

## **Community and Cultural Facilities Capital Grant Scheme 2015-2017**

### **Report to Council meeting - July 2016**

#### **Introduction**

The Community and Cultural Facilities Capital (CCFC) Grant Scheme 2015-2017 was adopted by Kilkenny County Council in March 2015. A total budget of €250,000 is available for grant allocations in 2016. The closing date for receipt of applications under the 2016 CCFC Grant Scheme was 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016. A total of 20 applications were received.

Due to the limited budget available and the high level of interest expressed in the CCFC Grant Scheme, the Evaluation Committee agreed strict criteria for assessing applications. There were two stages to this process. The first involved an examination to establish if applications satisfied the following 4 core eligibility criteria:

1. Projects must be community led initiatives incorporating community, heritage and/or cultural & arts initiatives, which support the objectives of the County Development Plan.
2. Projects must support broader community usage (projects that focus on one particular activity will only be considered where it demonstrates its pro-activity in inclusion of minority groups.)
3. Projects must demonstrate evidence that matching funding is in place and proposed works are eligible.
4. Projects must provide a Statement of Social Inclusion.

Only projects which satisfied all of the above core criteria progressed to the second stage of the process. In this regard, a total of 16 applications received satisfied the core criteria and were deemed eligible to progress to stage 2 of the process (see Table 1 for list of projects that progressed to stage 2. Table 2 lists those projects that were deemed eligible under the CCFC Grant Scheme but which unfortunately did not satisfy all of the core criteria - i.e. they were deemed to be incomplete applications. Table 3 outlines those projects which were deemed ineligible under the CCFC Grant Scheme.)

Stage 2 involved a detailed scoring of applications according to a further 8 criteria to determine their ranking (see Appendix for list of criteria.) It was a requirement that each application must achieve a minimum score of 70% in each of the core criteria and a minimum of 50% in each of the additional criteria. Projects were ranked in order of priority according to their overall score (as per Table 1.)

**Table1: Eligible Applications and Priority Listing**

Name of Applicant	Description of Project	Grant Amount Sought	Grant Amount Recommended	Comments from Evaluation Committee
<p><b>1. U-Casadh Ltd</b></p>	<p>Development of a community kitchen in the Ferrybank area. Using a 3 phase approach of stabilization, training &amp; education and employment &amp; enterprise for the UCasadh service users this community kitchen will be the mechanism through which service users are socialised and reintegrated back into the community. While doing so a needy service in Ferrybank will be provided to 3 key target groups</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. UCasadh Service Users</li> <li>2. Brothers of Charity Staff &amp; Residents</li> <li>3. Older people in Ferrybank</li> </ol>	<p>€45,000</p>	<p><b>€45,000</b></p>	<p>Good social inclusion project Subject to public procurement</p>
<p><b>2. Castlewarren Community Hall</b></p>	<p>Upgrade unit to create community hub, cafe – connect electricity and plumbing supply to the existing prefab</p>	<p>€9961.38</p>	<p><b>€9961.38</b></p>	<p>Good community project with broad community usage All works to be planning compliant</p>
<p><b>3. Graiguenamanagh Hall Ltd - Abbey Hall</b></p>	<p>The development of the front of the Abbey Hall into a landscaped amenity to enhance the overall space available to the centre thus increasing its attractiveness to groups using the centre for community and social events.</p>	<p>€20,000</p>	<p><b>€20,000</b></p>	<p>Good community project with broad community usage</p> <p>Abbey Hall is a protected structure and a listed building. Applicant is required to liaise with the Conservation Officer regarding the proposed development and ensure that all works must be planning compliant</p> <p>Given the rich archaeological resources throughout Graiguenamanagh it is recommended that an archaeologist assess the</p>

