

Date of Meeting	22 September 2008			
Title of Report	Chippenham Area (3) Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2008/2009			
Link to Corporate Priorities	Partnership Working			
Public Report	YES			
Summary of Report				
To ask Members to note the 2008/9 budget allocation and criteria and to consider 7 applications with recommendations for funding from the 2008/09 Community Area Award Scheme.				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wessex Archaeology - Award £2,415 from the project budget towards the cost of a programme of Community Excavation of a Roman Bath House, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 2. Chippenham Young Farmers - Award £463 from the project budget for the purchase of sports equipment and hire of the sports hall conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 3. Kington Langley Playing Fields Association – Award £7,753, from the capital budget towards resurfacing the children’s play area, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place, and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 4. Biddestone Parish Council – Award £1,216 from the Streetscene budget towards the restoration and improvement of the village pond, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place, and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 5. The Rise Trust - Award £2,500 from the capital budget for the purchase of an outside shed to be used to store equipment and toys conditional upon the balance of funding being in place, and upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 6. Chippenham Town Bowls Club - Award £6,000 from the capital budget towards the extension of the club house by closing in the open veranda and taking out the existing front wall, also providing a block built machinery store, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place, and upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009 7. Chippenham Town Council – Award up to £21,880 from the capital budget towards provision of a Multi Use Games Area in John Coles Park This award is conditional on the following NWDC will match the contribution made by Chippenham Town Council towards the project (as quoted in the application) up to a sum of £21,880. This cost will be determined by an appropriate Tender process as required by Chippenham Town Council’s financial regulations. The outcome of this tender process must be known by December 19 2008 so that any balance of funding can be returned to the Area Committee for award at the January meeting. The award is conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009 				
Financial Implications	Legal Implications	Community & Environmental Implications	Human Resources Implications	Equality & Diversity Implications
YES	NONE	YES	NONE	YES
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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report considers 7 applications for 2008/2009 Community Area Award funding and, where appropriate, links them to issues and priorities identified in the Chippenham and Villages Community Area Plan. The Area Committee has insufficient funds to make the requested awards to each applicant. Members will need to decide on the relative merits and benefits to the community for each project and prioritise which project to fund.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 provides details of the distribution of awards so far in 2008/9 to assist Members when distributing grants across the whole community area.

2 Funding Levels

- 2.1 The 2008/09 budget made provision for Cash for Communities. An element of that budget was for each of the Area Committees to award funds to local projects. Each Area Committee was allocated a budget of £40,000 for capital projects and £12,000 for revenue projects.
- 2.2 Members of the Executive have agreed that the £50,000 budget set aside for Streetscene and physical environment improvements in 2008/09 can be distributed by the Area Committees through the Community Awards scheme. This budget has historically been managed by the Assets Design and Estates Team in consultation with the Area Committees.
- 2.3 Each Area Committee now has an allocation of £10,000 to be spent on projects that improve the physical environment or streetscene. Officers suggest that the award of £5,360 in the June funding round to Kington Langley Parish Council for installing kerbing and timber bollards on middle common be taken from the Streetscene budget and not the capital budget. This suggested change is reflected in Appendix one.
- 2.4 Taking on board this suggestion appendix one shows the Area 3 Committee has an uncommitted balance of £10,571 Capital and a zero balance in the revenue budget. Some of the other Area Committees have also exhausted their original funding allocations, and requests were made to the Executive for additional funds to allow more projects to be supported.
- 2.5 On September 4 the Executive considered a report that recommended that each Area Committee is allocated £10,000 from under spending in year budgets. Members resolved to award each Area Committee £10,000. As this is in year underspend the additional £10,000 can be spent on either capital or revenue projects at the discretion and priority of this Committee.
- 2.6 The Area 3 Committee has the following budgets from which to award funds.

