

REPORT TO THE MALMESBURY AREA (1) COMMITTEE

Report No. 6

Date of Meeting	19 th November 2008
Title of Report	Malmesbury Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2008/2009
Link to Corporate Priorities	Partnership Working
Public Report	Yes

Summary of Report

To ask Members to consider 3 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. Alderton Village Hall – Award £18,500 from the capital and project budget to renovate the exterior of the village hall, upgrade the electrics and create a disabled access & facilities, conditional upon the award being paid to the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
- 2. 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 the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
- 3. Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Partnership – Award £2,500 from the revenue budget to update and reprint the Community Area Plan, conditional upon the award being paid to the recipient before 31st 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 3 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 Appendix 4 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 Following the funding awards granted at the third funding round on 23 September 2008, the Area 1 Committee has the following balances in the community areas awards budget.

Capital £15,716
Revenue £5,140
Streetscene overspend of £9,405
Project Budget £10,000

- 2.2 Members are reminded that the project budget has been provided from in year savings and can be spent on projects of either a capital or revenue nature.

3 Options and Options Appraisal

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Alderton Village Hall Appendix 1	To renovate the exterior of the village hall, upgrade the electrics and create a disabled access & facilities	Capital	£ 18,500

- 3.1 **Alderton Village Hall – Award £18,500 from the capital and project budget to renovate the exterior of the village hall, upgrade the electrics and create a disabled access & facilities, conditional upon the award being paid to the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
- 3.1.1 Further details of this application are provided at Appendix 1.
- 3.1.2 This application meets the 2008/9 funding criteria and the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages identifies that “Amenities in Luckington and Alderton” are concerns and priorities. And targets Alderton village hall as an area to be improved for the use as a community amenity.
- 3.1.3 Alderton is a small village with approximately 100 residents of all ages and abilities. The village hall is the only communal meeting venue in the village and is sited in the heart of community.
- 3.1.4 The importance of the Village Hall to the Parish is highlighted in the Community Area Plan (page 5), as well as the support shown by residents through their attendance to local events and functions held at the hall.
- 3.1.5 The plan is to preserve the hall for the next 20 years and provide disabled access and facilities, so that all members of the community can benefit and attend events being held there.

- 3.1.6 The exterior of the hall is metal in construction and is in urgent need of remedial works to prevent the any further deterioration. It is very thin and rotting away which may result in it no longer being watertight.
- 3.1.7 Internal improvements are also required to the hall and will fulfil up-to-date building regulations, as well as making the hall a more energy sufficient building. Some of these improvements are roof and wall insulation, replacement windows, plumbing & electrical works and redecoration.
- 3.1.8 Support and additional funding for this venture has been confirmed from Awards for All, Landfill, Luckington Parish Council and Alderton residents. If the Area Committee support this application the project will go ahead..
- 3.1.9 The total cost of this project is £40,000. If Members make an award in line with officer recommendations this will represent a contribution of 46% of the whole project.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Allotment Bicentenary Planning Group Appendix 2	Production of allotment year book	Revenue	£ 472

- 3.2 **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 the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
 - 3.2.1 Further details of this application are provided at Appendix 2.
 - 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. The project does not link directly to the Plan.
 - 3.2.3 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.
 - 3.2.4 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.
 - 3.2.5 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. All donations will be given to the Free Gardens Committee (for the furtherance of the use of the Free Gardens).
 - 3.2.6 Funding this project will show support for the Great Somerford Free Gardens and allotments.
 - 3.2.7 The total cost of this project is £471.80. 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
Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Partnership Appendix 3	Update & reprint the Community Area Plan	Revenue	£ 2,500

- 3.3 **Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Partnership – Award £2,500 from the revenue budget to update and reprint the Community Area Plan, conditional upon the award being paid to the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
- 3.3.1 This application meets the 2008/9 funding criteria and is fundamental to the work of the Area Board and Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan.
- 3.3.2 M&VCAP have carried out exhaustive consultation with many local groups, individuals, statutory authorities and other stakeholders. With the information gathered M&VCAP are able to establish the needs and aspirations of the community area, whilst highlighting new projects and updating and revising ongoing items from the original plan.
- 3.3.3 It is anticipated that 2,000 A4 copies in 4 colours and consisting of 30 pages will be required for the 2009-2012 Plan. Copies of this Plan will then be distributed to key stakeholders and service providers.
- 3.3.4 Information provided within the Plan will offer a sound basis for groups and organisations to determine the best way forward for the Community Area. It shall also act as a reference document for all residents as copies will be placed in public buildings such as Libraries, Council Offices and other appropriate places.
- 3.3.5 The current Community Plan was financed by the District and County Councils. Funding this application will show support for Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Partnership.
- 3.3.6 The total cost of this project is £2,500 this relates to the total design and print cost. If Members make an award in line with officer recommendations this will represent a contribution of 100% of the whole project. Further details of this application are provided at Appendix 3.

4 Timescales

- 4.1 The Deadlines for the final funding round is 19 December 2008 for consideration at the 21 January 2008 meeting of this Committee.
- 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).

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 £0
Revenue £2,168
Streetscene £9,405
Project Budget £7,216

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.

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appendix 1 Application – Alderton Village Hall• Appendix 2 Application – Allotment Bicentenary Group• Appendix 3 Application – Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Partnership• Appendix 4 – Funding Awards Area 4 Committee
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

Report Authors

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