

Questions:	
We are unincorporated charity but sole trustee is Town Council. Can we apply?	The applicant must be incorporated and have a legal entity. Either the town council itself could apply or the org needs to be incorporated.
How many times can you apply ? If you have two buildings is it possible to have two bites of the cherry ?	You can reapply if unsuccessful. You can put in separate applications for different assets. You cannot apply for further funding for the same asset if successful
Our community centre need regeneration, can they also apply?	Yes if they meet the eligibility criteria in the prospectus
How long after submitting EOI does one get a response/feedback	3 weeks
James has stressed that the asset should be at risk or loss. Would a bid simply to enhance community amenity be considered?	No
We have a community pub that currently seems to be doing well but has in the past had issues. Assuming that nothing is needed now, what sort of work should we do so that we can be ready so that we could move quickly in case anything goes wrong.	The fund is for assets currently at risk. If you have concerns you could research how other community pubs are run - case studies available on line such as through Plunkett Foundation.
the building we are focused on is owned by the ch of Wales who intend on turning it in to a back up storage facility. Our area has no community hub or council meeting place. Would this fund work for us/	It could do, if they would be willing to sell or lease it to an eligible community organisation.
I have started an application before on behalf of a charity, but this is a joint project also with the parish council. Would it be better to send on behalf of the charity or the parish council?	You must choose one lead applicant - which will be the applicant who receives the money and is the lead for the project.
What happens if you have a TC and another group wanting to bid for the same asset!?	You should work locally to reach consensus over the use of the asset and only submit one application from that locality. We will not consider competing bids.
not all community assest generate an income, public toilets for example, but have significant community support for there provision by the local council, can COF fund the renovation so that the building can stay open if the local council commit to the revenue costs of running the facility.	Yes, if the revenue income is sustainable
Specifically for community pubs, are there networks that can help with constructing the management case?	Please look at the MyCommunity website (enter this into google) for support, case studies and advice.

How long after receiving approval from an expression of interest do you have to submit your full application?	This depends when you submit it, we aim to reply to all EOIs in 3 weeks. The dates of the next main application bidding window are on the prospectus.
similar to Andrew Jeffrey's question. We have a local churchyard that the Parish Council has taken responsibility for (renovations/repairs) but does not own. Would that be a candidate for the fund?	You must either own the freehold or have a leasehold of 15 years plus, ideally 25 years to apply.
If a CIC has already applied for a COF for one of the Council's assets it manages, would that preclude the Council applying for further funding for other assets?	No, each asset is treated separately in assessment
sorry, they really want to stay on our High Street. If it came to selling they would have difficulty due to the unmarked burials at the front of the site. The town Council are looking for larger premises and are a burial authority. We would like to buy the Baptist church, separating their activities and leasing the main church back to them. The Town Council would then refurbish the rest of the building for their requirements. Whilst keeping the community activities running in the main hall and allowing the church to carry on. Would such a project be acceptable?	It might be, suggest you submit an EOI.
Can the matched funding come from a Public Works Loan Board loan	Yes
Can a church apply	Yes
Does S106 funding count as match funding?	It can do, but we need to see a credible plan that you will get this money or that you already have it which may be hard to evidence with s106.
Can CIL funds be used as matched funding?	As above
Is more weight given to applications where the asset is noted as being of community importance within a neighbourhood plan?	Demonstrating community importance is a key part of the strategic case and will attract higher scores.
If a building is a benefit to the community, but is beyond saving and repairs, can funding be sought to build a new building in its place as a replacement?	Yes, we allow for relocation and new buildings where this is needed, provided the new facilities link back to an existing or lost asset
Would a building listed as an Asset of Community Value be prohibited from applying for COF, or would the listing enhance the application please?	It may enhance it, as it will show community buy in, but it is not a requirement. It would not be prohibited in any way.