Capital £10,571
Revenue £0
Streetscene £4,640
Project Budget £10,000 (this can be used for projects that are capital or revenue)
- 2.7 The applications on this agenda have total requested funding as follows

Projects of a Capital nature £31,833
Projects of a Streetscene nature £1,216
Projects of a Revenue nature £2,415

- 2.8 Even if Members choose to utilise all the new project budget for capital requests there are still insufficient funds available for Members to make all requested awards. The criteria for 2008/09 does not include a formal process where any Area Committee can ask the Executive to match an award of £15,000 or more.

3 Options and Options Appraisal

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Total Project Cost	Funding Requested
3.1	Wessex Archaeology Appendix 2	Towards the cost of an outreach programme for a Community Excavation of a Roman Bath House	Project	£2,415	£2,415 (100%)

- 3.1.1 **Wessex Archaeology - Award £2,415 from the project budget towards the cost of a programme of Community Excavation of a Roman Bath House, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
- 3.1.2 Members are reminded that this was originally an application that was deferred from the previous funding round. The applicant has chosen to resubmit an amended application to reflect concerns raised by members at the previous meeting.
- 3.1.3 This application meets the 2008/09 funding criteria, and demonstrates a direct link to the Chippenham and Villages Community Plan on page 29 “The plan aims to increase support for community facilities and events, and to encourage a range of cultural opportunities for both residents and visitors to the community area”.
- 3.1.4 In October 2008, approx 40 people will participate in the excavation of a Roman bath-house, close to the site of a Roman villa at Truckle Hill. Volunteers from the community will include local interest groups, school children, students and young people. This is a unique opportunity for local people to find out more about their shared heritage.
- 3.1.5 Wessex Archaeology are providing significant staffing resource to this programme and are looking for funding support to enhance the programme to promote and encourage local people and local schools to get involved.
- 3.1.6 By visiting local schools and delivering public lectures locally to the site Wessex Archaeology hope to ensure local people obtain maximum benefit from this opportunity. Wessex Archaeology will be producing photographs, web pages, blogs and pod casts through their website, as well as holding public lectures.
- 3.1.7 A decision to fund this project would show a commitment to supporting local heritage and provide a real opportunity for local residents to learn about the history of their community area. Further details are set out at Appendix 2.

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Total Project Cost	Funding Requested
3.2	Chippenham Young Farmers Appendix 3	Purchase of Sports Equipment and hire of Sports Hall	Project	£463	£ 463 (100%)

3.2.1 Chippenham Young Farmers - Award £463 from the project budget for the purchase of sports equipment and hire of the sports hall conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.

- 3.2.2 This application meets the essential funding criteria for 2008/09 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan "School Facilities not utilised out of hours", "Concerns over the general health of children and young people, especially within the urban areas" and "There is a lack of facilities for teenagers".
- 3.2.3 Chippenham Young Farmers are a democratic national youth organisation, where the members are consulted and encouraged to put their views forward, which are then acted on. This project is the result of one of their discussions.
- 3.2.4 This project will enable members to participate and experience a range of sporting activities, benefiting them both physically and developmentally by becoming part of a team and learning to make or assist in decision making.
- 3.2.5 Chippenham Young Farmers currently expect 45 young people to benefit from this project, but membership is growing year on year, and with more variety in their programme of activities, they expect to attract even more members, the majority from rural areas around Chippenham.
- 3.2.6 Future costs will be met by Chippenham Young Farmers through their various fund raising activities.
- 3.2.7 Funding this project will assist the applicant's efforts to provide a wider range of activities for young people living in rural areas around Chippenham. Further details are available at appendix 3.

