

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 11</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2017</b>	<b>CATEGORY: Delegated</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>STUART BATCHELOR DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND PLANNING</b>	<b>OPEN :</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>CHRIS SMITH 01283 595924 <a href="mailto:chris.smith@south-derbys.gov.uk">chris.smith@south-derbys.gov.uk</a></b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>GRESLEY OLD HALL – COMMUNITY HUB</b>	<b>REF:</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>GRESLEY, SWADLINCOTE</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: HCS07</b>

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## **1.0 Recommendation**

1.1 Members approve the Council's involvement in the Gresley Old Hall Community Project and support the application to the 'Communities Fund'.

## **2.0 Purpose of Report**

2.1 The report outlines the project to develop a Community Hub at the Gresley Old Hall facility and seeks endorsement for the Council's involvement in the project and application for external funding.

## **3.0 Detail**

3.1 The opportunity to develop a Gresley Old Hall as a venue for engaging the local community has arisen through discussions between County Councillor Trevor Southerd, Public Health, South Derbyshire CVS and the District Council. This project proposal gives the detail of these discussions and the exciting opportunities that could have a positive impact on the lives of local people, particularly older people, low income families and people who are vulnerable or isolated.

### **Background**

3.2 Gresley Old Hall is a well-established and impressive community facility in Church Gresley. It is a Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation facility which has traditionally been an important social hub for the coalmining community of Gresley. Over the more recent years the facility has needed refurbishment and a refocus so that it can become a more attractive destination for the wider community of Gresley and the surrounding area. The range and quality of the Old Hall's facilities are under-utilised and have the potential to be used extensively, particularly during the day.

3.3 As an important community facility in the urban area the Council has provided officer and technical support for several projects linked to the refurbishment of the site. It is also regularly used for events such as Liberation Day.

3.4 In terms of deprivation indices the Gresley ward has a number of issues which have led to funding being allocated to the community through the Derbyshire County Council Priority Communities Fund. The profile of Gresley is summarised as follows:

- Population 8,273 of which 3% are from BME communities
- 27.4% of adults are obese, higher than District, County and England level.
- Emergency hospital admissions for all causes, CHD and COPD are all significantly worse than the England average.
- All causes mortality is also significantly worse than the England average.
- Premature mortality for coronary heart disease aged under 75 is slightly worse than the England average.
- 30.2% of pensioners live alone.
- Life expectancy for males is 77.8 slightly lower than England at 79.3
- Life expectancy for females is 81.5 compared to the England rate of 83

#### Project proposal

3.5 The discussions regarding an appropriate project for the Priority Communities Fund led to the following objectives being tabled:

#### Objectives

- 1.To support communities living in areas of deprivation.
- 2.To promote the health of local communities by providing a food offer.
- 3.To provide a social meeting opportunity for vulnerable and isolated members of the community.
- 4.To promote physical activity opportunities for young people, women, older people, disabled people or those with health conditions and family groups.
- 5.To recruit and develop volunteers to support community activities

3.6 The Scope of the project would be to initially organise one-off activity taster sessions for the local community including food hub/lunch, social meeting event and activity based session(s), e.g. tea dance, indoor bowls etc. and to use these events as an opportunity to consult with local residents and target groups about the types of activities and events that they would like to happen.

3.7 Dependent upon the consultation to develop use of the Old Hall site as a venue for a range of activities for different ages and sectors of the community. This could include encouraging and supporting local community organisations to use the site as a venue for their activities, offer new activities, or work with local residents to organise and run their own activities/groups.

3.8 The delivery of the proposal would be through a Project worker(s) bringing together Gresley Old Hall and other local partner agencies to form a project group and develop an initial programme of 'taster' sessions. Partner agencies to be included in this group could include:

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|---|----------------------|
| SDDC – Housing, Sport and Health, Communities and Cultural Services |                      |
| DCC Adult Social Care   | South Derbyshire CVS |
| DCC Children and Younger Adults                                     | Churches Together    |
| Community Transport / transport providers                           | Active Nation        |
| Get Active in the Forest  |                      |

- 3.9 This partnership group would report back to the South Derbyshire Partnership, delivering the project as part of the Sustainable Community Strategy Action Plan for 2017/18.

#### The Communities Fund

- 3.10 Following on from the development of the proposal notification was received in December of the Government's grant scheme 'The Communities Fund' which is seeking projects which support public services and community led projects to provide better services and meet the challenges of increased customer demand. The Fund required an application by mid-January so the partnership group has submitted an application for up to £70,000. The Fund will be significantly oversubscribed in terms of applications but does identify community hubs as examples of projects to be supported. A successful bid would enable a bigger and more significant project to be delivered.

#### Priority Communities Fund

- 3.11 The project group is working with Derbyshire County Council to submit an application to this fund which it is hoped will support the setting up of the project and be utilised to deliver a programme of activities and services at the site through other funding sources/applications. A Business Plan would be produced to identify what is needed, how best it can be delivered and how the project could become sustainable.

### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no added financial implications for the Council in supporting this project. If the Communities Fund bid was successful the Council would act as the accountable body in allocating the funds to other partners.

### **5.0 Corporate Implications**

- 5.1 This proposal contributes to all the Corporate themes of Place, People and Progress as it will raise the physical and mental health profile of the ward and raise aspirations of local people who receive support from the services to be offered.

### **6.0 Community Implications**

- 6.1 Gresley Old Hall is an underused community facility which could become a significant community asset and prove to be a service hub for many public and community sector service deliverers.

### **7.0 Conclusions**

- 7.1 The adoption of the Vision Statement will enable the current partnership of SDDC and FC to develop their project plan and Options Appraisal

### **8.0 Background Papers**

- 8.1 The Communities Fund application.