

REPORT TO THE CALNE AREA (5) COMMITTEE		Report No. 10
Date of Meeting	9 th October 2007	
Title of Report	Area 5 Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2007/2008	
Link to Corporate Priorities	To put customers at the heart of everything we do – Support Community Area Partnerships and Community Plans	
Public Report	Yes	

Summary of Report

This report presents recommendations relating to 4 funding applications to the 2007/08 Community Area Award Scheme. It illustrates links between applications and the Calne Community Area Plan where appropriate and sets out the implications of accepting these recommendations.

Officer Recommendations

To agree funding distribution of the Area 5 Community Area Awards budget, based on the agreed criteria for 2007/2008:

- 1. Cherhill Preschool – Award £3279 from the capital budget, towards the cost of refurbishing/replacing windows, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**
- 2. Calne Players – £434 from the revenue budget, towards the cost of performing a community family pantomime, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**
- 3. Reach Out (Wiltshire) – Award £3000 from the revenue budget, towards the Calne Parkour Project, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**
- 4. 1st Derry Hill Scout group – Award £4500 from the capital budget, the provision of a scout hut, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**

Other than those implications agreed with the relevant Officers and referred to below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Financial Implications	Legal Implications	Community & Environmental Implications	Human Resources Implications	Equality & Diversity Implications
Yes	None	Yes	None	Yes

Contact Officer	Jane Vaughan, Community Partnership Officer, 01249 706447 jvaughan@northwilts.gov.uk
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report considers 4 applications for 2007/2008 Community Area Award funding, all of which reflect issues and priorities identified in the Calne Community Area Plan.
- 1.2 Following the funding awards made at the Area 5 Committee on June 19th 2007 and the capital award made to the Calne Leisure Action Group at the special meeting on 18th July 2007, Area 5 Committee has a capital balance of £7779 and a revenue balance of £4309.
- 1.3 In this round of funding, applications for capital projects, which meet the Community Award Scheme funding criteria, have requested a total figure of £10900. This exceeds the amount remaining in the budget and represents a shortfall of £3121. Following discussions with those applicants who have submitted requests for capital funding, officers have made recommendations that are less than the amount of funding requested.

2. Options and Options Appraisal

- 2.1 **Option 1: Award Cherhill Preschool £3279 from the capital budget towards the cost of renewing/refurbishing windows, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Cherhill Preschool App 1	Refurbishment /renewal of windows	Capital	£3,900

- 2.1.1 This applicant submitted an application to the previous round of Area Funding, in June 2007, which did not meet the Community Area Award Schemes criteria, with regards to match funding. Since that time the applicant has secured funding from alternative funding sources and officers are now of the opinion that this application meets the 2007/2008 funding criteria.
- 2.1.2 There is not a specific link between this project and the milestones and issues laid out in the Calne Community Area Plan. However, it does reflect the overarching aim of the education and lifelong learning theme - 'to ensure that learning opportunities are open to all members of the Community Area in an environment that encourages people to take part'. (CCAP 2004).
- 2.1.3 The Calne Community Area (5) Committee supported the relocation of the pre-school to its current site with a community area award granted in June 2006.
- 2.1.4 The fundraising committee of the Preschool is a dedicated group, which has striven to find alternative funding streams in past years. This has enabled the move from a temporary position at the village hall to permanent premises in the grounds of the village school.
- 2.1.5 The condition of the windows in the building has deteriorated drastically and the applicant is anxious that a further winter will result in the cost of refurbishment and replacement rising considerably.

- 2.1.6 Officers have had discussions with the applicant about the possible need to raise additional funds for this project. This situation has arisen because the Area 5 Community Award Scheme Capital Budget does not currently hold sufficient funds to match the total sum requested by applicants at this round of funding. (Please see note at 3.1 regarding the officers rationale for the division of funds between capital funding applications).
- 2.1.7 If Members are minded to support this project in line with the Officer recommendation it will have a shortfall of £621.
- 2.1.8 A representative of the Parish Council has acknowledged the great value of the preschool within the Parish and has indicated the possibility of the applicant applying for a small donation towards the outstanding balance. The applicant is following up this suggestion and is also confident that the remaining sum of money can feasibly be raised in the next few months through a number of fundraising events.
- 2.1.9 A decision not to fund this project would result in its implementation being delayed until other sources of funding can be found. Realistically this is unlikely to happen before the onset of the winter, which will result in a loss of quality in the security, safety and comfort of the building and in additional costly repairs being made necessary.
- 2.2 Option 2: Award The Calne Players £434 from the revenue budget towards the cost of a community family Pantomime, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
The Calne Players App 2	Community Family Pantomime	Revenue	£434

