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| Report to | Marlborough Area Board |
| Date of Meeting | 27 November 2012 |
| Title of Report | Community Area Grants |

To ask Councillors to consider four applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding. Officer recommendations:

1. **Aldbourn Memorial Hall, Aldbourn. Requested: £2,538.00.** To install a new cooker hood to the Hall's kitchen in order to be compliant with new Health & Safety regulations. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
2. **Marlborough Communities Market, Marlborough. Requested: £5,000.00.** To purchase new modular umbrellas that will allow the communities market to accommodate more traders on the High Street. The umbrellas can also be used for other community events and festivals within the town Recommendation: Meets Criteria
3. **Broad Hinton Youth Club, Broad Hinton. Requested: £1,109.00.** To set up a new youth club in the village of Broad Hinton to provide activities for young people from the village as well as Winterbourne Bassett, Uffcott, Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
4. **Marlborough Bowls Club, Marlborough. Requested: £1,851.00.** To install a new floor to the clubhouse to also act as playing surface for indoor bowls. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
5. **Grove Farm Woodland Skills and Survival Centre, Stitchcombe. Requested: £1,000.00.** To provide transport to the Centre so that young people at risk of exclusion, young offenders, looked after children and NEETs can participate in the outdoors education programmes run by the Centre and so gain confidence and earn qualifications. Recommendation: Deferred until January 2013 meeting to gather further information.

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| <p>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 • Marlborough Community Area Plan, 2012-17 |
| <p>1. Background</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1.6. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1.9. The 2012/2013 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> | |

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. 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.
- 2.2. There will be further rounds of funding at each of the Area Board meeting held during 2012/13. Dates of these meetings and the deadlines for applications are available on Wiltshire Council's website:
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/marlbroughareboard.htm>

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 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 £20,891 of its 2012/13 funding.

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 Memorial Hall | To install a new cooker hood to the Hall's kitchen in order to be compliant with new | £2,538 |

8.1.1 Aldbourne Memorial Hall, Aldbourne – Request £2,538.00 to install a new cooker hood in the Hall’s kitchen. New Health and Safety regulations coming into effect in 2013 mean that the Hall’s kitchen needs a new cooker hood. Without this new installation, the kitchen will not comply with these regulations. This will mean the facility will not be available to hirers of the Hall and the other community groups that use it. This represents a loss of a service to the community and could mean a decline in revenue for the Hall due to reduced bookings.

8.1.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.1.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2012-17, p9 “Support for rural enterprise”, p13 “Help in old age”, p17 “Lack of local entertainment and cultural facilities” and “Lack of meeting spaces for small clubs, theme groups and societies”. By keeping the Hall’s kitchen compliant with regulations and open for use, the village’s clubs and societies, including a luncheon club will be able to continue using the facility, benefiting the cultural and social vibrancy of the village.

8.1.4 Health & Safety regulations ensure that people using and working in the Hall’s kitchen will do so safely so it is important that they are complied with. At the kitchen’s annual gas inspection, the inspector informed the applicant that the present cooker hood did not comply with the regulations due to come into force in 2013. Unless the kitchen complies with regulations, i.e. gets a new cooker hood fitted, it may be closed down from use.

8.1.5 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project it might result in the Hall’s kitchen failing H&S regulations and so being closed, making it unavailable to local groups and other hirers who wish to provide food and refreshments whilst using the Hall. This could then bring about a loss of income to the Memorial Hall.

| Ref | Applicant | Project proposal | Funding requested |
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| 8.2 | Marlborough Communities Market | To purchase new modular umbrellas for street market | £5,000 |

8.2.1 Marlborough Communities Market, Marlborough – Request £5,000.00 to purchase new modular umbrellas to be used by traders at the monthly markets as well as during other festivals and events.

8.2.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.2.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2012-17, p9 “Support for new and small businesses”, “The high cost of business premises and business rates”, “Support for rural enterprises” and “Encouragement and support for tourism businesses”. By increasing the covered space available to local traders, the Communities Market will be able to bring in more local traders and businesses to the market, giving them better exposure to customers, without the need for expensive

premises. Indications are that the Communities Market is a popular tourist draw to Marlborough which is increasing as the market becomes more established.

