

2019/2020 Community Fund: Interim Assessment Form

Locality: Cheviot

Ref. No.: CF1920/CHE/13

Organisation Name: Lothian Hall

Funding Requested: £2,462.40

ABOUT THE GROUP			
Organisation Structure	Voluntary Association		
Annual Accounts Balance	£6,250.52		
Are any funds ring-fenced, if so why & how much? £4,000 for building maintenance and £1,000 operational cashflow			
Has the applicant successfully applied for SBC funding within the last three years? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
Fund	Financial Year	Amount (£)	What used for?

ABOUT THE PROJECT	
Project Brief	The project is seeking financial assistance to part fund the main contract to enhance the access to Lothian Hall in Crailing. Works are intended to create a dedicated parking bay to the front of the hall, together with an improved path access with tarmac surface to enable access for people with wheelchairs or walkers. The access paths will be graded to both entrance doors. The project works are required in order to maintain and support access to the hall for those with restricted mobility.
Project Start Date: DD/MM/YY	April 2020
Total Expenditure (£)	12,736.00

Community Fund Request (£)	2,462.40	
10% Match-funding	273.60	
Any Other Contribution?		
Other Funding Sources	Amount (£)	At what stage?
	10,000	Confirmed – National Lottery Awards for All
Community Fund Outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality local services or activities <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to a better quality environment <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more pride in their community <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality advice and information <input type="checkbox"/> More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty	

ASSESSMENT	
What need/demand has been evidenced for this project/activity?	<p>Lothian Hall serves a rural community with many of the users travelling in from outlying settlements, at present the parking is on the roadside or in the gravel area to the rear of the hall. With this arrangement many of the users have trouble accessing the hall safely. The user base for the hall is ageing, with several of the members now in a wheelchairs and they are finding it difficult to access the hall along the existing gravel path without significant levels of help. The Hall provides opportunities for individuals to maintain social connections in turn encouraging users to maintain their independence yet the current situation compromises this before users can get into the hall. There are similar access challenges for parents with small children and buggies.</p> <p>With the proposed closure of day centres and an expectation that clients will attend community activities instead, there is an increasing pressure on village halls – therefore ensuring adequate access is an important issue for the small rural community.</p> <p>The local community has no shops or schools and therefore the hall is a key community asset for residents.</p>
What benefits will be gained from the project/activity and how well does the project/activity meet the outcomes of the scheme?	<p>Lothian Hall is a popular venue for local activities, particularly the informal fortnightly coffee mornings and monthly coffee evenings, The hall also hosts weekly meetings of the wood turners, local dog training group, regular surgeries for elected members, MP/MSP's as well as operating as a polling station for elections. Additionally the hall supports a range of seasonal events i.e. Christmas fayre, Easter gatherings and Kelso Civic week events. These events are open to all and very popular with all ages. The hall committee is looking to extend its provision and are soon to introduce a gentle exercise class. Currently, the hall operated with</p>

	<p>an average regular footfall of approx. 250 per month. The hall activities enhance community cohesion by bringing the community together as well as reducing rural social isolation.</p> <p>The halls is also available for private hire and is used for birthdays, funerals, anniversary celebrations and other family type gatherings.</p>
What support and involvement of the wider community is there for this project/activity?	The community hall is owned and run by the local community
What efforts have been made by the applicant to secure other sources of funding for the project/activity?	<p>The group have applied for funding from The National Lottery Community Fund and have been successful in gaining the maximum award of £10,000 from Awards for All.</p> <p>The group also approached the Roxburgh Federation of Village Halls for financial support, however the amount required was greater than the maximum £2,000 available and the funds for the year were allocated, therefore on this occasion they were unable to support their application.</p>
What happens at the end of the project/activity or when the funding is spent?	The access works at Lothian Hall are of a capital nature and once completed will have limited maintenance requirements. The Hall committee raise sufficient funds annually to cover the maintenance
Quotes received for items of expenditure	Yes
Have appropriate permissions been sought/granted?	None – dropped kerbs already in place, changes to surfacing only.

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT

The application meets the criteria of the community fund.

Additional Terms and Conditions:

To keep SBC updated as to the extent of the works required to the side of the building.