- 2.2.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2007/2008 funding criteria.
- 2.2.2 This application makes links to the Calne Community Area Plan through promoting a sense of community cohesion, encouraging a 'vibrant community which involves all elements of the society' (CCAP update 2006 – culture section) and providing opportunities for people to 'explore new skills and interests to create an enthusiastic and diversely skilled population' (CCAP 2004 – lifelong learning section)
- 2.2.3 The group brings theatre and pantomime to the community in its traditional form. In addition, it also supports other community activities through: attending events in costume/character, performing street theatre and arranging murder-mystery events.
- 2.2.4 The Calne Players aim to promote friendship and creativity among the community and provide opportunities for young people of all backgrounds and abilities to become involved in the groups activities, through which they may gain life skills and self-confidence.
- 2.2.5 The Calne Players is recognised as a valuable community group which has previously attracted funding from a variety of community focussed sources. These have included The GWR Xmas Appeal, The Gazette & Herald Community Grants, The Community Foundation for Wiltshire & Swindon as well as an NWDC Area 5 Community Award in October 2004.

- 2.2.6 The applicant has provisionally secured a significant amount of the money required to undertake this project and is now looking to the Area 5 Community Award Scheme for the balance.
- 2.2.7 A decision not to fund this project would not result in it failing to take place, but would result in it being undertaken at a reduced level with a reduction in benefit to all of those involved from the group and the audience.

2.3 Option 3: Award The Reach Out ‘Parkour’ Project £3000 from the revenue budget, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Reach Out App 3	Parkour Project	Revenue	£3000

- 2.3.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2007/2008 funding criteria.
- 2.3.2 This application links directly to the Calne Community Area Plan by providing ‘activities that engage with ... young people’ and encourage them to ‘take a constructive role in the community’ (CCAP 2004 – culture section). In addition it directly addresses the plans vision to ‘help young people channel their energy and creativity into constructive rather than destructive activities’ (CCAP 2004 – crime/community safety section).
- 2.3.3 Parkour – or ‘the art of movement’ is described variously as an urban sport, an art form and even as a philosophy. It emerged in the Parisian suburbs from about 2002 as a form of moving around the built environment using obstacles to perform jumps and acrobatics.
- 2.3.4 In the past 12 months the sport has grown in popularity across the UK, Europe and America. In Calne a group of young people have been developing their enthusiasm and skills for much of this time. They have already met and trained with some of the UK’s best exponents of the sport.
- 2.3.5 A significant number of the young people who are attracted to this activity are often not actively engaged in mainstream sports, leisure activities, education or employment.
- 2.3.6 Parkour is sometimes perceived to be anti-social in nature, however in this project participants will develop in their sport with the support and guidance of experts promoting safety, well-being and respect for self and for others. Participants will be introduced to and will engage with notions of self-discipline as well as mental and physical self-improvement.
- 2.3.7 Reach Out has developed this project in partnership with young people identified through their user group and with WAYS (Wiltshire Alternative Youth Service). Young people have an active role in all aspects of the project including its programme of planning, fundraising and promotion.
- 2.3.8 Participants will gain self-esteem, increased and focussed activity levels, an insight into health issues and benefits through their involvement in the project and in addition will gain leadership and organisational skills through their involvement in the organisation of the project itself.

- 2.3.9 The applicant has already secured a large portion of the project costs and is now looking to the Community Award Scheme for the outstanding amount.
- 2.3.10 Officers are of the opinion that this is a valuable and worthwhile project which may have far reaching benefits to those young people who are already involved and other young people who will be attracted to the sport and the group as it develops. They further believe that the young people involved should be applauded for their commitment and dedication to the project.
- 2.3.11 A decision not to fund this project would result in it being run at a reduced level. This would have a detrimental effect upon the young people involved, it would emphasise assumptions of the broader society's negative perception and attitude towards young people and would represent a lack of commitment to addressing the issues and visions laid out in the Calne Community Area Plan.

2.4 Option 4: Award The 1st Derry Hill Scout Group £4500 towards the purchase and erection of a scout hut.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
1st Derry Hill Scout Group App 4	To purchase and erect a scout hut	Capital	£7000

- 2.4.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2007/2008 funding criteria, with the exception of the requirement to provide evidence of three quotes where the total project cost is over £10,000. The applicant has advised officers that, because the hut is being procured from a local building firm (which currently uses it as office accommodation), the building firm will transport and erect the hut at its new site as a single work package. Accordingly, it has not been possible to obtain a comparable price from another supplier for a similar product and service. A quotation for a new hut of a slightly better standard was obtained but at a disproportionately higher price of £75000.
- 2.4.2 This application also addresses the Community Plan by providing facilities and activities for young people.
- 2.4.3 This is already an active scouting group with a membership of 102 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Brownies and Guides.
- 2.4.4 The completion of this project will provide a new scout hut with increased capacity and accessibility. This will enable the participation of more young people from Derry Hill and the surrounding area.
- 2.4.5 Currently 66 young people are on the waiting list to join these scouting groups.
- 2.4.6 The completed project will also provide an additional venue for other local youth groups.
- 2.4.7 Officers have had discussions with the applicant about the possible need to raise additional funds for this project. This situation has arisen because the Area 5 Community Award Scheme Capital Budget does not currently hold sufficient funds to match the total sum requested by applicants at this round of funding. (Please see note at 3.1 regarding the officers rationale for the division of funds between capital funding applications).

