

Exec Summary

The purpose of this report is to inform the Brompton Ralph Parish Council (BRPC) of the findings of the Working Group (WG) set up to look into the viability and potential projects for which a SALC funding application could be applied for.

The BRPC is asked to either:

- 1. Endorse one of the three recommendations on page 2 for submission to SALC for funding; or**
- 2. Agree to stand down the WG and not apply for a SALC grant.**

Further ask of the BRPC:

- 3. If the BRPC agrees to endorse one of the three recommendations on page 2 for submission to SALC for funding, it is also asked to propose responsibilities for making the SALC application and progressing the chosen recommendation.**

Detail

SALC fundings are available to Somerset's town, parish, and city councils. Their driving ambition is to provide funding for projects *"led by community need, and for issues relating to reducing inequalities in health and wellbeing that are not already benefitting from funding"*. They are on two levels: grants of £2,500 or grants of £45,000. The grants need to be focussed around one (or more) of a number of the following themes:

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Food & Nutrition | Increased Physical Activity | Financial Wellbeing |
| Social Connection & Families | Housing & Built Environment | Access to Health & Community Services |
| Environment & Climate Change | Equity Diversity & Inclusion | Employment, Education & Training Opportunities |

Canvassing Ideas

Ideas for the use of a grant and collected from BR parishioners are laid out in detail in Appendix A. Over 100 households were canvassed, and 14 replies received. Methods were mainly via the delivery of a reply sheet attached to Christmas flyers and verbal questioning.

Findings

There were a number of central themes mentioned by respondents;

- loss of Village shop is keenly felt;
- there is a desire to make more use of the Village Hall;
- community 'get togethers' are widely liked; and
- better information on village / community events is required.

As part of this process some clear community needs have been identified that are outside the SALC remit. A clear example of this is the need for better information and it is recommended that the Village Noticeboard is renovated and repositioned by the BRPC. Two members of the working group have decided to revive a village newsletter – this is to be without SALC funding but is one of the outputs of this exercise.

The WG felt that the best approach to use of any grant funding would be to use the projects to try and 'seed' activities or initiatives from which more regular events or activities could evolve. It was recognised that some of the suggestions fell under the remit of either the BRPC, the Church or other bodies and therefore were not eligible for SALC funding.

Recommendations

Three ideas are recommended to the BRPC by the WG as being nearest to the SALC requirements and the most inclusive of those submitted. Of the three the BRPC is asked to endorse one for use in a detailed SALC grant submission.

1. **Internet Connectivity** for the Village Hall to enable social events and access to the internet.
2. **Memorial garden and the village green** - An environmental project (4 sessions) to encompass maintenance and improvement to the memorial garden and the village green incorporating lessons in tree maintenance, wildflowers etc + plus soup and a bun in the Village Hall. Money would be needed for instruction & Village Hall costs.
3. **Recorded social history of 2024 BR** in photographs and written testaments, potentially with an exhibition in the Village Hall and other local venues. Funds would be needed for photography costs, framing and exhibition costs. Promoting social history and social cohesion in the community.

Next Steps


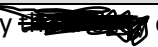




For the BRPC to either:

1. endorse one of the recommendations on page 2 for a SALC grant; or
2. agree to stand down the WG and not apply for a SALC grant.



If the BRPC agrees to step 1 and endorses one of the three recommendations on page 2 for submission to SALC for funding, it is also asked to propose responsibilities for making the SALC application and progressing the chosen recommendation.

Appendix A – Detailed Comments Received






Appendix A – Detailed Comments Received

| | Person | Comment | Applicable Area of SALC Category |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 |  | <p>I took part in the bat survey  organised which had a great turnout and was fascinating. There is a large part of the community that are very much interested in the flora and fauna of the Parish and it was great to see so much interest from a broad range of people. Perhaps some more projects like this monitoring the wildlife and carrying out surveys etc.</p> <p>There are also more runners in the village now, perhaps a park run style run/walk.</p> <p>I am also with  on getting the village to utilise the village hall more enabling people to get together and interact.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Environment & Climate Change ✓ Increased Physical Activity ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Equity Diversity & Inclusion |
| 2 |  | <p>My thoughts are that we should try to make more use of the Village Hall as the hub of Brompton Ralph. I am conscious that some people in the village are feeling left out when communications and many other aspects of life are moving online. I was wondering whether we could invest in a broadband connection for the hall, along with a few computers / tablets, which we could then use as a social internet cafe for the village, along with the opportunity to offer formal or informal online advice or training sessions to anyone in the community who may want it?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Equity Diversity & Inclusion ✓ Access to Health & Community Services |
| 3 |  | <p>Re the request for ideas to attract the above we do feel a lot of the suggestions made are already being covered by Wivey, being a much bigger and more relevant community. However, the village hall committee are trying to promote more usage of the hall through some of the ways you are highlighting, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - INCREASING ACTIVITY - Suggestions to be made will include Tai Chi, Pilates, Yoga, table tennis. - SOCIAL CONNECTION AND FAMILIES - More social events ie the Christmas Party. We are trying to add more talks in the hall - grant monies to cover speakers who charge would be therefore helpful then no charge need be made to those attending and would encourage more to come. <p>We already have a village WhatsApp group and an email group both of which work well in communicating relevant subjects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - We would suggest Defibrillator training and First Aid. <p>The contribution from the Parish Council to hall events in the past has been much appreciated. Could the grant continue to cover this contribution in the future?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Equity Diversity & Inclusion ✓ Increased Physical Activity ✓ Access to Health & Community Services |
| 4 |  | <p>1. some way of circulating news and info round the parish now that the shop has gone. Something like: collecting the email addresses of everyone in the parish interested then sending out a regular newsletter with items from individuals, groups and the parish council (I'd like to have the minutes sent to me.).</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families |




