

Match funding in place (with whom and amount)

Voluntary contributions, fundraising and St Matthews Church DCC - £2000

Have they applied before

Yes

No

If yes, when, how much and have they completed evaluation form

Comments:

This is a good bid and very pleased to see a voluntary sector group in this area applying for funding. There needs to be a condition on the funding, if approved, a – to make links with the Area Youth Worker covering this area and b – to ensure equipment is processed in this financial year.

Completed by: *Ruth Ashwell*

***Suggested amount
£2000***

Awarded: Yes

No (reason)



Chill Out Fund Application Form

1. Name of Organisation

'Crazy Club', 'Powerhouse' & Open Door Youth Clubs - St Matthews Church,

Name of Project

Refurbishing and re-equipping clubs

2. Children and young people

Specify the age range of the children/young people that will be supported

8-16 years

Number of children/young people will benefit

75

Describe how children/young people have been involved in this application (please attach any supporting documentation to demonstrate their involvement)

The members of the clubs have debated and decided over several weeks how they would most like to see their clubs improved. We began in October, asking them how they felt their needs were changing; continued through November and December asking them to prioritize ideas. A final meeting was held at the clubs on Wednesday, January 13th and the children wrote comments on the whiteboards (see photographs & attached summary comment sheet).

3. Access to positive activity in children/young people's leisure-time

Powerhouse (8-11 years) and Crazy Club (11-14 years) run from 5.30-7.00 and 7.00-8.30 respectively each Wednesday and Open Door (14-16 years) runs each Friday evening in St Matthews Church. The Clubs have been running for around five years, but recently have increased in popularity (numbers have nearly trebled recently). These clubs are open to whoever wants to join. Activities range from basketball and football in the hall, to watching a DVD, playing on the computer, a tuck shop, and just sitting around chatting and relaxing. Once a term there is typically a trip ice-skating or bowling, with summer and Christmas parties. In October the older children run a Halloween Party for the younger ones. Fundraising has involved organizing events. Adult volunteers organize the clubs.

Describe why this project is important

These two youth clubs are important to the young people of Grandpont because there is no other youth club in the area. The recent rapid growth in the numbers of children in the area has underlined this absence. Without these clubs local children would only be able to stay at home, or friends' houses, typically under parental supervision. The importance of the clubs is reinforced by the narrowing catchment area for Cherwell secondary school. All our children have attended Grandpont Nursery and St Ebbe's Primary school. But recent changes in catchment populations have meant that from Year 7, they have been forced to move to different secondary schools. Without these clubs, these life-long friendships would be broken (see comments). The clubs were established when our oldest children were in primary school and so our existing equipment is getting old and increasingly less attractive to the older children, however. We need to refurbish our equipment to expand our weekly activities, and, as the children grow older, we need additional equipment – different sports equipment, new electronic equipment and furniture. Without additional activities there is a risk that the children may begin to find the clubs boring.

The benefits are twofold: first the benefits to the children of having a club to go to enabling them simply to relax somewhere safe and secure outside school and home include giving them space to continue to develop life-long friendships, to relax in each other's company, to have fun outside parental or school supervision, and, for our various events, to develop organizational and leadership skills. Second, the children, their families and the local community benefit from investing in nurturing these lifelong friendships because it enables continuity in relationships at a crucial time in their lives when the catchment area effect forces friends to separate. This gives tremendous security to our children, facilitating their transition into happy, secure and mature teenagers.

4. How much will the project cost?

Please let us know what the project costs are, breakdown the costs for both capital and/or revenue, identify how much and from where matched funding has been achieved and enter the amount(s) applied for from the Chill Out Fund

		Revenue	Capital
Total Cost of the Project (include funding already in place)			
Breakdown of costs	Furniture (Sofas, cushions, bean-bags)		1200
	Electrical equipment (PC + speakers, Widescreen TV, Wii, DVDs)		1500
	Toys, sporting equipment (basketball hoops, trampoline, football goals, space hoppers)		600
	Other (Disco lights, chocolate fountain)		300
	trips – bowling, ice skating	400	
Identify amount and source of matched funding in place	St Matthew's Church DCC & Voluntary contributions (parents) & children's fundraising activities	400	1600
Total Grant Aid requested from the Chill Out Fund			2000

5. Timescale

What is the timescale for this project (start and finish dates)

Start: March 1, 2010	Finish: July 15 th , 2010.
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We love crazy club, because we get to see our friends that we don't see everyday !!!

We get to see people who don't go to our school.

We love crazy club.

We love tuck shop

It would be good to have sofas because it's a place to relax with our friends.

Fun stuff!

We would like:

- ❖ Trampoline
- ❖ Chocolate fountain
- ❖ Wii
- ❖ Plasma television
- ❖ Space hoppers
- ❖ Basket ball hoops
- ❖ Football goals
- ❖ Stereo and speakers
- ❖ DVD's
- ❖ Facebook
- ❖ MSN
- ❖ Disco balls
- ❖ Disco lights
- ❖ Trips (e.g. bowling or ice skating)



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