Is there any sector prioritisation	Not at assessment, but DLUHC Ministers can prioritise which bids are funded using 5 limited criteria as outlined in the prospectus.
We have a derelict building in our local park that we own (Workington Town Council), which was used as a community café with various pop up businesses running it at different times of the year, would this be considered as it's not currently running as a business?	Yes provided it did have a past community use. It does not have to be in use at time of application
If our "asset" at risk is a rural High Street, would applications to support footfall to the High St qualify (e.g. finding parking facilities etc.)	They may do - suggest you submit an EOI to test this
Community Centre, Grade II listed building has dry rot - works have started, costs escalating (blank cheque comes to mind) - ultimately monies will get tight and we may need to look at future ownership of building, which was subject of a parish poll 12 years ago to keep as a community centre with voters overwhelmingly supporting retention. Can this fund be used to match fund these urgent repairs?	This may be eligible, suggest you submit an EOI.
Am I correct in assuming that the Town Council cannot apply to purchase a building owned by the County which is at risk?	You cannot use the COF funds to make the purchase, as the money would go straight to the County (the County would credit a capital receipt). You could make the purchase from other funds and use COF to fund essential renovation.
Can we apply for COF to fund and equip play areas to be provided by a new residential development?	It seems unlikely unless you can tie it back to a pass community asset that has been lost - COF is all about saving assets at risk of/ loss or already lost.
Does the fund cover new build projects.	If there is a link to a past community asset that has been lost.
We've had an EOI approved and have already commissioned a community engagement project to gather intel for community support. We want this to be a 'proper job' and not just a tick box report, and it's unlikely to conclude until mid-October 2023. Has James got any insight into what might happen for future rounds, ie after round 2 in August?	Current plans are for further rounds approx. every 3 months until the end of 24/25. Of course subject to funding and change.
Would an asset be eligible if it is in use, but only once a week? The income it generates only equates to £1,300 per year with £20k costs. Therefore is not sustainable to continue its running on this basis so current owner who is looking to offer it to the community for use.	The asset must have a sustainable business plan to be funded.

<p>We are the managing trustee for a sports pavilion which is owned by Fields in Trust. The Pavilion is currently delapidated and needs to be replaced and we would like to demolish and replace. Can we apply?</p>	<p>If you can show this is the most appropriate course of action to save the purpose of the asset.</p>
<p>We own a building which we rent (peppercorn) to the Community Library. The upstairs is leased on a 99 year lease to the healthcare trust and they are now wanting to sell the lease commercially as a residence. We would like to have the upstairs space as a Parish Council office, chamber and extension to the library/community use. Can we use the money to purchase the lease to keep the building in community use?</p>	<p>Suggest you submit an EOI.</p>
<p>we have a pub that has closed but the Brewery still holds Lease but land is owned by Local Council can we apply to buy the lease on the building from the Brewery?</p>	<p>This sound eligible. Suggest you submit an EOI</p>
<p>We have some freshwater lakes where we struggle to keep the lake topped up in warm weather. There is no obvious source of water other than what comes from the sky. The fishing club had to manually pump from a culvert last year to stop the fish from dying. Would this be the sort of asset that we could apply for some help to resolve the water source? We have a number of ideas but any support and help would be useful. We are liaising with the EA - but want to know if this would qualify?</p>	<p>Yes it could be an eligible asset at risk. Do read the prospectus and submit an EOI.</p>
<p>Does the fund only cover capital costs?</p>	<p>We also offer limited revenue for first year of operations.</p>
<p>Can we get funding to move an asset from Borough Council to Community Council?</p>	<p>The Borough cannot receive the COF funding in a sale or transfer.</p>
<p>The Parish Council has taken ownership of a community building which was operated by a sports club since the war. It has been closed for 4 years as they let the building fall into total disrepair. Since It reverted to the PC, we have been trying to make some minor changes to make any part of the building useable. We are also trying to raise funds to undertake the works but the building needs a total re reroof (ideally move away from a flat roof to an apex roof), internal modifications etc. We desperately want to retain the building as a hub for the village, providing a new location for the community preschool and the sports sections who had it as a home for 70 years. I hope that this would be eligible as we need to make lots of changes in order to allow the facility to be re-opened, otherwise it could face closure.</p>	<p>This sounds likely to be eligible. Please submit an EOI.</p>
<p>There is a field that is at risk of loss to housing. We would like to buy that and use it for the community (tree planting, dog walking, open space for walking etc). Would this project be eligible?</p>	<p>This could be eligible. You would need a plan to fund the sustainable upkeep of the open space and any facilities.</p>

