

**REPORT TO THE Chippenham Area (3)  
Committee**

Report No. 5

Date of Meeting	25 <sup>th</sup> February 2008
Title of Report	<b>Chippenham Area (3) Community Area Funding Distribution 2007/08</b>
Link to Corporate Priorities	Community Area Awards can be linked to all 3 of the Council's priorities: Community, Environment and Customers, and in particular, "Make decisions based on the Community Strategy and five Community Plans" through community based projects.
Public Report	Yes
<p><b>Summary of Report</b></p> <p><b>To ask Members to reconsider the application from Chippenham Sports Club seeking 2007/08 Community Area Award Funding</b></p>	
<p><b>Officer Recommendations</b></p> <p><b>To agree funding distribution of Chippenham Area (3) Community Area Awards budget based on the agreed criteria for 2007/2008:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Chippenham Sports Club – Award £17,500 from the capital budget towards the cost of providing an Airhall for indoor sports, conditional upon planning permission being granted, and the balance of funding being in place. Refer this application for match funding from the Executive Capital Partnership Funding scheme at NWDC.</b></li> </ul>	

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

<b>Contact Officer</b>	Victoria Welsh Community Partnership Officer 01249 706 446 vwelsh@northwilts.gov.uk
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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report considers an application for 2007/08 Community Area Award funding.
- 1.2 This report asks Members to reconsider an application from Chippenham Sports Club, and confirms that the applicant has followed the correct funding application procedures and that it is the officer who is requesting that the Chippenham Area (3) Committee refer the application to Executive at North Wiltshire District Council for further funding.
- 1.3 Members are also advised that the Community Funding Award pack lists the Executive Capital Funding Scheme under, "other local advice and funding" and invites applicants to consider it as another source of funding where appropriate.
- 1.4 Referral to the Executive Capital Funding Scheme is not without precedent. Previous examples of applications referred to Executive include:
- 1.4.1 Corsham Skatepark -Total Award £48,523. £25,000 from Area [4] Committee 13<sup>th</sup> September 2005 and £23,523 from Executive 13<sup>th</sup> October 2005
- 1.4.2 Jubilee Lake -Total Award £40,000. £20,000 from Area [2] Committee 8<sup>th</sup> February 2006 and £20,000 from Executive 9<sup>th</sup> March 2006.
- 1.5 Following the funding awards made at the third funding round on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2007, Chippenham Area (3) Committee had a **£17,669 balance of capital funding**, and a **zero balance of revenue funding** remaining.
- 1.6 Appendix 1 provides details of the distribution of awards across the Chippenham Area (3) in 2007/08, to assist Members when distributing funding across the whole of the community area.

## 2. Options and Options Appraisal

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
2.1	Chippenham Sports Club See Appendix 2	The purchase of an Airhall for indoor sports	Capital	£17,500

- 2.1.1 **Option 1: Award Chippenham Sports Club £17,500 from the capital budget towards the purchase of an Airhall for indoor sports, conditional upon planning permission being granted, and the balance of funding being in place. Refer this application for match funding from the Executive Capital Partnership Funding scheme at NWDC.**
- 2.1.2 This application meets the 2007/08 funding criteria, and demonstrates a link to the Chippenham and Villages Community Plan: Section 8 Page 29 " Culture, in the form of recreation, sports, leisure and the arts, makes a significant contribution to the quality of community life."
- 2.1.3 The application also demonstrates a clear link with the Community Strategy for North Wiltshire "Improved leisure facilities" and "Increasing breadth of provision at local facilities".

