

**REPORT TO THE MALMESBURY AREA (1) COMMITTEE**

Report No.6

Date of Meeting	17 <sup>th</sup> September 2008
Title of Report	<b>Malmesbury Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2008/2009</b>
Link to Corporate Priorities	Partnership Working
Public Report	Yes

**Summary of Report**

To ask Members to consider 6 applications with recommendations for funding from the 2008/9 Community Area Award Scheme

**Officer Recommendations**

**Members agree funding distribution of the Area 1 Community Area Awards budget based on the agreed criteria for 2008/2009:**

1. **Crudwell Village Hall – Award £2,600 from the capital budget towards the replacement of the main entrance and fire doors, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.**
2. **Minety Fitness Club – Award £1,060 from the capital budget for the modernisation of their circuit training equipment, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.**
3. **Oaksey Playing Field Trust – Award £1,614 from the capital budget for improvements to the Pavilion, conditional upon the award being paid to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.**
4. **Allotment Bicentenary Planning Group - Award £472 from the revenue budget for the production of an allotment year book, conditional upon the award being paid to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.**
5. **Malmesbury River Valleys Trust - Award £260 from the revenue budget for the production of an allotment year book, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.**

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

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## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report considers 5 applications for 2008/2009 Community Area Award funding and, where appropriate, links them to issues and priorities identified in the Malmesbury and the Villages Community Area Plan.
- 1.2 Following the funding awards made at the Malmesbury Area 1 Committee in July 2008, Malmesbury Area Committee has a capital balance of £20,990 and a revenue balance of £5,400 for distribution during the remainder of the 2008/09 financial year.
- 1.3 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. This £10,000 is reflected in Appendix One.
- 2.4 As Appendix One shows the Area 1 Committee has uncommitted balances in both the revenue and capital budgets. Some of the other Area Committees have 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.

## 3 Options and Options Appraisal

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Crudwell Village Hall Appendix 2	Replacement of the fire doors and main entrance door	Capital	£2,600

- 3.1 **Option 1: Crudwell Village Hall – Award £2,600 from the capital budget towards the replacement of the fire doors and the main entrance door, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.**

- 3.1.2 This application meets the 2008/9 funding criteria and although the project does not link specifically to the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages, it does strongly relate to the value placed by people living and working in Crudwell to their, "Village amenities such as the village hall" and "Community activities centred on the village hall".
- 3.1.3 Members are reminded that Crudwell Village Hall were awarded £300 in August 2006 towards new chairs, and have recently been awarded £9,162 from the Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme for replacement uPVC double glazing.
- 3.1.4 The timber main entrance and fire exit doors are in a poor state of repair due to heavy use and are not draught proof, with clearly visible air gaps around them. The timber joinery is rotten in places and is not repairable. The security alarm contacts don't always connect and there are large gaps in the meeting rails. The glass is loose and liable to fall out, causing a serious health and safety issue.
- 3.1.5 Further details of this application are provided at Appendix 2.
- 3.1.6 A decision to fund this project will help to increase security at the hall and improve the energy efficiency of the building. This will help lower fuel bills and increase the long term sustainability of the hall.
- 3.1.7 The total cost of this project is £4,830 If Members make an award in line with officer recommendations this will represent a contribution of 54% of the whole project.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
<b>Minety Fitness Club</b> Appendix 3	<b>Modernisation of Circuit Training Equipment</b>	Capital	£1,060

**3.2 Option 2: Minety Fitness Club – Award £1,060 from the capital budget for modernisation of their circuit training equipment, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.**

- 3.2.2 This application largely meets the 2008/9 funding criteria. These require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget be allocated to applications demonstrating links to the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages. The remaining 25% will be available for those schemes that fall outside of the Plan but remain important for local communities. While there is no specific link to the Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan, there is a reference to, 'valuing village amenities and wishing to keep them intact' (Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan pp 6).
- 3.2.3 Minety Fitness Club was formed in 1990 with the aim of offering all local people the opportunity to keep fit through locally run low cost circuit training sessions, without the need to be involved in a sport, an aim that still holds true. The current equipment was bought when the club was established, and is in need of replacement so that the club may continue. The club also aims to attract new members, and the new equipment will aid promotion of the club. Further details of this application are provided at Appendix 3.
- 3.2.4 A decision to fund this project will ensure the long term viability of the club, and encourage current members to continue attending, as well as attracting new members.

