

Report to	Marlborough Area Board	Agenda Item No.13
Date of Meeting	21 June 2011	
Title of Report	Community Area Grants	

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 1 application seeking 2011/12 Community Area Grant Funding:

Aldbourn Scout Group - £798

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. 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. Grant applicants are required to show evidence of fund raising to contribute to their project costs.
- 1.6. 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.
- 1.7. Funding applications will be considered at every area board meeting.
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. 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 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.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12• Marlborough Community Area Plan 2004/14
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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. The funding contained within this report forms the second round of funding during 2011/12.
- 2.3. Future rounds will be considered as follows:
 - 6 September 2011 (deadline for applications – 25 July)
 - 1 November 2011 (deadline for applications – 26 September)
 - 7 February 2012 (deadline for applications – 19 December)

3. **Environmental & Community Implications**

- 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 board's budget allocated to the Marlborough Area Board.
- 4.2. Marlborough Area Board has been allocated a 2011/2012 budget of £45,472 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor-led initiatives. The carry forward from the 2010/2011 budget is £17,948 (this figure includes ring fenced funds of £3,331 for youth transport). This leaves a total budget of £63,429 for the 2011/2012 budget.
- 4.3. If the grant requests detailed in this report are awarded, Marlborough Area Board will have a balance of **£62,631**.

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	Aldbourn Scout Group	To purchase 8 tents	£798

8.1.1. It is recommended that Aldbourn Scout Group is awarded £798 for the purchase of 8 tents.

8.1.2. Officers are of the opinion that the application meets grant criteria 2011/12.

8.1.3. This application demonstrates direct links to the 2004-2014 Marlborough Community Plan in the following sections: to encourage community events that creates a sense of pride and well-being (section 8.5) and involves young people in activities (section 8.8).

8.1.4. This project demonstrates links to Wiltshire Council's priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire that aim to get more young people to take part in a wide range of activities and play, increase children and young people's access to facilities and activities and to help local communities build a strong and vibrant voluntary sector.

8.1.5. The scout group frequently raises funds through a variety of activities. It has recently raised £500 by putting on a Sunday lunch in the village. A three course lunch was cooked and served to 80 people. The Cubs and Scouts acted as waiters, taking orders and delivering the food; this was followed by the washing up.

8.1.6. This application originally included a request for a grant for 4 new scout flags and a union flag. As these do not meet the criteria, the scout group will put their funds raised through the Sunday lunch event towards the purchase of the flags. The Aldbourn Scout Group wants to have a clearer and more professional image to show to both the local community and beyond. They host several outdoor events each year and it gives the young people a great sense of pride when the Scout Group is visibly recognised.

8.1.7. If they are awarded this grant, the Aldbourn Scout Group agrees to make the tents available to other community groups.

8.1.8. If the area board decides not to award this grant, the scout group will have to use their fund raising money to buy tents rather than flags.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 Grant application – Aldbourn Scout Group
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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