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Total Project Cost	Funding Requested
3.3	Kington Langley Playing Fields Association Appendix 4	Resurfacing Childrens' Play Area	Capital	£19,753	£7,753 (Approx 39%)

3.3.1 Kington Langley Playing Fields Association – Award £7,753, towards resurfacing the children's play area, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place, and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009

- 3.3.2 This application meets the 2008/09 funding criteria and demonstrates a link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan on page 29 item 8.1 "Insufficient outdoor sports facilities and playing facilities".
- 3.3.3 Kington Langley Play Area is used by most of the villagers' young children, as well as those from neighbouring hamlets. The surfaces are currently forest bark which over the years has become worn out, waterlogged and weed ridden. As safety regulations get more stringent on play areas, and following complaints from mothers with young children, the Playing Fields Association is concerned that if the surface is not replaced as a matter of urgency, the play area would have to be closed on Health and Safety grounds until the surface could be attended to.

- 3.3.4 Kington Langley Playing Fields Association has established that it would be impractical and not cost effective to just replace the wood chippings, and looked into the different potential surfaces. As a result of this, they have chosen to use rubber granules as these would be both weatherproof and durable, low maintenance and meet the required health and safety standards. It is the most cost effective option for the new surface.
- 3.3.5 A decision to fund this project would ensure the surface will meet the standard required by RoSPA, and prevent the playground use from being restricted due to the poor surface. Further background details are set out in the application at Appendix 4.

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Total Project Cost	Funding Requested
3.4	Biddestone Parish Council Appendix 5	Restoration and improvement of the Village Pond	Streetscene	£2,433	£1,216 (Approx 50%)

- 3.4.1 Biddestone Parish Council – Award £1,216 from the Streetscene budget towards the restoration and improvement of the village pond, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place, and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
- 3.4.2 This application largely meets the 2008/09 funding criteria. These criteria state that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget must be allocated to applications demonstrating links to the Chippenham and Villages Community Plan. The remaining 25% is available for projects that fall outside of the Community Plan, but remain of benefit to the Community.
- 3.4.3 While not directly linking to the Chippenham and Villages Community Plan, it does show indirect links to p19 under the Environment, Landbased and Countryside where it refers to a lack of green tourism.
- 3.4.4 The parish plan, based on 185 household questionnaires and analysis of these, drew special attention to the pond, and the hope that it would be cleaned, repaired and upgraded. Local records show that the pond has previously had more diverse wildlife and plants than currently.
- 3.4.5 The pond has received little attention in recent years and would benefit greatly from careful restoration of its key characteristics. In particular, work is needed to maintain and increase the biodiversity of the pond, by establishing a more suitable habitat for a wider range of wildlife and plants.
- 3.4.6 The plans will ensure this key community facility continues to provide a focal point for both villagers and tourists. As well as the 480 village residents who will benefit from the renovation of the pond, there is a constant stream of tourists throughout the year, visiting on foot, by bike, car or coach. This tourist flow is vital in supporting local businesses, e.g. the public houses, bed and breakfasts, and holiday lets.
- 3.4.7 A decision to fund this project will ensure the long term future of the pond, and prevent deterioration of this valuable community asset. Further details are available at Appendix 5.

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Total Project Cost	Funding Requested
3.5	The Rise Trust Appendix 6	Purchase of an outside shed to be used to store equipment and toys	Capital	£2,937.50	£2,500 (Approx 85%)

3.5.1 The Rise Trust - Award £2,500 from the capital budget for the purchase of an outside shed to be used to store equipment and toys conditional upon the balance of funding being in place, and upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.

3.5.2 This application meets the essential funding criteria for 2008/09 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan "School Facilities not utilised out of hours", "Anti-social behaviour arising from large groups of young people gathering in the streets in the evenings", "Concern over the general health of children and young people, especially in urban areas", "Support for people to improve their own health, through increased exercise, reduced smoking and healthier diets etc." and "Access for people with disabilities to all public facilities in the community area."

3.5.3 The Rise Trust is a community regeneration charity serving North Chippenham and beyond. Activities they provide include school holiday club, breakfast club, after school club, youth club, seniors' lunches and afternoon teas. The Rise Trust is a Christian faith based group; they are a totally inclusive charity and work with everyone regardless of religion.