- 3.2.5 The total cost of this project is £1,060. If Members make an award in line with the Officer Recommendation this will represent a contribution of 100% of the whole project.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
<b>Oaksey Playing Field Trust</b> Appendix 4	<b>Improvements to the Pavilion, building a cupboard around the electricity meters, paint for interior, and replacement of flagpole.</b>	Capital	£1,614

**3.3 Oaksey Playing Field Trust – Award £1,614 from the capital budget for improvements to the Pavilion, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31<sup>st</sup> March**

- 3.3.1 This application meets 2008/09 funding criteria and the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages identifies Oaksey Playing Field Trust as a highly valued amenity and by the local community and highlights the desire to maintain and enhance existing local amenities.
- 3.3.2 The Pavilion is utilised by a range of different community groups including sports facilities users, Oaksey Youth Club, mothers and toddlers, village fete, and outside hire. The users are not only from the village, with the senior football teams coming from Malmesbury and the surrounding villages.
- 3.3.3 The completion of this project will make the hall a safer and more pleasant environment. The replacement of the current wooden flagpole with a one piece aluminium pole will reduce the need for maintenance in future.
- 3.3.4 Further details of this application are provided in the application at Appendix 4.
- 3.3.5 A decision to fund this project will support the community plan, and ensure Oaksey Playing Field stays a valued community amenity.
- 3.3.6 The total cost of this project is £1,614. If Members make an award in line with the Officer Recommendation this will represent a contribution of 100% of the whole project cost.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
<b>Allotment Bicentenary Planning Group</b> Appendix 5	Allotment year book	Revenue	£ 472

**3.4 Allotment Bicentenary Planning Group – Award £471.80 from the revenue budget for the production of an allotment year book, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.**

- 3.4.1 Further details of this application are provided at Appendix 4.

- 3.4.2 This application largely meets the 2008/9 funding criteria. These require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget be allocated to applications demonstrating links to the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages. The remaining 25% will be available for those schemes that fall outside of the Plan but remain important for local communities. The project does not link directly to the Plan.
- 3.4.3 In 2009, Great Somerford will be celebrating the bicentenary of the Great Somerford Free Gardens and allotments. These allotments are almost certainly the oldest surviving allotments in England and play a tremendous part in the early history of the Allotment movement in English rural history.
- 3.4.4 The project is to produce a Great Somerford Allotments Book of the Year. It is intended to be an anthology comprising local history, gardening tips, folklore, artwork, photographs, poetry and prose contributed by the allotment holders and other residents of the village, as well as people with a connection to the allotments.
- 3.4.5 It is proposed that some of the booklets be given away, for example to each allotment holder, and the rest will be offered to residents of the village and friends. Each copy will have a recommended donation "price". All donations will be shared between the Free Gardens Committee (for the furtherance of the use of the Free Gardens) and the Parish Church.
- 3.4.6 Funding this project will show support for the Great Somerford Free Gardens and allotments.
- 3.4.7 The total cost of this project is £471.50. If Members make an award in line with officer recommendations this will represent a contribution of 100% of the whole project.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
<b>Malmesbury River Valleys Trust</b>  See Appendix 6	Production of 1000 information leaflets about the Malmesbury River Valleys Trust	Revenue	£260

- 3.5 **Malmesbury River Valleys Trust - Award £260 from the revenue budget for the production of an allotment year book, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.**
- 3.5.1 This application meets the 2008/09 funding criteria for the Area 1 Committee and "Raising Awareness of the Malmesbury River Valleys Trust" is explicitly stated in the Community Plan. (p 16)
- 3.5.2 The Malmesbury River Valleys Trust hopes to recruit new members and volunteers who will help maintain the two nature reserves at Conygre Mead and Wynyard Plantation. The leaflet informs non members of the group, and members of the general public about the educational, conservational and recreational role and work of the Malmesbury River Valleys Trust.
- 3.5.3 The art work has already been produced, and all that is needed is for the leaflets to be printed and distributed by members.

- 3.5.4 A decision to fund this project would enable the Trust to produce the leaflet, and give a real opportunity to promote the Malmesbury River Valleys Trust.

#### 4 Timescales

- 4.1 The Deadlines for the next 2 funding rounds are as follows;
- 19 November 2008 (deadline for receipt of applications – 3rd October 2008)
  - 21 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](http://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](mailto: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 1 Committee as set out in Section 2 of this report.
- 5.2 If Members make awards in line with the recommendations in this report the budget balances will be as follows;
- Capital £15,716  
Revenue £4,668  
Streetscene £10,000  
Project Budget £10,000
- 5.3 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;
- 5.4 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 Malmesbury and the Villages 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:	Appendix 1 distribution of Malmesbury Area 1 awards 2008/9 Appendix 2 Application - Crudwell Village Hall Appendix 3 Application – Minety Fitness Club Appendix 4 Application – Oaksey Playing Fields Trust Appendix 5 Application – Allotment Bicentenary Planning Group Appendix 6 Application – Malmesbury River Valleys Trust
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	Community Area Award Funding Criteria 2008/9 Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages 2005 – 2015

### Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Community Area Awards Criteria	Executive 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2008	E182
2008/9 Budgets	Council 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2008	C83
Minutes of Area 1 Meeting	Malmesbury Area (1) Committee on 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2008	M09
	Meeting 16.07.08 Minute	Ref M24