

Community Assets

At the December 2023 Area Committee meeting, it was agreed that £75,000 Neighbourhood Fund would be aligned to Improving Community Assets in the Coalfield area.

Following a Call for Projects, the applications were assessed and scored by the Area Arrangements team and the proposals below are recommended for approval by the Neighbourhood and Community Board.

ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATIONS

Application 1

Project Details	
Project Title	Penshaw Community Centre Kitchen Refit
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	Refit of the kitchen, including flooring and new units
Total Project Cost	£8,100
Match Funding	£600
Total NF Requested	£7,500
Project Start Date	April 2024
Project End Date	September 2024
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Penshaw Community Centre
Project Description	
We are looking to refit our kitchen completely. This will involve ripping out and removal of the existing kitchen and the existing tiles from the walls. Then we will have to rip up the existing flooring to fix the floor underneath as it is rotten in parts. Then new flooring will have to be put down to replace the old. We also want extra sockets putting in to make the kitchen more user friendly. Finally, we will be re-fitting a brand new kitchen and wall coverings.	

FUNDING BUDGET		
		Overall Totals
Budget Heading/Item	NF	
Removal of old kitchen, fixing of the floor and refit of new kitchen		£7500
	NF Funding Total	£7500
Outputs		
		Target
CODE	Healthy Smart City Outputs	
204	number of items purchased	1
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved	1

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Improving Community Assets priority. Condition of funding is that evidence of permission from landlord is provided.

Application 2

Project Details	
Project Title	East Rainton Community Group - ERCG Accessibility
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	Widen door, install handrails and ramp to improve accessibility to the building.
Total Project Cost	£6,996
Match Funding	£0
Total NF Requested	£6,996
Project Start Date	March 2024
Project End Date	May 2024
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	East Rainton Methodist Chapel
Project Description	
<p>The East Rainton Community Group (ERCG) host events and groups to combat loneliness, reduce isolation and encourage community cohesion. However, the Methodist Chapel was built in 1823 and therefore has five, large, uneven stone steps leading to the entrance which proves to be a challenge for those older members of the community and those with mobility issues. The removal of the steps and the installation of an accessibility ramp in compliance with UK regulations, extension of the door width and additional hand rails for additional safety will benefit those members of the community who would like to become involved with the regular activities and visit the ERCG library that is located within the building, but they are unable to do so due to accessibility.</p>	

FUNDING BUDGET		
		Overall Totals
Budget Heading/Item	NF	
Prep, installation, disposal and labour costs	£6,996	
	NF Funding Total	£6,996
Outputs		
		Target
CODE	Healthy Smart City Outputs	
201	Number of activities or services delivered that support residents to achieve a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)	50
202	New adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle	5
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved	1
CODE	Vibrant Smart City Outputs	
305	number of NEW volunteers recruited	5

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Improving Community Assets priority. Condition of funding is that clarity on leasing arrangements and evidence of permission to carry out the works is provided.

Application 3

Project Details	
Project Title	Shiney Row Community Centre Kitchen Refit
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	Replace the kitchen floor and renew unsafe joists. Install new kitchen units and lay new flooring.
Total Project Cost	£8,170
Match Funding	£670
Total NF Requested	£7,500
Project Start Date	April 2024
Project End Date	June 2024
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Shiney Row Community Centre
Project Description	
<p>The kitchen area is currently closed due to an unsafe floor. After a full inspection by a flooring company it was noted that the wayrock style flooring was completely saturated and would need replacing. As the whole floor needs to be replaced all the kitchen base units and accessories will have to be removed and disposed of. The benefits of completing these works will greatly benefit the users who are currently using the facility and hopefully after a new floor and kitchen we can encourage more users to use the facility for the likes of childrens birthday parties etc. We currently have martial arts clubs, a local girls rowing club, a local youth club funded by City of Sunderland Council and a large local camera club using the facility at the moment.</p>	

FUNDING BUDGET		
		Overall Totals
Budget Heading/Item	NF	
New Flooring	£720	
New Kitchen	£3,900	
New Blinds	£500	
Repair Joists/sub floor	£2,380	
NF Funding Total		£7,500
Outputs		
		Target
CODE	Healthy Smart City Outputs	
204	number of items purchased	1
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved	1

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Improving Community Assets priority. Condition of funding is that evidence of permission from landlord is provided.