Would the funding cover removal of derelict council owned building enabling for future use by the community in the fom of a new mmore useable modern asset	In theory yes, would need to see detailed plans
The PC own the land, recretion ground. The football club /cricket club jointly got planning permission...8 yrs ago...just the footings there. PC maybe be intersted in taking over the project. They need changing facilities etc. is this something that falls within the cristria	It may do, suggest EOI
Our primary council is keen to off load almost derelict community buildings - we get ownership , would the COF fund refub to make safe	It may do, would need to see more detail at EOI
Does the volontry labour count towards match fundint?	Volunteer time does not count as match funding. Discounted professional services (evidenced with an invoice) do.
Would a community park suffering from severe drainage problems and consequential death of trees and residents being unable to use the park qualify for support to improve the asset.	Yes potentially, so submit an EOI
If it is a >£2M project wouldn't everyone apply for £1M from COF ?	Criteria on applying for projects over £250K are outlined in the prospectus. Most projects average under £250k.
is a Church and PC a reasonable partnership	Yes but you need to agree a lead applicant.
Do you have any promotional material that we can use to promote this, for instance on social media?	Please feel free to retweet or take materials from our Twitter, there are many posts about COF especially in May 2023.
Does it have to be an asset, as such, ie we have a green owned by the PC, but it does not have disabled access, can we request funding to help get access for all - or is this a different funding	You would need to evidence that the asset was at risk, but a green space can be an asset
Can this be used for compulsory purchase of land?	Unsure, COF can be used to purchase land where this is part of saving a community asset. You can submit an EOI.
If a buiding has attracted Lottery Funding to make it weather resistant, could an application be made for further development to make it sustainable for the longer term.	Only if it is currently at risk/lost to the community.
Would it be possible to apply for funding towards a new skate park on parish council owned land ? Community engagement has been done already and it is very well received	Only if you are saving an existing or lost asset of some form

If a charity owns two cottages, but they are over 100 years old, and need demolishing and the site need regenerating, ie. 3 or 4 new social homes for local peopole, registered as almshouses, would that be a suitable scheme?	The scheme does not fund housing or social housing, except where this is a small part of a community asset (such as a flat above a pub).
We lost a small playground in the past. Would it be possible to get a grant for getting this replaced including land purchase?	Likely yes.
As a Parish Council could we include the purchase of an asset and also the redevelopment of that asset to create a community hub, within the bid	Yes, provided it is linked to saving an asset at risk or already lost
Is there a geographical prioritisation based on deprivation?	Deprivation forms part of the prioritisation for support from the MyCommunity consortium alongside other metrics. It does not form part of the assessment of bids.
Expanding on a question - £1 transfer of a lesiure centre from the principal authority to the town council and their CIC partner could be eligible for COF Rd3	It could be, if COF was used to renovation of that asset.
Our heritage, conservation area, AONB, highly touristed village centre is at risk from the closure of the privately owned and run coach park. Could this fund be used to buy land by Parish Council and run as a coach park with a park and ride?	Potentially - you would need to demonsrate all the criteria including risk of loss as outlined in the prospectus.
Would the refurbishment of a playpark be considered if all the present equipment needs to be replaced, due to age?	Likely yes
Can the fund be used to refurbish a building we have already acquired from the PA but we are struggling to find funding for renovations needed to make it sustainable?	If the renovations are essential to run it and make it sustainable then likely yes
Can a grant from the District Council count as match funding?	Yes