- 2.1.4 Chippenham Sports Club comprises of a number of local clubs including Chippenham Bowls, Cricket, Ladies Hockey, Mens Hockey, Chippenham Harriers, Tennis and Chippenham Homing Society. This collaboration was first established over a century ago, to the benefit of all members. Chippenham Football Club is a tenant of the Sports Club, and the two organisations enjoy excellent relations and co-operate to their mutual benefit.
- 2.1.5 In 2004 the Sports Club built new facilities, and membership has increased significantly in recent years amongst all of the member clubs. Ages range from 5 to 70. There is capacity to further increase membership, and to offer even more of the local community the opportunity to participate in sports activities.
- 2.1.6 Chippenham Sports Club Chippenham Sports Club is in the process of applying to be one of the two Sports “Hub Clubs” in Wiltshire. NWDC, Wiltshire County Sports partnership and Sport England support this bid. The ‘Hub’ would provide support to a number of local sports clubs which do not have access to management and will share a range of support facilities such as coaching and education expertise.
- 2.1.7 There is scope for expansion, and planning permission is in place for a further pair of changing rooms to be added. In addition, an area of approximately 50 square metres is available for development, and this is where an indoor facility or “Airhall” would be erected.
- 2.1.8 Sports and activities targeted for the Airhall include 5 aside football, basketball, inline roller hockey, volleyball, and indoor cricket and tennis. The facility will also be available for community organisations such as Connexions, Youth Development Service and Westlea Housing Association and after schools clubs.
- 2.1.9 The Airhall will also provide an indoor space to enable the club to extend its range of activities, and Chippenham Netball has already committed to use of the facility. Chippenham Netball is currently without a base, and obliged to train wherever they can. Qualified coaches are planning to run courses and aim to expand their membership and levels of participation. No other facility in Chippenham can offer this club a permanent base.
- 2.1.10 This award is crucial to the applicant to enable them to unlock a significant grant from Sport England of £125,000.
- 2.1.11 **Option 2 – Do not award Chippenham Sports Club £17,500 from the capital budget towards the purchase of an Airhall for indoor sports, and do not refer this application for match funding from the Executive Capital Partnership Funding scheme at NWDC.**
- 2.1.12 A decision not to support this application will jeopardise the award currently under consideration by Sport England, which stipulates that financial support from local sources must be secured.
- 2.1.13 If this project does not go ahead, it may deprive local people of a much needed extension of facilities to an extremely popular and well used sports facility.
- 2.1.14 It would also be a missed opportunity to support a project which is clearly linked to a number of local, regional and national strategies to increase participation in sporting activities.

### **3. Background Information**

- 3.1 In 2007/08 Chippenham Area (3) Committee has been given a capital budget of £40,000 and a revenue budget of £8,000 for distribution in the form of Community Area Awards.
- 3.2 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<sup>th</sup> February 2007. Should Members wish to act in contravention of this policy; the matter will need to be referred to the Executive.
- 3.3 The funding criteria require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget would be allocated to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Chippenham Area (3) Community Plan. The remaining 25% would be available for those schemes that fall outside the Community Plan, but remain important for local people and are able to demonstrate that they meet a community-identified need.
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that this report has been prepared after the third and final funding round on 4<sup>th</sup> February in order to reconsider the application from Chippenham Sports Club.

### **4. Implications**

#### **4.1 Financial Implications**

- 4.1.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to the Chippenham Area (3) Committee as outlined in section 1.2 of this report.
- 4.1.2 If Members make awards in line with Officer recommendations, Members will have a **capital** balance of **£169** and a **revenue** balance of **Nil**.
- 4.1.3 Consideration needs to be made to ensure a balance of funding across towns, villages and hamlets within the Community Area.

#### **4.2 Community & Environmental Implications**

- 4.2.1 Awards made by Area Committee to successful applicants will contribute to the continuance and /or 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.

#### **4.3 Equality & Diversity Implications**

- 4.3.1 Community Area Awards give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

- 4.3.2 The Community Funding Award Criteria does not discriminate against any member of the community on the grounds of age, gender, disability, ethnicity/culture, religion/belief, sexual orientation.
- 4.3.3 All documents relating to the Community Funding Awards are available in hard copy, large print, or via the North Wiltshire District Council website.
- 4.3.4 Officers offer support to applicants through the application process.
- 4.3.5 Expert funding advice is available via the Charities Information Bureau.

## 5 Risk Analysis

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

<b>Appendices:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Appendix 1 – Financial Summary 2007/08</b></li> <li>• <b>Appendix 2 – Funding Application from Chippenham Sports Club</b></li> </ul>
<b>Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Corporate Plan</b></li> <li>• <b>Community Area Award Criteria 2007/08</b></li> <li>• <b>Community Area Awards Policy 2007/08</b></li> </ul>

### Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

<b>Report</b>	<b>Committee &amp; Date</b>	<b>Minute Reference</b>
<b>Chippenham Area (3) Community Area Funding Distribution 2007/08</b>	Chippenham Area (3) Committee 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2007	CH12
	Chippenham Area (3) Committee 8 <sup>th</sup> October 2007	CH34
	Chippenham Area (3) Committee 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2008	CH58
<b>Report</b>	<b>Committee &amp; Date</b>	<b>Minute Reference</b>
<b>Community Area Awards Policy 2007/08</b>	Executive 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2007	E175
<b>Report</b>	<b>Committee &amp; Date</b>	<b>Minute Reference</b>
<b>Corsham Area (4) Community Area Funding Distribution</b>	Corsham Area (4) Committee 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2005	C08
	Executive 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2005	E74
<b>Cricklade &amp; Wootton Bassett Area (2) Community Area Funding Distribution</b>	Cricklade v& Wootton Bassett Area (2) Committee 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2006	CR41
	Executive 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2006	E200
<b>Executive Capital Partnership Funding Scheme</b>		