Application 4

Project Details		
Project Title	Houghton RUFC Community Facilities Refurbishment	
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	The project will enable urgent repair of the toilet facilities and upgrade of the disabled toilets to better support the community functions and activities we deliver.	
Total Project Cost	£12,000	
Match Funding	£4,500	
Total NF Requested	£7,500	
Project Start Date	April 2024	
Project End Date	May 2024	
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Houghton Rugby UFC	
Project Description		
<p>The project aims to update our club facilities to better support the community activities we deliver. The toilets require urgent repair and updating, without which we cannot continue to function as a community facility. Presently, the drain that services the gents toilets has collapsed and requires urgent replacement.</p> <p>The work this funding will deliver is the first part of a wider updating and improvement programme for the club, including building modern changing rooms to meet the rapid increase in the popularity of the women's game.</p> <p>This funding will allow the club to continue grow the number of volunteers delivering coaching and community use sessions for junior and senior male and female players. It will also allow us to increase our existing community use that currently includes The 41 Club and HM Armed Forces Veterans breakfast clubs.</p>		
FUNDING BUDGET		
		Overall Totals
Budget Heading/Item	NF	
Repair of drain	£2,000	
Replacement and repair of floor	£5,500	
NF Funding Total		£7,500
Outputs		
		Target
CODE	Healthy Smart City Outputs	
203	number of individual adults enjoying a healthier lifestyle (mentally, physically, independently)- footfall	120
204	number of items purchased	10
206	number of individual children and young people benefiting from this project- footfall	250
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved	1

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Improving Community Assets priority. Condition of funding is that evidence of ownership of the building, or permission from landlord is provided.

Application 5

Project Details	
Project Title	Racecourse Refresh
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	To provide new external signage, improved telephone broadband/wifi, upgraded IT system and internal refresh/decoration to our centre. We are hoping to 'relaunch' our community offer and extend the range of services, activities and support to local residents
Total Project Cost	£8,306
Match Funding	£806
Total NF Requested	£7,500
Project Start Date	April 2024
Project End Date	October 2024
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Houghton Racecourse Community Centre
Project Description	
<p>The centre does not have prominent external signage and is often difficult to find or identify as a community centre. We would like to display large and attractive signing outside the building.</p> <p>*The whole IT set up in the centre is seriously out of date. An audit has been carried out by our partners at Springboard and they have recommended that new devices with appropriate security and licences are required to allow us to run digi classes and to keep our data / users data safe.</p> <p>*We also need to block/brick up the remains of an old extraction system at the building. It is out of use and allowing water into the building when raining.</p> <p>*The centre also requires internal decoration and repairs to the flooring in the toilets.</p>	

FUNDING BUDGET		
		Overall Totals
Budget Heading/Item		NF
Signage		£800
Planning		£165
Laptops		£1,192
IT equipment and support		£1,000
Flooring		£2,119
Painting and decorating costs		£2,224
	NF Funding Total	£7,500
Outputs		
		Target
CODE	Healthy Smart City Outputs	
204	number of items purchased	12
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved	1

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Improving Community Assets priority. Condition of funding is that evidence of permission from landlord is provided.

Application 6

Project Details	
Project Title	ELCAP CCTV Update
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	Through a major planned maintenance programme the next project to be completed will be the updating of the CCTV system, which has been in place for over 10 years and is proving difficult to distinguish characters and things taking place.
Total Project Cost	£9,400
Match Funding	£1,900
Total NF Requested	£7,500
Project Start Date	April 2024
Project End Date	June 2024
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Easington Lane Community Access Point

Project Description
<p>ELCAP is always planning in terms of capital maintenance as we believe being pro-active serves us better than being continually reactive. Whilst we are working towards a full planning application for our new build we do believe that these future plans should not take us away from our current situation and the development of our premises as they stand at the moment.</p> <p>This approach in the last 5 years has seen ELCAP: install a new heating system in the hall; new windows in the main building; new heating controls for the main building; HIVE controls for the hall heating; wi-fi throughout the building; new pc's and laptops for public use; installation of tea stations to enhance the offer of attendees at meetings and events in our Craft Room and Heritage Room, extension and heating to the polytunnel etc.</p> <p>The next project due for consideration is the updating of the CCTV system. ELCAP has had a CCTV system for a long time. Historically this has been to identify any unwanted activity outside of our building and also around the fire exits located within the main building but the Welfare Hall has never had internal CCTV.</p> <p>As the number of activities within ELCAP have increased as has the beneficiaries of these activities this means there is additional risk to the safety of visitors and ELCAP staff including volunteers. The increase in activity has also seen an increase in the valuable assets we hold on site.</p>

FUNDING BUDGET		
Budget Heading/Item		NF
CCTV System Upgrade		£7500
	NF Funding Total	£7500
CODE	Healthy Smart City Outputs	Target
204	number of items purchased	1
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved	1

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Improving Community Assets priority. Condition of funding is that evidence of ownership of the building, or permission from landlord, is provided.

