Community Partnership Proposal Outline



Martlesham Repair Shed

What is the project/service?

The Repair Shed aims to repair items that otherwise would be destined for landfill through the use of volunteers already linked with local Repair Cafes. Unlike the Café model, the Shed would be able to take on larger, more complex projects that may require more specific equipment or a longer time to repair. Targeted audiences would be the general public, local charities and small businesses where a replacement item would be too expensive or unnecessary.

The delivery model aims to be of mutual benefit to both parties. A donation is agreed prior to commencement of work – usually decided by asking 'whats the item worth to you?' and a percentage of it's 'new' value. The donations improve the sustainability of the model and allow local people to recycle rather than purchase new items.

An example may be a local charity that requires a donation or their equipment to be repaired as the purchase of a new version is prohibitive. For a donation by the charity it can have the equipment repaired ready for use or resale to the public.

Membership of local people will be arranged in two tiers. Repairer members will be able to access the equipment during the standard Repair Shop times free of charge. Maker members will also be entitled to access the Shed at any time for their own projects as well. Membership will be £15 per month, however a percentage of donations received from the work at the Shed can subsidise their membership fees.

How was the need identified?

The local Repair Cafes, including the one in Martlesham, have been successful since launch. They are self sustaining and demonstrate the model works. The Cafes are however restricted to the size of the items being fixed, and sometimes the complexity or specialist equipment required prevents a repair from taking place.

The Repair Shed would expand the current provision in the local area, allowing for larger and more complex items to be repaired, further reducing the amount of waste going to landfill.

Which priority does this meet?

'Support wellbeing by strengthening existing networks' – expanding the provision of repair sites in the local area whilst not interfering with existing provision.

Although not meeting a current SMART objective, the work of the Repair Shed would also relate to the overarching 'Environmental Care' topic.

What are the details about it's delivery?

The Shed would be open on a weekly basis to receive and repair items. Residents can drop their items at one of the local repair cafes if necessary. For Maker members, access to the site would be available throughout the week – offering an opportunity to improve wellbeing amongst those that attend.

How much funding is required?

£5,000. Because of the sites location in Sandy Lane, Martlesham and its proximity to the Woodbridge CP area, a proposal of match funding £2,500 per CP has been made. This is because the proposal would also meet some of the Woodbridge CP priorities and likely be used by their residents also.

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If the Woodbridge CP agree to fund, our contribution would reduce to £2,500.

Breakdown of costs

Costs and the entire business plan are attached within this document.

Who is the recipient of the funding?

Suffolk Repair Shed Ltd. Discussion was had around the type of group to be registered as, and this was considered the most appropriate at this time.

In the event that the Repair Shed is unsuccessful and fails to continue operating at any point, the Repair Shed would be required to return the equipment purchased with this funding. It would be donated to similar organisations and charitable groups as appropriate.

