

## WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

## Agenda Item No.13

### TROWBRIDGE AREA BOARD 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010

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#### **COMMUNITY AREA GRANTS**

##### **Purpose of the Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 6 new applications and 1 deferred application seeking 2009/10 Community Area Grant Funding:

1. VINE for PAT - requested £4,729. **Recommendation refusal. Any future applications would only be considered when conditions are met that would allow Wiltshire Council to be in a position to make referrals to the project.**
2. Bradley Gardens Residents Association - Installation of Rubbish/Dog Mess bins – requested £924. **Recommendation deferral so that Wiltshire Council Waste service can undertake an inspection of the local area .**
3. Trowbridge Town Council - Cultural Olympiad Dance Festival - requested £2,500. **Recommendation approval**
4. Friends of Biss Meadows Country Park - Purchase Tools, Equipment & Safety Wear - requested £1,000. **Recommendation approval**
5. Longmeadow Tenants And Residents Association - Purchase equipment for Community Engagement & Youth Activities - requested £1,000. **Recommendation approval**
6. Trowbridge Pub and Club Watch - Provision and Monitoring of the Towns Pubwatch Radio system - requested £5,000. **Recommendation approval**
7. West Ashton Village Hall and Institute - Fitting of photovoltaic panels to village hall - requested £5,000. **Recommendation approval**

Total requested = £20,153

#### **1. Background**

1.1 Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to the Area Boards by the Leader of the Council (13<sup>th</sup> May 2009). Under the terms of that delegation Area Boards must operate within the policies set by the Leader and /or the Council. The Council has adopted an Area Grants policy, with funding criteria, to which the Area Boards must adhere.

In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any recommendation of an Area Board that was contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the Leader, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Cabinet.

2.1 In 2009/10 the Trowbridge Area Board has been allocated a budget of £58,194. After the deduction of 20% of this budget to core fund the Community Area

Partnership a total of **£42,676** remained to distribute through Community Area Grants. After the allocation of funding at the 24<sup>th</sup> September and 5<sup>th</sup> November 2009 Area Board meetings there is **£19,476** remaining for community grants for 2009/10

## **2. Main Considerations**

2.1 Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2009/10 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.

2.2 Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. There is 1 further round of funding during 2009/10 after this round taking place on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2010, with applications to be received 6 weeks prior to this date. However dependent on the decisions made by Members at this meeting there may be no funds remaining for another grant round in this financial year.

## **3. Environmental Impact of the Proposals**

3.1 Community Area Grants will contribute to the continuance and/or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and wellbeing in the community Area, the extent and specifics of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

## **4. Financial Implications**

4.1 Awards must fall within the Area Boards budget allocated to the Trowbridge Area Board.

4.2 If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations Trowbridge Area Board will have a balance of £4,976 to take forward to the next funding round.

## **5. Legal Implications**

5.1 There are no specific Legal implications related to this report.

## **6. HR Implications**

6.1 There are no specific HR implications related to this report.

## **7. Equality and Diversity Implications**

7.1 Community Area Grants give all local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

7.2 Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within section 8 – “Project Proposals”.

## 8. Project Proposals

The full applications are attached (Appendix 1)

Applicant 8.1	Project summary	Funding requested
VINE for PAT	Supportive accommodation for deprived and socially excluded potentially homeless, pregnant or abused teenagers. To purchase bed, carpets, refurbishment materials, soft furnishings, furniture	£4,729

8.1.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria 2009/10.

8.1.2 The application demonstrates a link to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan 2004 – 14 Theme 7 Health and social care

8.1.3 The application demonstrates links to the Local Agreement for Wiltshire ambition “Lives not Services”

8.1.4 The project will address equality and inclusion through targeting disadvantaged young women

8.1.5 The application was deferred at the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2009 Area Board meeting to allow Wiltshire Council officers to report back to the board after meeting with the applicant to discuss future partnership working arrangements. A meeting has taken place and at this stage Wiltshire Council officers would not be in a position to consider any referrals to this project even if the fifth bedroom was furnished and decorated. The conditions that officers would need to see met are the provision/evidence of the following information:

- a) Statement of purpose and objectives
- b) Staffing ratios
- c) Qualifications the team members would be working towards and whether all volunteers have CRB clearance (the applicant advised that, at present, none of the volunteers have CRB clearance)
- d) To allay concerns about the project's financial stability, a copy of the Business Plan and the information that was sent for the 'People's Millions'
- e) Reassurance that health and safety risk assessments are embedded in the practice in terms of risk management of vulnerable young women as the applicant confirmed to officers on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009 that they would only be able to accommodate young pregnant women and not young women with babies
- f) Confirmation that the applicant holds all the necessary insurances required and that the building is 'fit for purpose'