- 2.4.8 If Members are minded to support this project in line with the Officer recommendation it will have a shortfall of £2500.
- 2.4.9 Officers have advised the applicant of funding sources that may not yet have been accessed by the group and have also recommended that they approach the Charities Information Bureau for further advice.
- 2.4.10 The applicant feels confident that the project shortfall will be able to be met through other sources and fundraising events.
- 2.4.11 A decision not to fund this project would result in its implementation being delayed while the organisation seeks other sources of funding.

3. Background Information

- 3.1 Where officers have recommended awards to be made below the amount requested by the applicant, there are insufficient funds in the capital budget to recommend more.
- 3.1.1 In both instances officers have held discussions with the applicants and have considered the overall project costs and alternative funding streams open to each project for further investigation.
- 3.1.2 Officers are of the opinion that the division of the remaining budget, as recommended above and detailed below, represents the most beneficial community use, i.e. that most likely to ensure that both projects are able to proceed at this time.

	Cherhill Pre-school	1 st Derry Hill Scouts
Requested award	£3900	£7000
Recommended award	£3279	£4500
% of amount in capital budget	42%	57%

- 3.1.3 Relevant applicants have both expressed their confidence in being able to raise their respective shortfalls through other fundraising activities.

- 3.2 Members' attention is drawn to the fact that there are three funding rounds during 2007/08. The second is contained in this report, and the final round will take place on:

- ◆ **12th February 2008**
- ◆ The deadline for receipt of applications to be considered at the February Committee meeting is **4th January 2008**.

It should be noted that, if Members make their decisions in line with the officer's recommendations, there will be no capital budget and only a modest revenue budget remaining for this round of funding.

- 3.3 Appendix 5 provides details of the 2007/2008 geographical distribution of awards across Area 5, in an attempt to assist Members in distributing funding across the whole of the community area.
- 3.4 Funding criteria for 2007/08 were reviewed by a working party, which included representatives of all five Area Committees. The Executive Committee subsequently approved the revised policy and procedures, on 8th February 2007. Should Members

wish to act in contravention of this policy, the matter will need to be referred to the Executive.

- 3.5 Members are reminded that all applications in 2007/08 will be considered under the same Community Area Award criteria. Those projects requesting £500 or less will not require any matched funding, while those requesting more than £500 will not be awarded more than 50% of the total project cost.
- 3.6 A capital award of less than £1000 may only be made where it can be shown to generate external funding.
- 3.7 The funding criteria requires that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget should be allocated to projects that demonstrate links to the Calne Community Area Plan. The remaining 25% should be available for those schemes falling outside of the plan, but demonstrating a community-identified need.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to Area 5 Committee as outlined in section 3 of this report.
- 4.2 If Members make awards in line with officer recommendations, Members will have a capital balance of £0 and a revenue balance of £875.

5. Community and Environmental Implications

- 5.1 The majority of the awards can be directly linked to priority issues and visions identified in the Calne Community Area Plan. Where this is not the case the applicant can provide evidence that local consultation and investigation or pilot studies have taken place to identify a community need.
- 5.2 Awards made by Area Committee to successful applicants will contribute to the continuance and /or the improvement of cultural, social and community activity and well-being in the Community Area, the extent and specifics of which will be dependent on the individual project.

6. Equality & Diversity Implications

- 6.1 Community Area Awards give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.
- 6.2 An Equality Impact Assessment for the Community Area Awards has been undertaken and copies are available on the Council's website.

7. Risk Analysis

- 7.1 Failure to make awards would have a moderate impact on applicants and their associated community projects. Since this is considered to be unlikely, the overall risk is considered low.

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 Application – Cherhill Preschool • Appendix 2 Application – The Calne Players • Appendix 3 Application – Reach Out -Parkour • Appendix 4 Application – 1st Derry Hill Scouts • Appendix 5 Area 5 2007/2008 geographical distribution of Community Area Awards
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	<p>Community Area Award Funding Criteria 2007/08 Community Area Awards Policy 2007/2008 Calne Community Area Plan 2004 Calne Community Area Plan 2006 update</p>

Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Community Area Awards Policy 2007/2008	Executive - 8 February 2007	E175
Area 5 Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2007/2008	Area 5 Committee 19 th June 2007	CA8
Area 5 Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2007/2008	Area 5 Committee – Special Meeting 18 th July 2007	CA20