

Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	12 March 2019
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/27/19/GM
Contact Officer:	Hugh Scott	Contact No:	712472
Subject:	Community Facilities: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ward 7 Community Facilities: Refurbishment of Grieve Road CC;2. Community Services: Continued Funding to Craigend, Branchton and Youth Connections3. Inverclyde Leisure: Promotion of Community Facilities		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Committee on three aspects of community facilities, namely:
- a) The proposed refurbishment of Grieve Road Community Centre following the review of facilities in Ward 7;
 - b) Community Services: Continued Funding of Craigend, Youth Connections, Branchton; and
 - c) Proposals to develop Inverclyde Leisure's promotion of community facilities across Inverclyde.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 Ward 7 Community Facilities: Refurbishment of Grieve Road Community Centre

- 2.1.1 The closure of a number of Community Facilities was considered as part of the Council's 2018-19 budget process. Details of the facilities affected were contained in a report to the January 2018 Education & Communities Committee. The savings proposals were based upon a review of community facility provision carried out by Max Associates in 2015.
- 2.1.2 Further reports on the Ward 7 Community Facilities were brought to the Education & Communities Committee over 2018 on the outcome of extensive consultation on the future of the facilities in the area including options for reconfiguration/upgrade of the Grieve Road Community facility.
- 2.1.3 Over the past few months, discussions have identified a number of local residents interested in taking on roles in the new management committee/steering group to support the growth of the community centre. The group is being supported by the CLD Community Engagement Team and local Councillors and is currently drafting a constitution, "The Grieve Road Centre" with the view of constituting the Management Committee by the end of April 2019.
- 2.1.4 As previously reported to the Committee (October 2018), the cost of refurbishment for the options proposed at that time could range from £380K to £590K, with the latter utilising cost/m² data from other smaller completed projects as a reasonable comparator. Those estimates included at that time an estimate of £75K for the provision of a small car park adjacent to the centre.

On consideration on the balance of available resources, it is now proposed to allocate £200K as part of the 19/20 budget process.

Further consultation has indicated a preference for any available funding to be prioritised on building improvements rather than car parking until such time that use of the Centre is established through the Committee/Group.

- 2.15 The exercise carried out for the Ward 7 community facilities has developed a model for effective community engagement to address the use of facilities in the area. This model not only enables officers to identify the current use of facilities but also to work with the community to develop future potential use. It is recommended that a similar model is taken forward to look at the use of community facilities on a ward by ward basis across Inverclyde.

2.2 Community Services: Continued Funding to Craigend, Branchton and Youth Connections

- 2.2.1 On 5 November 2013, the Education & Communities Committee approved funding for organisations delivering community based services formerly contracted under the Regeneration Programme. On 23 January 2018, the Education & Communities Committee agreed funding to the following organisations:

- Branchton Community Centre
- Craigend Resource Centre;
- Youth Connections

- 2.2.2 That funding was agreed to March 2019 with an agreement to review arrangements on an annual basis. Members are now asked to consider continuing the grant allocation in the region of £120K to the above organisations until March 2020.

2.3 Inverclyde Leisure: Promotion of Inverclyde Community Facilities

- 2.3.1 Inverclyde Leisure is currently working with its marketing company to enhance awareness of the current community estate.
- 2.3.2 IL is also in the process of designing a new website to significantly improve communication of IL's resource and the Inverclyde Council community estate to provide easier booking of community facilities.
- 2.3.3 Discussions are underway with Corporate Communications to include a page on the Council website which will provide a link to the IL booking site described above.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

1. Notes that the allocation of £200K will be requested from reserves as part of the budget setting process to address a partial refurbishment/upgrade of the Grieve Road Community facility;
2. Agrees to the allocation of the continued one-year funding of Branchton and Craigend community facilities and notes the funding proposals for Youth Connections are the subject of item 27 on this agenda
3. Notes the proposed developments in Inverclyde Leisure's promotion and marketing of Inverclyde community facilities;
4. Agrees to officers continuing to work with Wards to review community facilities.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Ward 7 Community Facilities: Refurbishment of Grieve Road Community Centre

- 4.1.1 The closure of a number of Community Facilities was considered as part of the Council's 2018-19 budget process. Details of the facilities affected were contained in a report to the January 2018 Education & Communities Committee. The savings proposals were based upon a review of community facility provision carried out by Max Associates in 2015.

The 2015 review recommended the closure of all three community facilities in Ward 7, Paton Street Community Hub, Grieve Road Community Centre and Fancy Farm Community Centre. Following a report to the January 2018 Education & Communities Committee, the decision was taken in the March 2018 budget not to progress with the recommendation presented in the review at that time.

- 4.1.2 Further reports on the Ward 7 community facilities were brought to the Education & Communities Committee in May, September and October 2018 outlining the extensive community engagement exercise undertaken on the future of the community facilities in the area. Committee agreed the following actions:

- Closure of Paton Street and Fancy Farm facilities;
- Retention of Grieve Road Community facility and creation of parking capacity;
- Note the progress on consultation with stakeholders on possible reconfiguration of the Grieve Road facility;
- Note the progress on establishing a management committee for the Grieve Road Community facility.

4.1.3 PROGRESS TO DATE

Meetings have been held with a new group of local residents who have shown an interest in becoming involved in the Grieve Road Community facility, and forming a management committee/ steering group. The local group are leading in all areas of the work in developing the centre, with support from the CLD Community Engagement Team and local Councillors, by building new opportunities to use the centre. The local group have drafted a constitution "The Grieve Road Centre" with the view of developing the Management Committee by the end of April 2019.