Applicant 8.2	Project summary	Funding requested
Bradley Gardens Residents Association	Installation of Rubbish/Dog Mess bins	£924

8.2.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria 2009/10 although they are requesting financial support for something that, if a need is identified, should come from Wiltshire Council service budgets

8.2.2 There is no direct link to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan 2004 – 14

8.2.3 The application demonstrates links to the Local Agreement for Wiltshire ambition “Safer Communities which also feel safe” and “Building Resilient Communities”

8.2.4 It is the statutory duty of Wiltshire Council to ensure that litter and waste are removed from Wiltshire Council owned land. If there is an issue with litter being at an unacceptable level then an inspection visit will be carried out by Wiltshire Council officers who will then make the necessary arrangements for the removal of this litter. If these arrangements were to include the provision of additional waste bins then this would come from the relevant service budget.

Applicant 8.3	Project summary	Funding requested
Trowbridge Town Council	Cultural Olympiad Dance festival ‘Thrive’ - creation of a mass community dance piece in Trowbridge Park in May 2010	£2,500

8.3.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria 2009/10.

8.3.2 The application demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan 2004 – 14 Theme 3 Culture including Leisure, Recreation, Heritage and the Arts

8.3.3 The application demonstrates links to the Local Agreement for Wiltshire ambition “Building Resilient Communities”

8.3.4 The project will address equality and inclusion by targeting those of all abilities and those from different ethnic minority groups

Applicant 8.4	Project summary	Funding requested
Friends of Biss Meadows Country Park	Purchase Tools, Equipment & Safety Wear	£1,000

8.4.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria 2009/10.

8.4.2 The application demonstrates a direct link to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan 2004 – 14 Theme 4 Environment including countryside and land based issues

8.4.3 The application demonstrates links to the Local Agreement for Wiltshire ambition “Protecting the Environment”

8.4.4 The group has been working closely with Wiltshire Council’s Countryside Service which is fully supportive of this application

Applicant 8.5	Project summary	Funding requested
Longmeadow Tenants And Residents Association	Purchase equipment for Community Engagement & Youth Activities	£1,000

8.5.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria 2009/10.

8.5.2 The application demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan 2004 – 14 Theme 2 Housing and the Built Environment, Theme 6 Education and lifelong learning, Theme 8 Community Safety

8.5.3 The application demonstrates links to the Local Agreement for Wiltshire’s ambitions “Building resilient communities” and “Safer communities which also feel safe”

Applicant 8.6	Project summary	Funding requested
Trowbridge Pub and Club Watch	Provision and Monitoring of the Towns Pubwatch Radio system	£5,000

8.6.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria 2009/10.

8.6.2 The application demonstrates a direct link to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan 2004 – 14 Theme 8 Community Safety

8.6.3 The application demonstrates links to the Local Agreement for Wiltshire ambition “Safer Communities which also feel safe”

8.6.4 The group has been working with Wiltshire Council’s Community Safety Service which is fully supportive of this application

Applicant 8.7	Project summary	Funding requested
West Ashton Village Hall & Institute	Fitting of photovoltaic panels to village hall	£5,000

- 8.7.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria 2009/10.
- 8.7.2 The application demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan 2004 – 14 Theme 4 Environment including countryside and land based issues
- 8.7.3 The application demonstrates links to the Local Agreement for Wiltshire ambition “Protecting the environment”

## **9. Recommendations**

Application 8.1 VINE for PAT - it is recommended that a grant of £4,729 is refused.

Application 8.2 Bradley Gardens Residents Association - it is recommended that a grant of £924 is deferred so that Wiltshire Council Waste service can undertake an inspection of the local area.

Application 8.3 Trowbridge Town Council - it is recommended that a grant of £2,500 is approved. Members may wish to consider allocating a reduced amount of funding in order that there is sufficient funding available for a final grant round in 2009/10.

Application 8.4 Friends of Biss Meadow Country Park - it is recommended that a grant of £1,000 to is approved.

Application 8.5 Longmeadow Tenants and Residents Association - it is recommended that a grant of £1,000 to is approved.

Application 8.6 Trowbridge Pub and Club Watch - it is recommended that a grant of £5,000 to is approved. Members may wish to consider allocating a reduced amount of funding in order that there is sufficient funding available for a final grant round in 2009/10.

Application 8.7 West Ashton Village Hall & Institute - it is recommended that a grant of £5,000 to is approved. Members may wish to consider allocating a reduced amount of funding in order that there is sufficient funding available for a final grant round in 2009/10.

SUE REDMOND  
Director of Community Services

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Grant Applications

The following unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report: Technical Officers Reports.