

CIL Request for funds towards the Galleries extension, April 2022

Funding Request

FLiSCA is 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.

Background

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.

We have received quotes for the work ranging from £90,000 to £180,000. We have received three quotes and gone with the cheapest. This contractor is also the one prepared to work with our volunteers which will help keep the costs down. 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.

Funds Raised

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.

In addition to the £35,000 previously mentioned, we've just been awarded £3,500 from the Limpley Stoke Parish Council's CIL funding. We've also had a positive indication of support from Hills Waste Management (£10,000) and the Medlock Trust (hopefully, £25,000). We're in the process of completing our business plan following which we'll be approaching other grant making bodies too.

If our funds do not stretch to the full amount, the work will be done in phases. In order of priority they are:

- 1) cafe extension
- 2) shop office/store
- 3) front porch.

Each phase will not start until enough funds were available to complete that phase.

The Parish Council has been provided with a latest copy of the accounts.

Simon Coombe