				<p>project to advise if archaeological monitoring is required or not.</p> <p>In line with County Development Plan policy on planting of native tree and shrub species – the proposed landscaping plan should be revised to include native species.</p>
<b>4. Ballyousskill Community Hall</b>	Extension to existing community hall/create further social infrastructure and potential community hub with social enterprise element	€45,000	<b>€45,000</b>	<p>Good community project – broad community usage</p> <p>Subject to public procurement</p> <p>All works must be planning compliant</p>
<b>5. Mooncoin GAA</b>	Development of Astro Turf area to complement the existing facilities at the GAA grounds	€45,000	<b>€45,000</b>	<p>Good project with broad community usage</p> <p>All works to be planning compliant</p> <p>Subject to public procurement</p>
<b>6. Thomastown Community Centre</b>	Reinstating of the 40 seat balcony in the concert hall area of the community centre	€45,000	<b>€45,000</b>	<p>Facility has broad community usage</p> <p>Concert Hall is a protected structure and it's also identified on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage. The group will be required to consult with the Conservation Officer about the proposed development to discuss how it will affect the character of the building.</p>

7. <b>St Patrick's GAA Ballyraggett (MD North)</b>	Removal of retaining wall to separate walking track from existing viewing area and the development and improvement of walking track around GAA pitch and field.	€19,000	<b>€19,000</b>	All works to be planning compliant. Group currently awaiting decision on section 5 planning Declaration  Broad community usage.
8. <b>The Rower Inistioge GAA Club</b>	Development & construction of a lighted walkway around the perimeter of the GAA grounds in The Rower	€27,733	<b>€20,000</b>	Broad community usage.  All works to be planning compliant
9. <b>Kells Handball &amp; Sports Hall</b>	Upgrading of existing handball and sports hall to bring to a competitive standard to include an extension to the front and wheelchair access	<b>€45,000</b>	<b>Insufficient funding in 2016</b>	Strong voluntary labour element, long history as a club, minority sports interests.
10. <b>Mullinavat Community Group Ltd</b>	Acoustics for the Sports Hall area in Mullinavat Community Centre	€18,000	<b>Insufficient funding in 2016</b>	Well utilised facility. This will add value to the project and allow greater scope for wider community usage of the sports hall area
11. <b>Freebooters AFC</b>	Creation of a facility in the heart of the City that can provide clean, safe and secure environment by the development of centrally located walking track for club ( 300-400 boys and girls) and wider community use  Seek to integrate use with other city projects like: FRC's Good Shepherd, SOS , Schools in the area	€45,000	<b>Insufficient funding in 2016</b>	All works to be planning compliant  Subject to public procurement
12. <b>St Martin's GAA /Coon</b>	Creating a viewing area, installing a pitch side rail taking out bushes, provision of Floodlighting , shelter for families	€33,750	<b>Insufficient funding in 2016</b>	Some elements of this application are more appropriate to the Sports Capital Grant e.g. Floodlighting  All works to be planning compliant

<b>13. Paulstown Dev. Assoc Community Sports Hall</b>	Refurbishment of roof- create light with clear roofing panels , refurbish floor to basketball standard	€21,158	<b>Insufficient funding in 2016</b>	3 quotes received for roofing element €14,600 lowest quote, but only 1 quote received for the flooring element ( see file for note)
<b>14. Kilkenny Community Communications Cooperative Society Ltd. T/A Community Radio Kilkenny</b>	Electrical upgrade of the studios/office premises of Community Radio Kilkenny	<b>€21,000</b>	<b>Insufficient funding in 2016</b>	Awaiting outcome of 10 year broadcasting license
<b>15. Castlecomer Community School</b>	Facility funded in 2014 to develop multi use sports facility, this application looks to complete works to include access to entrance of indoor sports facility , creation of dressing rooms , toilets to include plumbing and electrics etc.	<b>€45,000</b>	<b>Insufficient funding in 2016</b>	This phase will not see the completion of the building and applicant will have to source funds from other sources
<b>16. Mullinavat Playground Group</b>	Development of a community playground for Mullinavat village	<b>€45,000</b>	<b>Insufficient funding in 2016</b>	No satisfactory evidence of clear title to land has been produced. Group cannot develop on site without an interest in the land either by license or lease.

