

Date of Meeting	26 SEPTEMBER 2007
Title of Report	<b>Area 1 Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2007/2008</b>
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 for the 2007/08 Community Area Award Scheme. The report links the applications to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan 2005-2015 where appropriate and sets out the implications of accepting these recommendations.

**Officer Recommendations**

**To agree funding distribution of the Area 1 Community Area Awards budget, based on the agreed criteria for 2007/2008:**

- 1. Malmesbury Youth Football Club – Award £ 20,000 from the capital budget towards the cost of the erection of a clubhouse and changing facilities, conditional on receipt of Planning Permission and the balance on the funding being in place**
- 2. Alderton Village Hall Committee – Award £300 from the revenue budget towards the cost of connecting the village hall to the main sewer, conditional on the balance of funding being in place**
- 3. Lea Village Hall Committee – Award £300 from the revenue budget towards the provision of lightweight tables for the village hall, conditional on the balance of funding being in place**
- 4. Sherston Parish Council – Award £1,750 from the revenue budget towards the provision of a community wood for the coming 25 years, conditional on the balance of the 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	Miranda Gilmour, Principal Community Partnership Officer, 01249 706380 mgilmour@northwilts.gov.uk

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report considers 4 applications for 2007/08 Community Area Award funding, the majority of which relate directly to issues and priorities identified in the Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Plan.

## 2. Options and Options Appraisal

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
<b>Malmesbury Youth Football Club</b> App 1	Erection of a Clubhouse and Changing Facilities	Capital	£ 20,000

- 2.1 **Option 1: Malmesbury Youth Football Club – Award £20,000 from the capital budget towards the cost of the erection of a clubhouse and changing facilities, conditional on receipt of Planning Permission and the balance of the funding being in place**
- 2.1.1 This application meets all the funding criteria, other than only one quote having been provided for the scheme from an approved supplier of the Football Foundation, a condition of their funding.
- 2.1.2 While the project does not specifically feature in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, it does contain references to the need to provide more youth and sports facilities close to Malmesbury (pp. 36).
- 2.1.3 This ambitious project seeks to provide a clubhouse to include much needed changing facilities at the Malmesbury Youth Football Club at the Red Bull site. The Club is currently severely lacking the most basic toilet and changing facilities, while this scheme will provide male and female facilities, a first aid room and kitchen.
- 2.1.4 The Club is currently seeking to develop girls' football, which is supported both by the Wiltshire Sports Partnership and the Football Association. Without improvement to the facilities, this ambition will not be possible.
- 2.1.5 The Council's Sports Development Officer has identified Malmesbury Youth Football as being one of the most poorly provided for in North Wiltshire in terms of built facilities. At the same time it is one of only 6 clubs in the County recognised by the Football Association as a Charter Standard Development Club, demonstrating best practise in coaching, administration and Child Protection.
- 2.1.6 The infrastructure of the Club is sound and is successful in recruiting players coaches and volunteers and is currently in the process of forming an official club link with both primary and secondary schools in the area.
- 2.1.7 The club already provides football opportunities for groups of children and young people aged 5-16 and with improved facilities will aim to develop a under 19 team which can offer a route to the adult game.
- 2.1.8 Currently it draws players from Malmesbury, Hankerton, Crudwell, Lea, Brokenborough and beyond.

- 2.1.9 The semi-permanent nature of the facility envisaged would enable it to be moved should the current lease (which has 10 years to run) is not renewed or rental become prohibitive.
- 2.1.10 The Club has raised a considerable amount of funds to contribute towards the scheme (double that which is being requested from the Area Committee) and is awaiting the outcome of a major funding application to the Football Foundation, which will be known in November.
- 2.1.11 This Committee last funded the applicant in November 2004 when £2,500 was awarded towards the cost of floodlights.
- 2.1.12 Planning Permission was applied for in July 2007, however at the time of writing a decision is outstanding.
- 2.1.13 A decision not to fund this scheme would be likely to lead to delays, while other funders are sought.

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Award Type</b>	<b>Funding Requested</b>
<b>Alderton Village Hall Committee</b> App 2	<b>Connection of the Village Hall to the main sewer</b>	Revenue	£300

- 2.2 **Option 2: Alderton Village Hall Committee – Award £300 from the revenue budget, towards the cost of connecting the village hall to the main sewer, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.**
- 2.2.1 The application meets the 2007/08 funding criteria and, ‘to improve Alderton village hall so that it can also be used as a community amenity’, is stated in the Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan (pp35).
- 2.2.2 While these improvements will only benefit a small number of people, Members attention is drawn to the fact that the village hall is the only meeting place within Alderton.
- 2.2.3 The lack of connection to a main sewer in Alderton has long been a problem and officers feel that despite the hall only being used by relatively small numbers of local people, this is an opportunity that should not be missed.
- 2.2.4 A contribution towards the project has been forthcoming from the Luckington & Alderton Parish Council and the Area Committee is being requested for less than 50% of the cost of the scheme.
- 2.2.5 A decision not to fund this project might possibly result in the work not being done (although this is considered unlikely), which could mean the current problem of contamination of street drains and subsequently the river, during the winter months.

