

Sevenoaks District Council

Big Community Fund

Application form

1 **Name of ward: Westerham**

2 Name of Member: Kevin Maskell

3 Name of delivery organisation: Westerham Hall Management Committee (1996) Reg Charity 1070491

Address of delivery organisation:

Westerham Hall, Quebec Avenue, London Road, Westerham, Kent, TN16 1BG

Correspondence address:

Name of the main contact who will be accountable for the delivery of the project:  
Mark Mountjoy

Telephone number of main contact:

4 Description of Project:

To enclose the majority of the existing balcony to the Front Meeting Room of Westerham Hall (the independent town amenity hall for Westerham) incorporating the space into the existing Front Meeting Room thus increasing the useable space in the room and removing the balcony which currently attracts unwelcome use by local youths who in turn cause disturbance and disrupt the use of the facility.

**5 Total project cost: £ 7,542**

How will the money be spent? Completing the work as described in the accompanying schedule of works and drawing.

Contributions from other funders if applicable:

Amount requested from the SDC Big Community fund:

**£3,000**

**6 Your community**

How have you been able to involve the local community in planning this project?

The project has been driven from within the trustees of the charity who comprise four elected members of the community and ten appointed members from community organisations: Westerham Parish Council, Westerham Society, Westerham Darenth WI, Tuesday Club (for elderly residents), Westerham amateur drama society, Inner Wheel, Stragglers Social Club, St. Mary's Church, St. John the Baptist Church, Westerham Conservative Association.

**7 What is the need for the project?**

To solve a long term issue with unwelcome occupation of the balcony and surrounding area by local youths who disrupt use of the facility. Extensive work has been undertaken with the KCC Community Wardens and the Kent Police PCSO's in an attempt to resolve this. No permanent resolution has been reached. As the balcony is adjacent to the main entrance to the Westerham Hall this problem effects the whole facility but especially the Front

Meeting Room. People arriving to use any part of the Hall must walk past the balcony and many feel threatened by their presence and may suffer verbal abuse. When prospective hirers visit to be shown round the hall they are intimidated by this activity and often do not return. Many calls to 101 have been made with subsequent police attendance, the most recent involved the use of Play Group trikes and scooters from the rear terrace storage for joyriding at the front of the Hall and in the adjoining SDC Car Park. Despite this work with the relevant agencies and CCTV coverage of the area no long term resolution has been achieved.

**8 Long term benefits**

Please comment on the lasting effects of the project:

Improved peace of enjoyment of the facility for the whole community and improved space and privacy of use for the Front Meeting Room in particular.

**9 The impact of your project**

How will you know whether the project has been a success?

By the absence of unwelcome youths on the Hall's property. We will also monitor useage of the Front Meeting Room and the rest of the facilities to guage increases as well as canvass existing hirers to guage their improved enjoyment of the facility.

**10 Ongoing costs**

If there is an on-going need for maintenance or management of the project, who will be responsible and how will this be funded?

There are none.

**11 Supporting statement from the sponsoring Local Member:**

I fully support this bid to enable Westeham Hall to make the necessary alterations to enable activities in the Hall to take place without uninterruption or having to be abandoned. In addition to this it is hoped that any confrontations that have taken place in the past will be now be avoided making the use of the centre safer. It is also hoped that community groups that have stopped using the centre as a resault of previous incidents will return once they are assured that their meetings will take place as planned.

Signed ..... (sponsoring Local Member)

**12 Agreement of other Local Members that they are happy with the proposed project:**

Signed ..... (Local Member) E Bracken

Signed ..... (Local Member)

**13 Declaration by project delivery organisation:**

I confirm that my organisation will be responsible for the grant and the delivery of the

above project and any on-going maintenance or management. I confirm that the organisation has an equalities policy or has signed the attached District Council's Equality Statement.

Signed

Date

28/11/12

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT

WESTERHAM HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (1996)  
(Insert name of organisation) recognises that everyone has a contribution to make to our society and a right to equal treatment. We aim to ensure that no organisation or individual involved with our organisation will be discriminated against by our organisation on the grounds of:

- ❖ Race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national
- ❖ Sex, marital status or caring responsibility
- ❖ Sexuality
- ❖ Age
- ❖ Physical or mental disability or mental health
- ❖ Political belief or religion
- ❖ Class
- ❖ Health status
- ❖ Employment status

Please note that if you have an Equal Opportunities Policy you may prefer to enclose a copy instead of signing the Equal Opportunities Statement.

**I confirm that my organisation is committed to equal opportunities**

**Signed (on behalf of the organisation)**

**Designation:**

Chairman