

Report to	Chippenham Area Board
Date of Meeting	17th January 2011
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 3 applications seeking 2010/11 Community Area Grant Funding. Officer recommendations:

1. Wiltshire Music Centre - Award £3,432 to deliver a music educational project in 5 primary schools, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place
2. Oate Hill Neighbourhood Watch Group - Award £1,074 for the installation of a handrail along steps adjoining Oate Hill and Habrels Close, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
3. Langley Fitzhurse After School Club - Award £3,576 to introduce an After School Club, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

To ask Councillors to delegate authority to the Community Area Manager, in consultation with the Area Board Chairman and or Vice/Chairman, to approve expenditure between meetings.

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Community Services (27th February 2010). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance for funding.
- 1.2. In accordance with the scheme of delegation, any decision of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria and/or the office's recommendation would need to demonstrate that the application in question has a wider community benefit, and give specific reasons as to why this should justify an exception to the criteria.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, however, the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.4. Three applications to this round have been withdrawn in order to gather additional information and will consider reapplying for the next funding round. The applicants have also been referred to the Charities Information Bureau (CIB) for support to seek alternative sources of funding. CIB work on behalf of Wiltshire Council to support community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils to seek funding for community projects and schemes both from the Area Board and other local and national funding sources.
- 1.5. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.6. Chippenham Area Board has been allocated a 2010/2011 budget of £68,917 for community grants, community partnership core funding and Area Board projects. The carry forward from the 2009/2010 budget is £9. This gives a **total budget of £68,926** for the 2010/2011 budget.
- 1.7. Following the awards made on 22nd November 2010 the Chippenham Area Board had a **balance of £16,724**.
- 1.8. On 10th December 2011, North Wraxall Parish Hall Committee informed Chippenham Area Board that they will not be in a position to proceed in this financial year with their project to extend their hall and have therefore rescinded their award of £5,000. Chippenham Area Board therefore has a **balance of £21,724**.
- 1.9. A decision has been made in 2010/2011 that paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.10. The 2010/2011 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report

- Community Area Grant Application Pack 2010/11
- Chippenham Community Area Plan
- Local Agreement for Wiltshire

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2010/11 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be 6 rounds of funding during 2010/11. The first took place on 10th May 2010, the second on 5th July, the third on 13th September, the fourth on 22nd November, the fifth is contained in this report and the remaining round will take place on:
- 7th March 2011

3. Environmental & Community Implications

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 budget allocated to the Chippenham Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Chippenham Area Board will have a **balance of £13,642**.

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 Inclusion 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 – “Officer Recommendations”.

8. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Wiltshire Music Centre	Music education project for 5 primary schools	£3,432

8.1.1. Wiltshire Music Centre - Award £3,432 to deliver a music educational project in 5 primary schools, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.1.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2010/11.

8.1.3. This application demonstrates a partial link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan "Open schools for IT and other learning facilities".

8.1.4. This project demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council's priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire – "Provide strong foundations for children and young people's development" and "encouraging participation in positive activities and the promotion of ideas about safe, cohesive and resilient communities".

8.1.5. Officers are of the opinion that this project will provide an opportunity for children to experience and engage with music which they may not otherwise have.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Oate Hill Neighbourhood Watch Group	Installation of a handrail along steps adjoining Oate Hill and Habrels Close	£1,074

8.2.1. Oate Hill Neighbourhood Watch Group - Award £1,074 for the installation of a handrail along steps adjoining Oate Hill and Habrels Close, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.2.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2010/11.

8.2.3. This application demonstrates a partial link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan "Poor condition of public footpaths"

8.2.4. This project demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council's priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire "Help local communities develop their own priorities and improvements" and "We help communities help themselves" .

- 8.2.5. Wiltshire Council Area Highways Engineers have provided the quotes and will be carrying out the installation work.
- 8.2.6. Westlea Housing Association has agreed to work in partnership with Wiltshire Council and the Neighbourhood Watch Group and is providing the match funding required.
- 8.2.7. Officers are of the opinion that Wiltshire Council has already improved the safety of the steps by painting white lines on the edges and the installation a handrail will further improve the steps for local residents.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Langley Fitzhurse After School Club	Introduce after school club at Langley Fitzhurse primary school	£3,576

- 8.3.1. Langley Fitzhurse After School Club - Award £3,576 to introduce an After School Club, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
- 8.3.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2010/11.
- 8.3.3. This application demonstrates a direct link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan “Maintain viability of village schools”
- 8.3.4. This application demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire “Provide strong foundations for children and young people’s development”, “Help local communities develop their own priorities and improvements” and “We help communities help themselves”.
- 8.3.5. This application demonstrates a link to the Childcare Act 2006 and the duty of all Local Authorities to secure sufficient childcare for working parents.
- 8.3.6. The applicant has carried out comprehensive consultation with parents and identified a clear need. A commitment from parents has been secured by means of a registration fee.
- 8.3.7. Officers are pleased to note that the applicant has researched best practice by contacting other After School Clubs at Kings Lodge School and The Camp After School & Holiday Club in Malmesbury.
- 8.3.8. Officers are also pleased to note that the applicant has also been in touch with the Extended Schools Coordinator and Jo Giles Childcare Development Officer and will be working with both of these professional officers to launch the project.

8.3.9. Supporting statements have been received from both the Chairman of School Governors and the Chairman of the Parent Teacher Association.

8.3.10. Officers are of the opinion that the introduction of an After School Club at Langley Fitzhurse Primary School will be of tremendous benefit to parents and children; and the availability of the After School Club will also enhance attractiveness of the school to prospective parents and in turn sustain the viability of this village school.

8.4. Delegated authority to the Community Area Manager in consultation with Area Board Chairman and/or Vice Chairman

8.4.1. Delegated authority to the Community Area Manager in consultation with Area Board Chairman and/or Vice Chairman is sought :

- Where the funding is needed urgently and the matter cannot wait until the next scheduled Area Board meeting.
- Funding may only be approved up to a maximum of £200 per decision.
- Decisions taken under this delegated power shall be reported to the next Area Board meeting.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 grant application – Wiltshire Music Centre Appendix 2 grant application – Oate Hill Neighbourhood Watch Group Appendix 3 grant application – Langley Fitzhurse After School Club
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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