

CIL Request for funds towards the Galleries extension, March 2022

Funding Request

A planning application for an extension to the Galleries is currently being considered by B&NES Planning Team. Subject to planning approval, it is hoped that work on the project so can start on 1st May 2022. The questionnaire survey indicated the community support and our financial projections indicate the extension is critical to the long term economic sustainability of the Galleries shop and café.

Background

We have received quotes for the work ranging from £90,000 to £180,000. We will be going with the former (obviously) but this will involve considerable amounts of volunteer time and expertise to keep the costs as low as possible. £90,000 is, however, a lot of money to raise in just two months.

FLiSCA has agreed to invest £25,000 and we have received pledges from the community of £10,000. This is a great start but clearly not enough.

I am therefore requesting a £10,000 grant from Freshford Parish Council's CIL fund which, I understand, is used to strategically support critical village assets. If this grant is forthcoming, I am confident of leveraging this money several fold with other grant making bodies to ensure the timing of the project is not delayed.

Simon Coombe