4.1.4 OUTLINE COSTS - GRIEVE ROAD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Following consultation with stakeholders, options for the internal remodelling of the Grieve Road Community facility were included in a report to the October 2018 Education & Communities Committee. A number of options for internal reconfiguration were considered, including:

- Partial refurbishment.
- Significant layout alterations including new partitions, doors and large folding acoustic partitions.
- Renewal of building services (excluding boilers which were replaced in Sept 2015). Note this is partly due to reconfiguration and partly as the existing condition survey indicates that the building services generally are all approaching end of life.
- Renewal of all floor and ceiling finishes (due to extent of reconfiguration).

The cost estimate at that time was based on outline sketch proposals was in the region of £380K. It should be noted that a number of assumptions have been made on the scope of the proposals and were made in the absence of a more detailed survey which would require the appointment of mechanical & electrical consultant.

As a general indication of the range of cost options possible, a cost estimate based on a typical comprehensive refurbishment (utilising cost/m² data from other smaller completed projects) indicates a cost in the region of £590K.

The above costs included at that time an estimate of £75K to address provision of a small car park adjacent to the centre.

4.1.5 CONCLUSIONS

The current layout of Grieve Road Community Centre is similar to the majority of other Community facilities within Inverclyde. At this time, the Management Committee/Steering Group is in the process of being formed and therefore the use of the facility will be subject to development through that Committee.

Following review by the Corporate Management Team and considering the balance of available resources, it is proposed to allocate £200K to address a partial refurbishment that will focus on addressing upgrade of finishes, fittings and elements of the building in need of lifecycle replacement such as doors and windows and conversion to LED lighting. The exact scope of the works would be a decision for the Management Committee working within the available funding.

Further consultation with the Ward 7 Councillors also indicated a preference for any available funding to be prioritised on building improvements rather than car parking until such time that use of the Centre is established through the Committee/Group. It should be noted that there are options in respect of external grant funding opportunities through an established Management Committee at a later date to address further improvements if required.

4.1.6 The exercise carried out for the Ward 7 community facilities has developed a model for effective community engagement to address the use of facilities in the area. This model not only enables officers to identify the current use of facilities but also to work with the community to develop future potential use. It is recommended that a similar model is taken forward to look at the use of community facilities on a ward by ward basis across Inverclyde.

4.2 Youth Services: Continued Funding to Craigend, Branchton and Youth Connections

4.2.1 On 5 November 2013, the Education & Communities Committee approved funding for organisations delivering community based services formerly contracted under the Regeneration Programme. These organisations included:

- Branchton Community Centre
- Craigend Resource Centre
- Youth Connections

4.2.2 On 23 January 2018, the Education & Communities Committee agreed funding in the form of grant awards to organisations formerly contracted to deliver community based services under the Regeneration Programme. This funding was put in place to March 2019 with an agreement to review arrangements on an annual basis.

4.2.3 Consequently, Members are asked to consider the recommendation that the following organisations be granted funding at current levels for 2019/20:

- Branchton Community Centre £117,292
- Craigend Resource Centre £120,000

4.2.4 In respect of Youth Connections, a recommended funding proposal is referred to in item 27 within this agenda and which is an exempt report taking into account the detailed review completed by Youthlink Scotland.

4.2.5 Members will be aware that organisations funded by Inverclyde Council are subject to robust but proportionate governance and scrutiny. Officers are satisfied that there are appropriate governance and oversight arrangements in place for the three organisations that are subject of this report.

Progress on the ongoing development of procedures for the governance of Council funded organisations and facilities will be subject to an updated report in May 2019.

4.3 Inverclyde Leisure: Promotion Facilities

- 4.3.1 Inverclyde Leisure is currently working with its marketing company to enhance awareness of the current community estate. This includes the development of an annual marketing plan that will include new digital platforms such as a new micro site on Google Adwords, Google's online advertising platform. IL will also maximise use of other social media platforms such as Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and Facebook, advising residents of the opportunities available within the community estate and bookings for potential programme on offer.
- 4.3.2 IL is also in the process of designing a new website to significantly improve communication IL's resource and Inverclyde Council community estate and provide easier booking of community facilities, programmes and community events.
- 4.3.3 Discussions are also underway with Inverclyde's Corporate Communications Team to include a page on the Council website and provide a link to the IL website described above.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance

Financial Implications:

Ward 7 Community Facilities: Refurbishment of Grieve Road CC

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
Capital	Reserves	2019-21	200		Estimated capital project

Annually Recurring Costs/(Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A	-	-	N/A		Facility lifecycle / maintenance covered via existing CRA/E&R Core Property Budgets

Youth Services: Continued Funding to Craigend, Branchton and Youth Connections

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
Community Halls	Branchton	2019-2020	117,292		To be considered as separate item
	Craigend		120,000		
	Youth Connections		Item 27		

Annually Recurring Costs/(Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
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N/A	-	-	N/A		
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Community Facilities

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (if Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/(Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A	-	-	N/A		

Legal

5.2 None

Human Resources

5.3 None

Equalities

5.4 Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

X	YES (an equality impact assessment was carried out as part of the Community Facilities Savings Proposal)
	NO - This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Repopulation

5.5 None.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Corporate Management Team support the proposals set out in this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Community Facilities Service Review - Education & Communities Committee 23 January 2018 (EDUCOM13/18/MM)
 Community Facilities in Ward 7 – Education & Communities Committee 8 May 2018 (EDCOM/59/18/MM)
 Ward 7 Community Facilities Review (& Addendum) – Education & Communities Committee 4 September 2018 (EDCOM/84/2018/HS)
 Ward 7 Community Facilities Review – Education & Communities Committee 30 October 2018 (EDCOM/101/18/GM/HS)