3.5.4 The Rise Trust was awarded funding, from GWR FM Kids, for sports equipment but currently have nowhere to store any equipment purchased. Once they have somewhere to store the equipment and toys, they will be able to offer a wide range of sports activities, and keep the children and young people engaged in structured activities, developing social skills and keeping them fit.

3.5.5 The Rise Trust works closely with local schools, health visitors, neighbourhood police etc, and takes referrals of the children most in need of support from other agencies. Their clubs include economically and socially disadvantaged children who would otherwise be a problem in the community and a challenge for parents, and they specialise in providing inclusive provision for children with special needs and disabilities.

3.5.6 Funding this project will enable the Rise Trust to utilise their funding from GWR Kids, and to widen the scope of their work. Further details are available at appendix 6.

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Total Project Cost	Funding Requested
3.6	Chippenham Town Bowls Club Appendix 7	Extension of the club house and block built machinery store.	Capital	£25,004	£6,000 (Approx 24%)

3.6.1 Chippenham Town Bowls Club - Award £6,000 from the capital budget towards the extension of the club house by closing in the open veranda and taking out the existing front wall, also providing a block built machinery store, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place, and upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.

3.6.2 This application meets the essential funding criteria for 2008/09 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan "Insufficient outdoor sports facilities and playing fields".

- 3.6.3 In 2007, Chippenham Town Bowls Club had approx 2,400 visitors, and this is going to significantly increase this year, with the closure of Westinghouse Bowls Club in September 2008.
- 3.6.4 Chippenham Town Bowls Club have held discussions with Westinghouse Bowls Club regarding sports facilities, and will also be accommodating the Westinghouse Skittles Team as they will have nowhere to play once the closure takes place.
- 3.6.5 Chippenham Town Bowls are keen to increase the appeal and interest in playing bowls, and have taken steps to encourage new members, especially from school children and young people, and throughout 2008 St Mary's Roman Catholic School have been using the facilities each week, with coaches on hand to provide training and playing techniques.
- 3.6.6 The increased club house size will also provide space for whist drives, bingo and smaller functions.
- 3.6.7 By using double glazed panels throughout the extension, the club house will have increased insulation, and provide heat through direct sunlight, therefore cutting down on energy use.
- 3.6.8 All other funding is already in place, and planning permission has already been granted.
- 3.6.9 Funding this project will allow for the expansion of the club, increasing the membership, and increasing sustainability of the club. Further details are available at appendix 7.

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Total Project Cost	Funding Requested
3.7	Chippenham Town Council Appendix 1	Provision of a Multi Use Games Area for Teenagers	Capital	£44,380	£21,880 Approx 49%

- 3.7.1 Chippenham Town Council – Award up to £21,880 from the capital budget towards provision of a Multi Use Games Area in John Coles Park This award is conditional on the following**

NWDC will match the contribution made by Chippenham Town Council towards the project (as quoted in the application) up to a sum of £21,880. This cost will be determined by an appropriate Tender process as required by Chippenham Town Council's financial regulations. The outcome of this tender process must be known by December 19 2008 so that any balance of funding can be returned to the Area Committee for award at the January meeting.

The award is conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.

- 3.7.2 This application meets the essential finding criteria for 2008/09 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan "Support for people to improve their own health through increased exercise, reduced smoking and healthier diets", "Insufficient outdoor sports facilities and playing fields", and "Lack of places for young people to meet e.g. teenage collection points or youth shelters".
- 3.7.3 The replacement of two under used tennis courts by another facility was suggested during research for Chippenham Best Value Plan. The Town Council has decided the best replacement facility would be a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).
- 3.7.4 During the research for the Best Value Plan 2007/08, research was done about use of the facilities at John Coles Park by means of a questionnaire in the park over the course of one day. This research highlighted underuse of the tennis courts, but did not look into provision of a MUGA, or if park users would use this facility should it be installed.

