

Report to	Chippenham Area Board
Date of Meeting	9th May 2011
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 3 applications seeking 2011/12 Community Area Grant Funding. Officer recommendations:

1. Wiltshire Mind - Award £1,600 to deliver a 6 month art therapy course, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place
2. Chippenham Folk Festival - Award £1,800 to stage a free showcase concert to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the festival, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
3. New ChAPTER– Award £1,880 for the appearance of the White Helmets British Army Display Team at the Chippenham River Festival 2011, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

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 15th April 2011. 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 officer's recommendation would need to demonstrate that the application in question has a wider community benefit, and give specific reasons for why this should justify an exception to the criteria.
- 1.3. The emphasis in the Coalition Government's Localism agenda supports the ethos of volunteering and community involvement. With this in mind Community Area Grants should be encouraged from and awarded to community and voluntary groups.
- 1.4. Area boards will not consider applications from town and parish councils for purposes that relate to their statutory duties or powers that should be funded from the local town/parish precept. However this does not preclude bids from town/parish councils, encouraging community projects that provide new opportunities for local people or those functions that are not the sole responsibility of the town/parish council.
- 1.5. Officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, although the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on the Area Board.
- 1.6. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.7. All applicants are encouraged to contact Charities Information Bureau who is working 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.
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. The 2011/2012 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.
- 1.10. One application to this round has been withdrawn in order to gather additional information and will reapply to 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 from other local and national funding sources.

1.11. Chippenham Area Board has been allocated a 2011/2012 budget of **£68,917** for community grants, community partnership core funding and Area Board projects. The carry forward from the 2010/2011 budget is **£1,814**. This gives a **total budget of £70,731** for the 2011/2012 budget.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report

- Area Board Grant Guidance 2011/12 ACCL-001-11
- Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12
- Chippenham Community Area Plan
- Local Agreement for Wiltshire

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2011/12 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 2011/12. The first is contained in this report, the second on 4th July, the third on 12th September, the fourth on 14th November, the fifth on 9th January and the final round is on 5th March 2012.

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 £65,451**.

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 Mind	To deliver a 6 month Art Therapy course	£1,600

8.1.1. Wiltshire Mind - Award £1,600 to deliver a 6 month art therapy course, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place

8.1.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2011/12.

8.1.3. This application demonstrates link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan “Support for people to improve their own health”.

8.1.4. This project demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire – “Review and improve the service Wiltshire Council provides to people who have dementia and other mental health issues”. “Promoting Health & Wellbeing” and “support to have independent and fulfilling lives as part of their local community”.

8.1.5. The therapy sessions take place in the Jubilee Rooms in Chippenham which is a central, accessible and DDA compliant venue.

8.1.6. Officers are of the opinion that this project will provide an opportunity for clients to participate in a positive activity which will facilitate expression and communication.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Chippenham Folk Festival	To stage a free showcase concert to celebrate the 40 th anniversary of the festival	£1,8 00

8.2.1. Chippenham Folk Festival - Award £1,800 to stage a free showcase concert to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the festival, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.2.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2011/12.

- 8.2.3. This application demonstrates a partial link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan “Aim to increase support for community facilities and events and to encourage a range of cultural opportunities for residents and visitors to the area”.
- 8.2.4. This project demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire to create stronger and more inclusive communities “Improve community relations and Encourage communities to take part in sporting and cultural activities and events that bring different age groups together”.
- 8.2.5. Officers understand that the concert will showcase a wide variety of what the festival has to offer including music, song and dance. It will provide people with the opportunity to discover a bit more about what the festival has to offer and how it is linked to our local history.
- 8.2.6. Chippenham Museum and Heritage Centre is staging an exhibition about the 40 year history of the festival to coincide with this year’s event.
- 8.2.7. Officers are of the opinion that the Folk Festival is a significant highlight event for the town and recognise that in addition to the financial benefits it brings to the area the festival also promotes a sense of well being and community.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	New ChAPTER	The appearance of the White Helmets British Army Display Team at the Chippenham River Festival 2011	£1,880

- 8.3.1. New ChAPTER - Award £1,880 for the appearance of the White Helmets British Army Display Team at the Chippenham River Festival 2011, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
- 8.3.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2011/12.
- 8.3.3. This application demonstrates a direct link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan “Aim to increase support for community facilities and events and to encourage a range of cultural opportunities for residents and visitors to the area”.
- 8.3.4. This application demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire to create stronger and more inclusive communities “Improve community relations and Encourage communities to take part in sporting and cultural activities and events that bring different age groups together”.

- 8.3.5. New ChAPTER organises the River Festival working in partnership with Wiltshire Council, Chippenham Town Council, Chippenham Chamber of Commerce, Chippenham Civic society, DC Leisure, local businesses and organisations.
- 8.3.6. The River Festival is a family event on the August Bank Holiday weekend for all ages to celebrate and enjoy the river. This year's event will feature many activities on and in the river including canoeing, dinghies and sailing boats, the duck race and wild swimming. The intention is to increase the activities in the arena in Monkton Park to compliment the river activities and the White Helmets Motor Cycle Display Team is a vital element of the land attractions.
- 8.3.7. Officers are of the opinion that the River Festival is a significant highlight event for the town and recognise that in addition to the financial benefits it brings to the area the festival also promotes a sense of well being and community.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 grant application – Wiltshire Mind Appendix 2 grant application – Chippenham Folk Festival Appendix 3 grant application – New ChAPTER
--------------------	--

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

Report Author	Victoria Welsh, Community Area Manager Tel: 01249 706 446 E-mail: victoria.welsh@wiltshire.gov.uk
----------------------	--