

Criteria for selection of projects for Community Infrastructure Levy funds

1 What is the Community Infrastructure Levy?

- 1.1 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge which can be levied by 'principal' local authorities on new developments in their area. It is an important tool for local authorities to use to help them deliver the infrastructure needed to support development in their area.
- 1.2 Our Principal Local Authority is Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC).
 - HDC can spend their portion of CIL on infrastructure in any part of their area; that spending does not have to be in the same locality as the development on which CIL is levied.
 - HDC has a policy and guidance on how they prioritise their spending using CIL income.
- 1.3 As a Parish Council we can only receive a small proportion of the total CIL money; the proportion is set out in legislation. The amount we can receive is currently capped at £100 per dwelling. In addition, CIL is paid in installments by developers and delays in the development will affect the amount of payments received. This delay may affect how infrastructure projects are scheduled and prioritised.

2 What can the Community Infrastructure Levy be spent on?

- 2.1 The Regulations state:

A [parish] council must use CIL receipts passed to it in accordance with regulation 59A or 59B to support the development of the local council's area, or any part of that area, by funding:

 - (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or
 - (b) anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.
- 2.2 The Parish Council will decide what infrastructure or other things are needed. The levy can be used to provide new infrastructure, increase the capacity of existing infrastructure or to repair failing existing infrastructure, if that is necessary to support or mitigate the effect of development.
- 2.3 Some examples that are already in our Community Action Plan are:
 - Further development of the playground for the under 12s
 - Development of outdoor facilities for older children.
 - Provide a tarmac path around the Memorial field
 - Work on paths i.e. drop kerbs etc
 - An improved walking and cycling route between Buckden and Huntingdon providing access to Hinchingsbrooke and Station.
- 2.4 *CIL can only be used for physical infrastructure not for funding groups or activities .*

- 2.5 Parish Councils are not required to spend their neighbourhood funding in accordance with the charging authority's priorities, but parish and town councils are advised to work closely with the charging authority to agree priorities for spending the neighbourhood funding element and for this to be reflected in the authority's infrastructure funding statement, where appropriate.
- The "charging authority" for Buckden is Huntingdon District Council.

3 Decision making in allocation of CIL funds

- 3.1 Buckden Parish Council plan that all decisions in relation to allocation of CIL funds should be completely transparent. In order to be selected, projects must support the aims and objectives outlined in the Neighbourhood Plan and the Community Action Plan. These are detailed in the plans, but are summarised below: *It should be noted that 3.1.1 is unlikely to meet CIL criteria as is little scope for hard infrastructure in that category.*

3.1.1 Community support this will include

- Maintaining and if possible improving support for both older residents and young people.
- As well seeking to integrate new residents and supporting and developing the voluntary organisations in the village

3.1.2 Improving infrastructure this will include:

- Improving facilities for all residents but in particular recreational facilities for younger people
- Delivering more efficient, safer, cleaner, and environmentally sustainable movement to, from and within Buckden with an infrastructure that promotes cycling and walking to enable residents to easily and safely access all areas of the village without use of cars

3.2 Landscape and Environment this will include:

- Developing climate change mitigation measures and support for the village.
- Protecting areas and habitats of high biodiversity, maintaining the network of green corridors used by wildlife and to protect and enhance important sites for priority and protected species.

4 All projects should demonstrate that they:

- 4.1 Meet the CIL Regulations 'to support the development' of the Parish.
- 4.2 Provide evidence of how they address a local priority from the priorities outlined above.



- 4.3 Provide evidence of a benefit to Buckden residents
- 4.4 Offer value for money
- 4.5 Are within the “powers” of the Parish Council, or can be delivered by handing CIL funds to another authority which has the “power” to deliver the priority for the village.

Once the projects have been judged and selected against the criteria outlined above they will then be prioritised for deliverability through the Buckden Parish Council CIL

Prioritisation Grid

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