Application 7

Project Details	
Project Title	Kepier Restoration and Refurbishment
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	The Kepier is a Grade 2* listed building and needs upgrades in many areas to keep this facility open for the benefit of the local population. Urgent repairs are carried out as and when issues occur, but we also wish to implement a systematic refurbishment plan, for improvements throughout. The first priority is replacing the flat roof.
Total Project Cost	£9,780
Match Funding	£2,280
Total NF Requested	£7,500
Project Start Date	April 2024
Project End Date	October 2024
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Kepier Hall, Houghton le Spring
Project Description	
The Kepier Trust and Management Committee have drawn up a schedule of work to be carried out throughout the coming year, as it is essential to upgrade the building to ensure the facility remains open for the use of the local community. The first priority is the roof. The main area of concern is the flat roof between the historical older part of the hall and the more modern extension. Patch repairs have been carried out, but the whole of the flat roof area needs replacing with a new covering. Currently we have many groups using the hall for the benefit of the local community including uniformed groups (Brownies / Guides/ Rainbows), dance fitness, baby and toddler groups, craft groups, choir and music groups, Women's Institute, Mother's Union, Houghton Heritage, private hire for parties / weddings / funerals etc., clothing bank, school uniform and food store.	
FUNDING BUDGET	
	Overall Totals
Budget Heading/Item	NF
New flat roof	£7500
NF Funding Total	£7500
Outputs	
	Target
CODE	Healthy Smart City Outputs
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved
	1

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Improving Community Assets priority. Condition of funding is that evidence of ownership of the building or permission from landlord is provided.

Application 8

Project Details		
Project Title	Springboard Community Access	
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	The project aims to update the building within Hetton Lyons Country Park for the current user base. It is close to 30 years old and has not had any adjustments to it inside since construction. These additions will future proof the building making it more sustainable for current and future use.	
Total Project Cost	£15,610	
Match Funding	£8,300	
Total NF Requested	£7,310	
Project Start Date	May 2024	
Project End Date	March 2025	
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Hetton Lyons Country Park	
Project Description		
<p>The project will improve community access to the centre in Hetton Lyons Country Park in several ways. There are three main areas of improvement to maximise the use of our space, outside area, main meeting/training room at the front of the building. The work will be staggered over a 12 month period to allow us to schedule the work to minimise disruption to the centre operations. Replace rotten wooden shuttering of flower beds with brick, pave the front area. Add wind out canopy to create weather resistant outside space 3 x 5 metre.</p> <p>Widen the door to accommodate pushchairs and wheelchairs so that it can be used by everyone and make it a flexible space for events, busy café days and training sessions. Widening the door will enable groups to access more easily and be welcoming space for our digital inclusion project and other training activities.</p> <p>Add a stud wall in ladies toilets to create a corridor to access the female change area. It will remain DDA compliant. If needed the smaller space will be used as a changing room for up to 15 people so we will always have female changing at all times.</p> <p>Ladies Change: Add stud wall with door to partition shower area with large changing area. Add roller shutter to outside wall and replace solid fire door with glazed fire door and window either side. It will also be able to be accessed solely from outside as a standalone space which will keep the functionality of a female changing room as we need it. The new wider door and roller shutter will open out to views of the lake and allow users to access another area of the building for their activities. We will be using a space that is currently under used to its full potential. Without major work or cost we will be doubling the usable community space in the building enabling more people to access us at one time one. It will be a welcoming flexible space.</p>		
FUNDING BUDGET		
Budget Heading/Item	NF	
Canopy	£2,330	
Materials	£2,025	
Door	£2,055	
Shutter	£900	
NF Funding Total		£7,310
Outputs		
CODE	Healthy Smart City Outputs	Target
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved	1

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Improving Community Assets priority. Condition of funding is that evidence of permission from landlord is provided.

Application 9

Project Details	
Project Title	Flatts Improvements
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	Community Opportunities wish to carry out refurbishment works to Flatts Youth Centre to improve the external look of the building for local residents and the visitor experience for young people and families accessing the Centre. This includes upgrading toilets, flooring in activity rooms and new seating.
Total Project Cost	£7,938
Match Funding	£439
Total NF Requested	£7,499
Project Start Date	April 2024
Project End Date	July 2024
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Flatts Youth Centre, Easington Lane
Project Description	
<p>Community Opportunities wish to carry out repairs to the Flatts Building in Brickgarth Easington Lane to improve the facilities for the local residents, young people using the building and to enable us to increase the services we offer to include some sessions for the wider family with such as cooking on a budget, advice on well-being and healthy living. The Centre requires the following works to address wear and tear over the last 10 years and will complement the renovation works that have already been undertaken in the sports hall and kitchen areas.</p> <p>Ground floor – meeting room – remove and replace flooring with laminate, Toilets – remove and install 2 new toilets to each of the boys and girls First floor – remove and replace carpet with laminate flooring, provide seating External areas – mortar paint to cover the lower sections of the building.</p>	
FUNDING BUDGET	
	Overall Totals
Budget Heading/Item	NF
Replacement toilet and taps	£ 1,776
Tile removal and wall boarding	£ 850
Flooring replacement	£ 2,700
Door handles, fixing etc	£ 386
Chairs - £35 x 40 chairs for ground and first floor	£ 1,400
Floor and exterior paint	£ 388
NF Funding Total	£7,499
Outputs	
	Target
CODE	Healthy Smart City Outputs
204	number of items purchased
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved
	32
	1