8.2.4 Marlborough Communities Market has outgrown its original size and some traders now have to operate from the Town Hall during the market. It has been noticed that there is a markedly lower number of shoppers going into the Town Hall compared to those visiting traders out on the High Street. By providing additional covered space on the High Street, the umbrellas will mean that all the market's traders will be able to operate from the one location and they will compliment the existing marquees to keep a unified look and feel to the market.

8.2.5 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project traders will continue to have to use the Town Hall and so might be put off coming to trade at the market. This could then have the effect of reducing the number of shoppers / visitors to the market and hence the town.

| Ref | Applicant | Project proposal | Funding requested |
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| 8.3 | Broad Hinton Youth Club | To establish a new youth club in the village | £1,109 |

8.3.1 Broad Hinton Youth Club, Broad Hinton – Request £1,109.00 to establish a new youth club that will provide evening activities for the young people of the villages of Winterbourne Bassett, Uffcott, Berwick Bassett and Winterbourne Monkton as well as Broad Hinton. This funding will provide for hire of the village hall for 12 months, provision of youth workers for a set up period of 3 months as well as the purchase of equipment such as television, indoor and outdoor games equipment, seating as well as administration and set up costs.

8.3.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.3.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2012-17, p11 "Recreation facilities and amenities for young people" and "Provision of safe social activities for young people". Street-based youth workers from Marlborough Development Centre for Young People have been working with young people and parents from Broad Hinton for the last three months. They have been working with the young people in order for them to shape services and influence what types of activities they would like to see in their community.

8.3.4 Broad Hinton is a very rural village quite distant from the market town of Marlborough and the much larger Swindon. Transport for young people is both limited and expensive. For these reasons, it makes sense that both young people and parents are keen to set up social activities closer to home. There has been support for this project from young people, parents and youth workers, with the aim to provide a two hour long session on a Friday evening for 10-16 year olds. Funding has been requested to help pay for setting up the youth club, hiring the local village hall for these sessions and purchasing equipment for the young people to use during these sessions.

8.3.5 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then funding for these important purchases may not be available and it is unlikely the youth club will go ahead.

| Ref | Applicant | Project proposal | Funding requested |
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| 8.4 | Marlborough Bowls Club | To replace the bowls clubhouse floor which also serves as indoor bowling rinks | £1,851.00 |

8.4.1 Marlborough Bowls Club, Marlborough – Request £1,851.00 to replace the floor of the existing clubhouse. This area also serves as the surface on which mats are placed for indoor bowls to take place during the autumn and winter months.

8.4.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.4.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2012-17, p17 “Sports and leisure facilities” and “Lack of meeting spaces for small clubs, theme groups and societies”. Also p19 “Venues for vocational training and adult education”. With nearly 200 members, the bowls club is a vibrant organisation within the area. Indoor bowls forms an important part of the club’s activities during the autumn and winter months when the outdoor bowling green is unavailable. Without a new, high quality surface to the clubhouse floor, indoor bowls will no longer be able to take place at the club.

8.4.4. In the past, whenever the clubhouse floor became too damaged to be used for indoor bowls, the wooden floor was sanded back to a good quality surface. That wooden floor has now been sanded too often during its lifetime and this cannot be done again: screw heads, etc are now level with the wooden surface and further sanding will leave them sticking up, making playing of bowls almost impossible. The clubhouse is also available for hire and is used as a venue for meetings, conferences and functions. A new high quality floor will help encourage more groups from the community to use this venue for social, business and training purposes.

8.4.5 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project Marlborough Bowls Club may not be able to fund the replacement of the clubhouse floor themselves. This will mean that indoor bowls can no longer be played at this venue.

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

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| Appendices: | <p>Appendix 1 grant application – Aldbourne Memorial Hall</p> <p>Appendix 2 grant application – Marlborough Communities Market</p> <p>Appendix 3 grant application – Broad Hinton Youth Club</p> <p>Appendix 4 grant application – Marlborough Bowls Club</p> |
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Report Author

Andrew Jack, Community Area Manager
Tel: 01225 713109
E-mail: andrew.jack@wiltshire.gov.uk