



15% of money received through the Community Infrastructure Levy will be made available to spend on local projects in the neighbourhood where development takes place. As set out in the CIL Regulations, the local proportion of CIL should be used for:

- The provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or
- Anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area

The definition of infrastructure is broad and includes amongst other items:

- Roads and other transport infrastructure,
- Schools and other educational facilities,
- Medical facilities,
- Open spaces,
- Flood defences,
- Sporting and recreational facilities.

Please read the Local CIL funding application form guidance note before completing this form. To discuss a potential project or for further guidance, please contact the Planning Policy team on 01372 474799.

Please return completed application forms and supporting information to: planningpolicy@elmbridge.gov.uk by **19th January 2018**.

1. Applicant organisation	Walton Firs Foundation
2. Name and position of main contact	Major(Ret'd) Andy Harvey Chief Executive
3. Applicant contact details (phone no, email and address)	Walton Firs Activity Centre 100-102, Walton Firs Road Walton Firs, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 3JG Tel: 01895 831111 Email: info@waltonfirs.co.uk

4. Type of organisation	Charity
If a charity please provide registration number.	1113830
5. Is the organisation able to reclaim VAT?	Yes
6. Location of project	Walton Firs Activity Centre Convent Lane Cobham KT11 1HB
7. Local CIL Spending Board project located in	Weybridge

8. Summary of the project proposal

Enhancing the Recreational and Outdoor Educational opportunities for young people in the Borough of Elmbridge.

Walton Firs is an outdoor education and activity centre located on the former Scout Campsite near Cobham.

The Centre provides challenging, rewarding and fun outdoor learning activities to help all young people develop to their full potential. Spread over 36 acres of grassland, woodland, flat areas and slopes, the site provides a superb environment for young people to get active and enjoy themselves. The site hosts over 23,000 visitor days each year, and caters for all types of youth groups – including schools and other charitable groups.

The extensive range of adventure and outdoor pursuits encourage the development of social, personal and physical skills and provide positive, life-enriching experiences which will stay with young people for a lifetime. We facilitate individual sports such as archery, climbing, and air rifle shooting which enable young people to develop physical skills such as balance, aim, and coordination. We also offer a wide range of team-based activities including climbing, crate stacking, a low ropes course, buggy building and orienteering which help to develop confidence, team building, negotiation and leadership skills.

Whilst the site can accommodate vast numbers of campers - demand for our covered accommodation in residential buildings outstrips supply by a substantial margin. This shortfall requires us to turn down bookings for large groups due to lack of bed spaces, and many groups are forced to book years in advance to secure their accommodation requirements.

As a solution to our accommodation shortfall we have identified small mobile accommodation units (Pods) which can each sleep eight young people in relative comfort, and the units are fitted with tow bars and wheels which enable them to be moved around the site to either supplement the capacity of our existing buildings or to be set up in smaller encampments for different sized groups as required. The Pods have a forty year life expectancy and once procured will be entirely self-funding, with minimal maintenance costs deducted from the rental income. As a Charity, any surplus income will be re-invested into the site to further improve the facilities. The flexibility and mobility of the units are key components of the business case to proceed with funding applications.

We are seeking to procure ten Pods which will more than double our current sheltered accommodation capacity. This CIL application is for two units towards that target.

Provision of this increased capacity will enable a great many more young people to experience outdoor recreation in a safe and controlled

environment, and enjoy the positive benefits of outdoor education. These benefits include improved self-confidence, social inclusion, mental health, teamwork, communication skills, leadership, physical health, and development of life skills which will be essential in later life.

9. Estimated project cost
The total cost of ten Pods is £122,800 (excl VAT)

10. Please show in the table the amount of CIL funding being sought for 2018/19 and any other contributions that may have been allocated for this scheme.