SALC Funding Application – Brompton Ralph, Jan 2024

| | Person | Comment | Applicable Area of SALC Category |
|---|---|--|---|
| | | <p>There should be some sort of payment for this, depending on how many hours is put in each time - we at Brompton On the 1st of May 2024 we had a meeting with the Parish Council and discussed the possibility of a parish survey, landscape and wildlife, somewhat along the lines of the History of BR to provide a portrait of the parish at a moment in time. eg a drone might be used to photograph the whole parish then stitch it into one large photo from which we cd make smaller prints to sell as we did with the History.</p> <p>2. I'd like to support PRs' idea of a parish survey, landscape and wildlife, somewhat along the lines of the History of BR to provide a portrait of the parish at a moment in time. eg a drone might be used to photograph the whole parish then stitch it into one large photo from which we cd make smaller prints to sell as we did with the History.</p> | |
| 5 |  | <p>1. I wondered about getting people together to do a booklet on the landscape, farming and wildlife of the parish. I know JC and others did a booklet on the parish, but this one would be more the landscape and wildlife with an update on the farming, so more a record of now. People could be involved doing research, providing photos, some artwork and it would be good to have accounts by children who have grown up here on what it was/is like! It might involve doing some specific surveys of species (like we did with the bats) to get a better picture. I expect there would be some additional ideas from anyone wanting to be involved.</p> <p>2. Setting up some regular walks in the parish and surrounding area organised by different people each time and possibly with a particular theme or something specific to look at. I know most people in the parish are quite active but this would get people together which doesn't happen so much and would tick the 'mental health' box!</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Environment & Climate Change ✓ Increased Physical Activity |
| 6 |  | <p>I would suggest that the Council could apply for a grant to improve the village green by the church.</p> <p>The grant could be used to get advice from someone experienced in landscaping and tree and shrub planting with a view to planting to increase tree and shrub cover and biodiversity.</p> <p>This would</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use an asset of the village which is hardly used. 2. Enhance the village generally. 3. Provide wildlife cover and increase biodiversity. 4. Be of benefit to everyone in the parish - which is important. <p>If funds allowed the notice board by the old shop could be moved there to be by the path and more visible. Something along these lines should be possible within the budget figure of £2500. One drawback would be regular maintenance, but this should surely be accommodated within the parish budget.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Environment & Climate Change ✓ Increased Physical Activity |

SALC Funding Application – Brompton Ralph, Jan 2024

| | Person | Comment | Applicable Area of SALC Category |
|----|---|--|---|
| 7 |  | <p>Thank you for collecting ideas of what to do with £2500 for Brompton Ralph.</p> <p>My thoughts are that Social connections & families are very important.</p> <p>1) Fund some community meals together for everyone in Brompton Ralph (those with funds could contribute).</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing are obviously close to my heart.</p> <p>1) Healthy eating cooking demonstration with box of ingredients to take away???</p> <p>2) Fitness classes for all in the village hall (not sure how many would come).</p> <p>Emergency fund for those in dire need</p> <p>Not sure how these people would be identified, perhaps the village agent would know?</p> <p>I think that my first thought is the easiest to achieve.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Food & Nutrition ✓ Increased Physical Activity |
| 8 |  | <p>We were pleased to receive details through the door of a £2,500 grant that the Parish Council is able to apply for improving Health & Wellbeing.</p> <p>After the sad closure of the village shop, we feel that the connectivity, interaction and communication within the village and surrounding area has been adversely affected. For some residents, the shop was a place where they could meet friends, see what was going on via the noticeboard in the shop and talk to others about their concerns.</p> <p>We would like to see the money put to use in starting a Village Agent scheme so that people needing help or advice can turn to someone who is local, who knows the area and is able to give them information and help.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Equity Diversity & Inclusion |
| 9 |  | <p>Hedge laying – instruction and leaning sessions for this rural art which would be open to all with perhaps a meals / refreshment at the village hall afterwards.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Environment & Climate Change ✓ Increased Physical Activity |
| 10 |  | <p>Story Book / Photo Collection – with every household represented and with the aim at reflecting the social history of today's BR.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Equity Diversity & Inclusion |
| 11 |  | <p>Community Choir – funding to seed a community choir</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Increased Physical Activity |

SALC Funding Application – Brompton Ralph, Jan 2024

| | Person | Comment | Applicable Area of SALC Category |
|----|---|--|---|
| 12 |  | Memorial Garden renovation – time and money is required to renovate, improve the village memorial garden by the Village Hall which has fallen into disrepair. This could incorporate hedge laying or wild flower / plant teaching. It could also incorporate a village meal. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Environment & Climate Change ✓ Increased Physical Activity |
| 13 |  | The 'SALC' Project 2024 – 4 sessions on different topics with external speakers / trainers and followed by an 'Soup and Bun' event in the Village Hall. To cover "Health Update 2024" + "Hedge Laying" + "Fruit Tree Care (Memorial Garden)" + "Cyber Safety". | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Environment & Climate Change ✓ Food & Nutrition ✓ Financial Wellbeing |
| 14 |  | We were very pleased for the support received for the Coronation and the Christmas party. We are now looking for the next project possibly a D Day celebration, we have already secured a talk on the sky at night over Somerset and a possible keep fit class hopefully a weekly event for the village just got to tie up some loose ends on that. We have who who is a specialist physio at the SALC hospital on arthritis who is keen to give us a talk one evening and we seem to have a good response to that talk we have who who is willing to teach basic computer skills. It would be fantastic if we could get some funding to get these projects off the ground , hope this helpful. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social Connection & Families ✓ Equity Diversity & Inclusion ✓ Access to Health & Community |