

Report to	South West Wiltshire Area Board
Date of Meeting	11 April 2012
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

- To ask Councillors to consider 1 application seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding.

Application	Amount
Storage cabins Applicant: Zeals Youth Trust	£1,770

- In addition, to ask Councillors to consider an outstanding amount of £500 for Broad Chalke Village Hall Management Committee as part of their Community Area Grant application, which was considered at the Area Board Meeting on 29 February 2012. £1,663 was awarded at that meeting, and Councillors requested that further information was provided before considering a three year warranty costing £500 as part of the application.

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 (15 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. In addition to Community Area Grants, Councillors can submit an Area Board Project which differs from Community Area Grants in that they do not require match funding. Area Board Projects should not be used to avoid complying with Community Area Grant criteria.
- 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 which 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 the 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.

<p>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12 • Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. South West Wiltshire Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of **£121,048** for Community Area Grants, Community Partnership Core Funding and Area Board Projects.
- 2.2. The amount of funding remaining for 2012/2013 is currently **£107,633**.
- 2.3. If all Community Area Grants were successfully awarded at this meeting, the remaining funds in the total budget would be **£105,363**. This does not include any other funding awarded by the South West Wiltshire Area Board out of the budget during this meeting.
- 2.4. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2012/13 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.5. There are due to be 6 rounds of funding during 2012/13, including this meeting. The deadline for submitting applications to the Community Area Manager is 4 weeks prior to the meeting. For the actual dates see: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/southwestwiltshireareaboard.htm

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 South West Wiltshire Area Board. Grant applications totalling **£2,270** have been received for this meeting.

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 new grant applications are outlined within section 8 – “Officer Recommendations.”

8. Officer Recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
	Zeals Youth Trust	Storage Cabins for Zeals Green Pastures	£1,770

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

8.1.2. The application demonstrates a link to the Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026 (p10), as a better equipped facility potentially helps to build a stronger and more resilient community, fit for the future.

8.1.3. This project is to fund the cost of two new storage cabins on the Zeals Green Pastures site. Currently storage of the junior youth club equipment, ground maintenance, senior goal nets and equipment is achieved by putting items in the changing rooms or mixed in with other equipment. Further storage will enable easier access for all.

8.1.4. The trust hopes to add a new netball court to the facilities available on the site; this could then be used by local schools to host sports afternoons. Greater storage would also be used for such future projects.

8.1.5. The Area Board recognises the need to support and enhance local facilities for all the community.

8.1.6. If the Board does not fund this project then the community would continue to fundraise.

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