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Award Type</b>	<b>Funding Requested</b>
<b>Lea Village Hall Committee</b> App 3	<b>Provision of lightweight tables</b>	Revenue	£300

**2.3 Option 3: Lea Village Hall Committee – Award £300 from the revenue budget , towards the provision of lightweight tables for the village hall, conditional on the balance of funding being in place**

2.3.1 The application meets the 2007/08 funding criteria and while specific improvements to Lea village hall are not directly identified in the Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan, the village hall is identified as one of the local community assets (pp 6).

2.3.2 The applicant advises that the provision of lightweight tables will make the use of the hall more pleasant and safer for local regular users as well as ad hoc hirers, as the present tables are heavy.

2.3.3 The applicant last received funding from this Committee in January 2006 when £2,352 was awarded towards the installation of a disabled toilet.

2.3.4 A decision not to fund this project would probably result in either fewer tables being purchased or the Village Hall Committee using their funds to match those from the Parish Council.

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Award Type</b>	<b>Funding Requested</b>
<b>Sherston Parish Council</b> App 4	<b>Provision of a community wood</b>	Revenue	£1,750

**2.4 Sherston Parish Council – Award £1,750 from the revenue budget, towards the provision of a community wood for the coming 25 years, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**

2.4.1 The application meets the 2007/08 funding criteria although provision of woodland for the enjoyment of local people living near Sherston was not identified in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan.

2.4.2 While the funding criteria require that Members allocate at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, the remaining 25% may be awarded to schemes that fall outside the Community Plan. These projects must be able to demonstrate a community need.

2.4.3 The applicant is working with various local voluntary groups to ensure that the woodland will be fenced and thereafter properly managed to include tree planting as well as footpath development for the enjoyment of local people. It is also anticipated that the woodland will become an educational resource for local schoolchildren.

2.4.4 Volunteers will support initial and on-going maintenance of the woodland, thus ensuring community interest in the scheme.

- 2.4.5 The Area 1 Committee is being requested to fund less than 50% of the cost of this project. The Committee last supported the Parish Council in March 2007 with £3,500 towards football posts and railings around the recreational ground
- 2.4.6 Failure to fund this scheme is unlikely to prevent the project from proceeding, as it seems likely that the Parish Council would find funding from other sources.

### **3. Background Information**

- 3.1 Following the funding awards made on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2007, Area 1 Committee has a capital balance of £45,435 and a revenue balance of £7,386 for distribution for the remainder of the year.
- 3.2 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that there are three funding rounds during 2006/07. The second is contained in this report, and the last remaining one will take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2007. The deadline for receipt of applications to be considered for the January Committee meeting is 7<sup>th</sup> December 2007.
- 3.3 Appendix 5 provides details of the 2007/08 geographical distribution of awards, in an attempt to assist Members when 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 8 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 schemes 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 cost of their project
- 3.6 A capital award of less than £1,000 may only be made where it can be shown to generate external funding.
- 3.7 The funding criteria require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget be allocated to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan. The remaining 25% would be available for those schemes that fell outside the Community Plan, but remained important for local people and were able to demonstrate that they meet a community-identified need.

### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to Area 1 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 £25,435 and a revenue balance of £5,036.

### **5. Community and Environmental Implications**

- 5.1 The majority of the awards can be directly linked to priority themes and aspirations laid out in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan. Where this is not the case the applicant can provide evidence that either local consultation or pilot projects to identify a community need have been undertaken.

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"> <li>• <b>Appendix 1 Application – Malmesbury Youth Football Club</b></li> <li>• <b>Appendix 2 Application – Alderton Village Hall Committee</b></li> <li>• <b>Appendix 3 Application – Lea Village Hall Committee</b></li> <li>• <b>Appendix 4 Application – Sherston Parish Council</b></li> <li>• <b>Appendix 5 Malmesbury Area Committee 2007/08 Budget Summary</b></li> </ul>
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	<p>Community Area Award Funding Criteria 2007/08</p> <p>Community Area Awards Policy 2007/2008</p>

### Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Community Area Awards Policy 2007/2008	Executive - 8 February 2007	E175
Area 1 Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2007/2008	Area 1 Committee – 6 June 2007	M10