

**Report to** Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board  
**Date of Meeting** 25 July, 2012  
**Title of Report** Community Area Grants

## Purpose of Report

To consider an application for funding from the small grants scheme.

A summary of the application together with the Community Area Manager's recommendation is set out below.

Application (and amount requested)	Recommendation
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1. <b>Latton Diamond Jubilee Community Garden:</b> To assist with the purchase of gardening equipment and launch event	<i>Approve</i>
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<b>Total requested:</b>	<b>£350</b>
<b>Prior to consideration of this application the Area Board's discretionary fund balance stands at:</b>	<b>£49,280</b>
<b>If the application is approved the Board's balance will be:</b>	<b>£48,930</b>

## **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 terms of the delegation, Area Boards are required to follow the [criteria for small grants](#) – in short, the Board must be happy that the application passes the following tests:
  - Will it help to promote a stronger and more vibrant community?
  - Will it help bring people together and build community spirit?
  - Will it help those who cannot always help themselves?
- 1.2. In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance, officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, however, the decision to support applications and to what level are made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.3. The Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board has been allocated a discretionary budget for 2012/2013 of £51,680.
- 1.4. A decision has been made in 2010/2011 that 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.

## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded satisfy the criteria set by the Council and are made to projects that can proceed within a year of the award being made.

## **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. Financial provision has been made to cover this expenditure. If grants are awarded in line with the Community Area Manager's recommendations, the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board will have a remaining balance of £3,674.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

## **6. Human Resources Implications**

- 6.1. There are no specific human resources implications related to this report.

## **7. Equality and Inclusion Implications**

- 7.1. Community Area Grants give all local community and voluntary groups an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

**8. Officer recommendation**

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Latton Diamond Jubilee Community Garden	To assist with the purchase of gardening equipment and launch event	£350

- 8.1.1. The Latton Jubilee Garden Group has been working over the last few years to get the garden up and running, and they are now planning an official opening at which they will be able to thank those bodies who have supported them, raise the profile of the garden, explain its benefits to the community, and encourage local people to get involved with the project. To take the project forward, the Group needs to purchase some modest grass cutting equipment to ensure the garden looks its best – at present the group relies on volunteers using their own equipment. The Group would also like to set aside a small amount to cover the official opening of the garden.
- 8.1.2. The Group set up the community garden on a third of an acre leased on a peppercorn rent from the Cooperative Group Estates on the understanding that it would be used for a community garden. The Groups subsequently received a lottery grant of £4000 which was used to set up the basic infrastructure of the garden - fences and gates, potting shed, raised beds, etc. So far, the Group has established an area of raised beds for vegetable growing, a strawberry trial area, a children’s sunflower bed, a community orchard and wildflower area with seating and a soft fruit area.
- 8.1.3. Although monies for the community garden pass through Latton Parish Council’s bank account they are kept completely separate from general Parish Council funds.
- 8.1.4. It is considered that this application meets the Council’s new small grant criteria.
- 8.1.5. It is **recommended** that £350 is awarded to the Latton Jubilee Garden Group to assist with the purchase of gardening equipment and launch event

<b>Background papers:</b>	Grant Application – Latton Jubilee Garden Group
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