	Amount	Detail
CIL funding sought	£24,560	2 x units
Local authority contribution	0	
Third party contribution	£98,240	Additional funding applications have been submitted to: Community Foundation for Surrey The Leathersellers Company Charitable Fund Rural Surrey LEADER Programme Sport England No decision has yet been made by any of these bodies.
Total cost	£122,800	

11. Detail of additional sources of funding available.
The Charity has recently utilised it's cash reserves to complete a new shower and ablution block during the winter months to minimise disruption to site visitors. As such, Grant funding is being sought from various sources for the total cost of this project.

12. Why is CIL funding being sought? Please provide details of sources of funding already considered or applications made for funding

Walton Firs provides badly needed recreational and outdoor educational facilities for a broad range of schools and youth groups from the local community. CIL funding is available to help address some of these needs, and the oversubscription of our current accommodation offer evidences the requirement.

Following discussions with Councillors and other members of staff from the local authority, Walton Firs Foundation has been advised to apply for CIL funding to support the recreational and educational facilities available within the Borough of Elmbridge.

Applications to other organisations which are in progress are as per Q 10.

13. Please indicate whether the organisation has previously received CIL or other funding sources from Elmbridge Borough Council. If yes, provide amounts and timings.

No previous CIL funding has been received.

Council Member Allocations have been received from:

John O'Reilly (£2,000) and Mary Lewis (£1,000) in current financial year for the relocation and expansion of our Archery Range.

Also £1,050 Member Allocation was made towards the new ablution block in 2015.

14. How does the project help address the demands of development in the area. What evidence is there to support this?

Additional development in the area results in both a greater number and density of population, which in turn generates even greater demand for outdoor space and recreational facilities for young people to enjoy.

Our accommodation capacity and recreational space will help provide yet more high quality and affordable outdoor experiences for all manner of schools, youth groups and young people. The units will also help make our facilities available for a more protracted period annually, extending the traditional camping season as the Pods will provide a lot more shelter for our site visitors. Camping is understandably far less popular during the colder months.

The business case for the Pods has been initiated and heavily influenced by our own Management Advisory Group, which comprises representatives of schools, faith groups, Scouting and Guiding organisations, other volunteer and Cadet organisations and other site users.

<p>15. What evidence is there of support from the community</p>	<p>The proposed project was featured on our recent newsletters to our user community and supporters, with feedback being overwhelmingly positive. Many of our site users are vying to be the first ones to use the Pods.</p> <p>Some of our visiting school groups have also commented that the additional accommodation will make the site viable for residential visits rather than day trips, which will help satisfy the requirements of some elements of the National Curriculum.</p>
<p>16. Proposed timescales for the project</p>	<p>From order to delivery is estimated at 12 weeks for each pair of Pods.</p> <p>Once delivered, the Pods should be available for use very quickly once initial safety checks have been completed.</p>
<p>17. Is there a related revenue spend (i.e. day-to-day running costs) associated with the project? How will this be addressed?</p>	<p>The maintenance costs for the units are anticipated to be minimal (no more than £500 pa), and will be more than covered by the rental charges for the units.</p> <p>The revenue from each unit is estimated at £3,750 p.a. after VAT.</p> <p>With a 40 year life expectancy, the replacement costs for the units are anticipated to be completely self-funded.</p>
<p>18. If the organisation is not in the public sector please provide details of the organisation's finances.</p> <p>Please include a copy of the most recently audited accounts, including details of unrestricted reserves.</p>	<p>A copy of the most recently audited accounts is attached. To clarify, the endowment referred to in the accounts is the book value of the Activity Centre itself.</p> <p>As described earlier, the unrestricted reserves were recently utilised to complete the shower and ablution block during the quieter winter months.</p>

<p>19. Do you have planning permission in place to carry out the works?</p> <p>Please provide the application number.</p>	<p>We have been advised that the mobility of the Pods negates any requirement for formal planning permission. Irrespective, the dimensions of the Pods fall within permitted development so would not require planning even if they were to be permanently sited.</p> <p>If it is decided to permanently position the units at any subsequent date, then a lawful Development Certificate will be sought to ensure compliance with planning regulations.</p>
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