- 3.7.5 Members are reminded they there is already a MUGA facility at Monkton Park, less than one mile from the proposed site. Members may recall that in June this year the Area 3 Committee awarded a total of £2,500 to Westinghouse Tennis Club to provide a changing facility in John Coles Park to facilitate the club moving their base to this location. The club will operate on the courts that are not proposed to be made into a MUGA.
- 3.7.6 Chippenham Town Council has provided officers with one quote as guidance for this application. Should they be successful they will invite tenders, so the final cost may differ from the quoted amount. This presents a problem with respect to a specific figure. Members will recall that the funding criteria state that NWDC will not normally award any more than a Town or Parish Council where it is a Town or Parish Council project. The additional conditions in Para 3.1 reflect this challenge.
- 3.7.7 Planning permission is not required in accordance with Part 12, Class A of the Town and County Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995, as long as the MUGA does not exceed 200 cubic metres and/or none of the fencing exceeds 4m in height.
- 3.7.8 Chippenham Town Council have assured officers that they have carried out public consultation on noise and use of the MUGA, but officers are yet to see the methodology of this consultation or the results.
- 3.7.9 Funding this project will allow Chippenham Town Council to replace the underused tennis court with a facility likely to be much more attractive to teenagers. Further details are available at appendix 1.

4 Timescales

- 4.1 The Deadlines for the next 2 funding rounds are as follows;
- 17th November 2008 (deadline for receipt of applications – 3rd October 2008)
 - 12th January 2009 (deadline for receipt of applications -19th December 2008)
- 4.2 Applications can be made electronically via the Council's website, www.northwilts.gov.uk or via a paper version. Details about the 2008/9 Community Awards Scheme can also be downloaded which includes information relating to criteria and the application process as well as advice about alternative sources of funding. All enquires should be made to community@northwilts.gov.uk or 01249 706448 (requests for paper versions of the Community Area Awards Funding Pack can made via this number too).
- 4.3 Funding can be drawn down by successful applicants when all award criteria have been met (e.g. match funding is in place) and on confirmation that the project which funding has been awarded to will proceed in the next 3 months. **All funding awards must be paid to or invoiced by the recipient prior to 31st March 2009 - it is the recipients' responsibility to ensure this condition is met. Failure to do so will result in the award being withdrawn.**

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to Area 5 Committee as set out in Section 2 of this report. As there are insufficient funds to meet all requests on this agenda Members will need to prioritise which applications will be awarded funding.
- 5.2 Members will need to be satisfied that awards granted in the 2008/09 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed before March 31 2009. The last date that applications must be received by is December 19 2008. This Council will not be in a position to guarantee the availability of funding after that time. With this in mind the award criteria (point 4) clearly states that;

- 5.3 Funding can be drawn down by successful applicants when all award criteria have been met (e.g. match funding is in place) and on confirmation that the project which funding has been awarded to will proceed in the next 3 months. All funding awards must be paid to or invoiced by the recipient prior to 31st March 2009 - it is the recipients' responsibility to ensure this condition is met. Failure to do so will result in the award being withdrawn.

6 Community and Environmental Implications

- 6.1 All of the awards can be directly linked to priorities identified in the Calne Community Area Plan.
- 6.2 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.

7 Equality & Diversity Implications

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

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 – Summary of awards • Appendix 2 - Application from Wessex Archaeology • Appendix 3 – Application from Chippenham Young Farmers • Appendix 4 – Application from Kington Langley Parish Council • Appendix 5 – Application from Biddestone Parish Council • Appendix 6 – Application from The Rise Trust • Appendix 7 – Application from Chippenham Town Bowls Club • Appendix 8 - Application from Chippenham Town Council
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	Community Area Award Funding Criteria 2008/9 Corporate Plan - Play Strategy 2007-2012 Chippenham and Villages Community Plan 2005 - 2015

Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Chippenham Area (3) Community Area Awards Community Area Awards Criteria	Area Committee -13th Feb 2008 Executive 8 th February 2007 Council 26 th February 2008	CR44 E175 C83
2008/9 Budgets		