

Appendix C.

Background or 'Project Specifics' – Application MF009/T2

Purchase and installation of a demountable stage with lighting, Audio Visual (AV) and Public Address (PA) systems for the Main Hall at YGG Pontardawe.

This bid has been developed to 'Enhance Existing Council Services' and 'Assist Voluntary Sector providers.'

The YGG Pontardawe Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) wish to create a multi-purpose facility which can be used by the wider community, and extend school activities beyond the traditional school day. The funding will be used to procure and install a 9 metre wide demountable stage with accompanying drapes, proscenium arch, projector with screen, amplifiers, microphones and speakers. These items will enhance activities currently taking place in the Main Hall and make it more attractive to potential hirers.

The need for this initiative has been brought to the attention of the Pontardawe Ward Members by the Chairperson of the PTFA, following discussions with the Headteacher and local third sector groups. A number of community-based organisations including the ConfiDance and TapOma dance groups, Slimming World, Cerdd NPT and the Family Liaison Officer have expressed an interest in hiring the Hall, however the lack of quality facilities has been a significant barrier to use. This proposal would enable the School to support the local voluntary sector by offering an accessible venue in which they can grow and thrive.

Long term benefits emanating from the proposal include additional community activities delivered through the medium of Welsh, an improvement in social engagement and health and wellbeing, and increased participation by families in learning activities and events.

The scheme has no financial implications for NPTCBC. Day to day responsibility for the new equipment will fall to the School, however in order to fund ongoing maintenance and ensure the facility is kept at the highest standard, the PTFA will charge a small fee for hall hire.

Recommendations

The project is valued at £24,600. The Applicant, Councillor Linet Purcell, would wish to contribute £9,600 towards the project from her Members Fund allocation for Pontardawe. The remaining £15,000 match funding has been secured from the Mynydd y Betws Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund, and contributions from the PTFA and the schools delegated budget.

The project proposal is recommended for approval and financial support under the Members Community Fund.