

Agenda Item 15a

Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider 5 applications seeking the following funding from 2010/11 Area Board Grants:

1. Westbury Town Council – award £545 to match fund the purchase of a mobile projector, screen and whiteboard for community use.
2. Edington Parish Hall – award £3250 to match fund replacement windows in the village hall
3. Dilton Marsh Flower and Produce show – award £320 to fund publicity and set up costs for a village flower and handicrafts show
4. Coulston Parish Council - award £105 to match fund the connection of water to village allotments.
5. Crosspoint – award £1000 to fund the purchase of computer equipment for a drop-in community centre.

1. Background

1.1 Area boards have authority to approve grants under powers delegated to the area boards by the leader of Wiltshire Council (13 May 2009). Under the terms of that delegation area boards must operate within the policies set by the leader and/or the council. Wiltshire Council has adopted an Area Grants Policy, with funding criteria, to which the area boards must adhere.

1.2 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.

1.3 In 2010/11 the Westbury Area Board was allocated a budget of £40,447. Following the approval of grant funding at the area board of 2 December, we now have £12,712 remaining for this financial year.

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 before 31 March 2011.

2.2 Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting until 31 March 2011. The meeting on Thursday 3 February 2011 will be the last 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 Westbury Area Board.

4.2 If all grant applications are approved, there will be **£7,492** left in the Westbury area board budget for 2010/11. It is anticipated this will be rolled over into the grant allocation budget for 2011/12.

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
138	Westbury Town Council	This is an application for match funding for the purchase of a mobile projector, screen and whiteboard. This would be available for use by local groups, schools and organisations either when using the Laverton or in the community. It would be held by Westbury Town Council which	£ 545

		would be responsible for its safety and maintenance.	
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8.1.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets 2010/11 grant criteria.

8.1.2 This application links to Wiltshire Council priorities of engaging with local people; increasing numbers involved in volunteering and with the aims of the Westbury area community plan (Improving economy/tourism P.9).

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
135	Edington Parish Hall	This is an application for match funding to replace the original (1886) leaded windows with like double glazed to create a warmer, eco friendly environment. As the only meeting place in the village, the hall caters for the whole community, and is used by a variety of groups including pre-schoolers, art and crafts group, Womens Institute, seniors tea afternoons and parish council meetings. The improvements to the windows are part of an extensive project to upgrade the hall and include new heating, roof renovation and ultimately new toilets and kitchen facilities.	£3250

8.2.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets 2010/11 grant criteria

This application links to Wiltshire Council priorities of engaging with local people; increasing numbers involved in volunteering, and with the aims of the Westbury area community plan (Improving leisure/recreation P.27).

8.2.2

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
141	Dilton Marsh Flower and Handicrafts Show	This application is for funding to launch an annual flower and handicrafts show which will be open to all ages. The project aims	£ 320

		to encourage community participation, boost visitors and enhance community pride. Note: the WI ran a flower and craft show for many years but it was restricted to the WI – the same with the local gardening club. It is hoped combining the two into a new event will widen its appeal and participation from the whole community. .	
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8.3.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets 2010/11 grant criteria but note that should the show become an annual event, there could not be repeat funding available from the area board.

8.3.2 This application links to Wiltshire Council priorities of engaging with local people and increasing numbers involved in volunteering and with the aims of the Westbury area community plan (Improving leisure/recreation P.27).

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
137	Coulston Parish Council	To help match fund the cost of connecting water supply to the village allotments.	£105

8.4.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets 2010/11 grant criteria

8.4.2 This application links to Wiltshire Council priorities of engaging with local people; increasing numbers involved in volunteering and with the aims of the Westbury area community plan (Improving leisure/recreation P.27; Parish observations P.34)).

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
140	Crosspoint	To fund the purchase of computer equipment to help in the launch of a community based drop in centre Westbury.	£1000

8.5.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets 2010/11 grant criteria

8.5.2 This application links to Wiltshire Council priorities of engaging with local people; increasing numbers involved in volunteering and with many aims of the Westbury area community plan

Ends

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