#### **Recommendation of Evaluation Committee:**

The Evaluation Committee met to consider the applications received on 6<sup>th</sup> July and again on the 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2016. The allocation under the CCFC Grant Scheme for 2016 (at €250,000) is not sufficient to meet the grant amounts sought by all the eligible project applications listed in Table 1. The Evaluation Committee therefore recommends, as in previous years, that the Council award grant allocations in order of priority according to the score/ranking achieved by each project as per the agreed criteria. In this regard, the Evaluation Committee recommend that:

- the first 7 projects in Table 1 be approved grant-aid for the full amount sought; and
- project 8 be awarded a grant slightly below the amount sought.

**Members of the Evaluation Committee:**

Anne Maria Walsh, Acting Director of Services; Declan McDonald, Finance Department; Claire Goodwin, Parks Department, Aisling Hayes, Economic Department; Nicola Keeshan, Kilkenny Recreation & Sports Partnership; Mary Butler, Arts Office.

[In attendance: Lindsey Butler & Bríd Hynes, Senior Community Development Officers].

**Table 2: Eligible applications failing to meet 4 core criteria:**

Name of Applicant	Description of Project	Grant Amount	Comments from Evaluation Committee
<b>17. Ballyragget Community Hall</b>	Refurbish snooker room to a hi-tech community training facility	€13,750.83	Disqualified on basis that this is a premature application. Incomplete application, <b>Insufficient matching funding in place.</b>
<b>18. Callan Handball Club</b>	Not clear in application what the project is – at site visit many options were discussed- 3 quotes look for an extension to existing handball alley	No amount specified	Disqualified on basis that it is an incomplete application
<b>19. Kilmanagh/Ballycallan /Killaloe Community Enterprise Group Ballykeefe Amphitheatre</b>	Increase seating capacity, create wheelchair accessible area, provide shelter for seating area in general and create storage, shop, greenroom facility	<b>€45,000</b>	Insufficient proof of match funding on hand

**Table 3: Applications deemed Ineligible:**

Name of Applicant	Description of Project	Grant Amount	Comments from Evaluation Committee
<b>20. Conahy Re-development Committee</b>	Finishing off project from last year; upgrade kitchen and develop a community cinema facility	€16,200	Disqualified on basis that works applied for are ineligible under the CCFCS grant. Incomplete application - did not submit all supporting documentation

**Appendix:**

<b>KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL FACILITIES CAPITAL SCHEME 2016 ASSESSMENT</b>			
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Score<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b>CORE CRITERIA</b>		<b>ADDITIONAL CRITERIA</b>	
Community led initiative; Community, Heritage, Cultural and Arts initiatives which support the objectives of the County Development Plan and the Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) priorities.	/10	Project based on identified need	/10
Projects must support broader community usage (projects that focus on one particular activity will only be considered where it demonstrates its pro-activity in inclusion of minority groups)	/10	Does project give added value to the community (number of people likely to benefit from the project / facilities)	/10
Matching funding in place	/10	Capacity of group to manage / organise project and ensure its ongoing viability	/10
Statement of Social Inclusion	/10	Meets needs of any one or all of following target groups (i.e. Older people, people with disabilities, women, youth and children, Travellers, people living in rural areas and ethnic groups)	/10
		Track Record of Group / History of Project	/5
		The level of relative disadvantage and the social circumstances of the communities where facilities would be located (Pobal HP Deprivation Index for small areas)	/5
		Does project duplicate existing projects in the area	/5
		Ability to complete project within 12 month period	/5
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>/100</b>

<sup>1</sup> Each application must achieve a minimum score of 70% in each of the core criteria. Each application must achieve a minimum of 50% in each of the additional criterion