

Report to	Marlborough Area Board
Date of Meeting	7th February 2012
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

To ask Councillors to consider 6 applications seeking 2011/12 Community Area Grant Funding. Officer recommendations:

1. Kennet Valley Hall – Award £1,000 to purchase a new sit on mower. Subject to quotes and a refund to the area board of any under spend below £1,000 allocated.
2. Manton Pre School Playgroup – Award £996 to purchase new stackable tables.
3. Christ Church East Kennett – Award £844 to purchase new pew cushions to enable the church to be used for community meetings. Subject to the balance of the funding being in place.
4. Aldbourne Youth Council – Award £5,000 to install a kitchen as part of the renovations to a building to be used by the Aldbourne Youth Council and the wider community. Subject to planning permission, securing the equipment under the terms of the trust and the balance of funding being in place.
5. Aldbourne Defibrillator Team – Award £2,850 to purchase and install 4 defibrillators in Aldbourne. Subject to the balance of funding being in place.
6. Superstrings. Wiltshire Folk Project - £4,060 to introduce young people to play stringed instruments leading to a large scale concert type event. Conditional upon the balance of funding being in place. This application was deferred from the Marlborough Area Board meeting held on 1st November 2011 owing to none attendance by the applicant.

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. The grant for Superstrings was deferred at the meeting on 1st November 2011 following requests for further information. It has now been brought to this meeting for consideration

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report

- Area Board Grant Guidance 2011/12
- Marlborough Community Area Plan

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 1 further round of funding during 2011/12. This will take place 27th 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 Marlborough Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Marlborough Area Board will have a **balance of £10,372**

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	Kennet Valley Hall	To purchase a sit on mower	£1,000

8.1.1. Kennet Valley Hall – Award £1,000 to purchase a sit on mower subject to returning any under spend from the £1,000 on the actual purchase.

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

8.1.3. This application demonstrates link to the Marlborough Community Plan “Places for people to meet” and “Aim to increase support for community facilities and events and to encourage a range of cultural opportunities for residents and visitors to the area”.

8.1.4. Kennet Valley Hall is a not for profit organisation and the committee go to great lengths to keep the building and amenities in good order for the benefit of the community.

8.1.5. If the Area Board decides not to fund this project it might result in the project being delayed while looking for alternative funding opportunities.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Manton Pre School Playgroup	To purchase stackable tables to comply with health and safety	£996

8.2.1. Manton Pre School Play Group – Award £996 to purchase new stackable tables to comply with health and safety.

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 Marlborough Community Plan “Aim to increase support for community facilities”.

8.2.4. Manton Pre School is a not for profit group and has operated from in the area for over 40 years. It is highly regarded in the local community.

8.2.5. Officers are of the opinion that this project represents a good investment in local community infrastructure and will serve the community for many years.

8.2.6. If the Area Board decide not to fund this project it might result in the project being delayed until alternative funding can be sought.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Christ Church East Kennett	To purchase pew cushions to enable the church to be used for community use	£844

8.3.1. Christ Church East Kennett– Award £844 to enable them to purchase new pew cushions to enable the church to be used for more community use. Conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.3.2. This application does not meet the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2011/12 in terms of the application being from the church. However, the local school closed in 2011 and this is now the only place for the local community to meet. This project is seeking to make the church a more comfortable place for people to meet for more extensive community gatherings.

8.3.3. This application demonstrates a direct link to the Marlborough Community Plan “Maintaining community facilities for people to meet”.

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.

8.3.5. If the Area Board decide not to fund this project it will result in a delay in the project while alternative funding is sought.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4	Aldbourn Youth Council	To install a kitchen as part of renovations to new premises for Aldbourn Youth Council	£5,000

8.4.1 Aldbourn Youth Council – Award £5,000 to install a kitchen as part of renovations to facilities for use by Aldbourn Youth Council and the wider community subject to the necessary planning permission and the balance of the funding being in place.

8.4.2 The building has been purchased by a local business person and put in to trust for use by the community.

8.4.3 This project is very complex and part of an ambitious plan to bring a disused building into community use.

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

8.4.5 This application demonstrates link to the Marlborough Community Plan “Places for people to meet” and “Aim to increase support for community facilities and events and to encourage a range of cultural opportunities for residents and visitors to the area”.

8.4.6 Aldbourne Youth Council is a not for profit organisation and the committee go to great lengths to keep the current building in good order for the benefit of the community.

8.4.7 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project it might result in the project being delayed while looking for alternative funding opportunities.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5	Aldbourne Defibrillator Team	To purchase 4 defibrillators in Aldbourne	£2,850

8.5.1 Aldbourne Defibrillator Team – Award £2,850 to purchase and install 4 defibrillators in Aldbourne. Conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.5.2 This application does not meet the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2011/12.

8.5.3 This group is a newly formed not for profit group of volunteers who have come together to deliver this project.

8.5.4 A similar project to this has been introduced in Ramsbury and has proven to be a very valuable asset.

8.5.5 If the Area Board decide not to fund this project it will result in a delay in the project while alternative funding is sought.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.6	Superstrings Wiltshire Folk Project	To promote string playing for young people to culminate in a concert style event	£4,060

8.6.1 Superstrings – £4,060 Conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and supported by other Area Boards.

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

8.6.3 This application was deferred from the Marlborough Area Board meeting held on 1st November 2011 owing to none attendance from the applicants.

8.6.4 This applicant has received support from Pewsey Area Board.

8.6.5 This application demonstrates a direct link to the Marlborough Community Plan “Aim to increase support for community events”.

8.6.6 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”.

8.6.7 Superstrings is a not for profit organisation and is fully supported by the Wiltshire Music Centre who have submitted a letter of support for this project.

8.6.8 If the Area Board decide not to fund this project it might result in a delay while alternative funding is sought.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 grant application – Kennett Valley Hall Appendix 2 grant application – Manton Pre School Appendix 3 grant application – Christ Church East Kennett Appendix 4 grant application – Aldbourne Youth Council Appendix 5 grant application – Aldbourne Defibrillator Team Appendix 6 grant application – Superstrings Wiltshire
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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