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Improving Community Assets priority. Condition of funding is that evidence of permission from landlord is provided.

Application 10

Project Details	
Project Title	ShARP - Fit for the Future
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	The ShARP Fit for the Future project will convert an unused space on the ground floor of the centre into a small office for delivery of Links for Life Advice Drop In and refurbish the IT Workspace in Reception for delivery of the Digital Health Hub and Esports.
Total Project Cost	£5,457
Match Funding	£0
Total NF Requested	£5,457
Project Start Date	April 2024
Project End Date	December 2024
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	ShARP (Shiney Advice and Resource Project)
Project Description	
<p>This investment into the ShARP building will ensure that a trusted and valued community asset can adapt the delivery of services to meet the challenge of change local people face in the new digital age.</p> <p>We are seeking support through this grant to refresh our old Electronic Village Hall space to make it Fit for The Future as a Coalfield Digital Hub and ESport Centre which will help us meet the needs of local young people who will be able to participate in the ESport community. We have already secured and used funding to purchase a range of new IT equipment including desk top PCs, large screens, laptops, headphones. We now need to have new workstations and cupboards fitted to house the equipment securely so that people can use the space for training, job search, leisure and training. We also plan to purchase an EVAC chair on the recommendation from a recent building inspection.</p>	
FUNDING BUDGET	
	Overall Totals
Budget Heading/Item	NF
EVAC Chair	£1,312
Main Digital Hub fit out	£1,692
Small office (ground floor)	£1,987
Installation of sockets and emergency light	£350
Cost of paint and tools	£116
	NF Funding Total
	£5,457
Outputs	
	Target
CODE	Dynamic Smart City Outputs
102	Number of people accessing digital support- footfall
	250
CODE	Healthy Smart City Outputs
204	number of items purchased
	12
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved
	1

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Improving Community Assets priority. Condition of funding is that evidence ownership of the building or permission from landlord is provided.

Application 11

Project Details		
Project Title	Houghton le Spring Centre for the Blind	
Project Overview (max. 50 words)	The Centre is in great need of an upgrade in order to maximise its full potential as a community hub available to all residents. A new kitchen and a new boiler are of utmost importance in order to ensure a safe, comfortable and energy efficient venue is available.	
Total Project Cost	£12,500	
Match Funding	£5,000	
Total NF Requested	£7,500	
Project Start Date	April 2024	
Project End Date	May 2024	
Where will the project be based/delivered from?	Houghton le Spring centre for blind	
Project Description		
<p>Sunderland and North Durham Royal Society for the Blind has recently been gifted Houghton-le Spring and District Centre for the Blind. The Society is anxious to create a community facility, open to all in order to maximise future use of the Centre.</p> <p>The Houghton-le-Spring and District Centre for the Blind will continue to hold meetings each Tuesday. The remaining days will be available for use by a wide range of community groups within the area. To date a local mother and toddler group meet weekly, a photography group use the facilities one evening per week, boot camp 6 nights per week, a youth group and a luncheon club is held weekly.</p> <p>The Society recognises the need to improve the facilities in order to provide a safe, comfortable, welcoming and energy efficiency facility. This will entail installation of a new kitchen and the replacement of the old boiler in favour of an energy efficiency boiler. In addition to other groups and clubs making use of the Centre, the Society will organise a series of activities including the creation of an IT hub. Whereas the primary target is people with a visual impairment each event and activity will be open to all.</p>		
FUNDING BUDGET		
	Overall Totals	
Budget Heading/Item	NF	
Contribution to new kitchen	£1,950	
Purchase of new energy efficient boiler	£5,550	
NF Funding Total	£7,500	
Outputs		
	Target	
CODE	Healthy Smart City Outputs	
204	number of items purchased	2
212	number of existing / derelict assets improved	1

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend Approval of this project, which delivers to the Improving Community Assets priority. Condition of funding is that evidence ownership of building, or permission from landlord is provided.