

Report to	Calne Community Area Board
Date of Meeting	11th December 2012
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 3 applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding:

- 1. CCAP – Page Turners project** - requesting £995 to provide 2 projects promoting reading and literacy amongst children aged 8 – 11 and 11 – 14.

Officers recommend that a grant of £995 is awarded.

- 2. Calne Tennis Club** – requesting £5,000 towards 4 new floodlit hard tennis courts at the Beversbrook Sports facility.

Officers recommend that a grant of £5,000 is awarded, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place; all lease/landownership issues being confirmed and upon the applicant's agreement to provide evidence of accessible membership opportunities and attempts to involve young people and families on low income to the Area Board following completion of the project.

- 3. St Laurence Church Hilmarton Parochial Church Council** – requesting £4025 towards the provision of a new kitchen/disabled toilet and nappy changing facilities.

Officers recommend that a grant of £4025 is awarded, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

And to note:

Push it Wheel Good campaign - at the ABC meeting held on 30th October 2012, the Area Board Co-ordinating group had used it's delegated authority to spend £250 as a contribution towards promotional items for the use of Young People involved in the Calne Bowl Project 'Push it Wheel Good' campaign, to raise a positive image of young people in the Calne Community Area.

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. 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. Area Board Projects are designed to enable the Area Board to address community issues or projects identified in the Community Plan/Local Agreement for Wiltshire. An application form is used and quotes for project work have to be provided in a similar manner to the Community Area Grant Scheme.
- 1.7. 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.
- 1.8. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 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. Information and forms are available at: (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 2012/13 • Calne Community Area Plan – 2004-14 (incl. 2006/2010 update) • Area Board Grants Guidance 2012/13 • Wiltshire Joint Strategic Assessment 2011 • Experiences of Poverty & Educational Disadvantage – Joseph Rowntree Foundation 2007 (www.jrf.org.uk)
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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. The funding contained within this report forms the 5th of 6 rounds of funding for 2012/13.
- 2.3. The final round of Calne Community Area grants will be considered at the Area Board meeting to be held on:
 - 5th February 2013 (deadline for applications: 21st December 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 Area Boards budget allocated to the Calne Community Area Board.
- 4.2. Following awards made at the meeting up to and including 12th June 2012 the budget remaining available to the Calne Community Area Board for 2012/13 was £28,814.
- 4.3. Following the contribution decided at the Area Board Co-ordinating group meeting on 30th October 2012 the balance remaining was £27,764.
- 4.4. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, the Calne Community Area Board will have a balance of £17,744.

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	Calne Community Area Partnership	2 ‘Pageturners’ projects promoting reading and literature amongst children aged 8 – 11 and 11 – 14.	£995

8.1.1. **It is recommended that Calne Community Area Partnership is awarded a grant of £995 towards 2 imaginative and fun projects that will promote reading and literature to children and young people from the Calne Community Area.**

8.1.2. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets grant criteria for 2012/13.

8.1.3. The project addresses issues in the Calne Community Area Plan, providing positive activities for young people and children and also ensuring that learning opportunities are available to all members of the community in an environment that encourages people to take part.

8.1.4. The project also addresses issues that are identified in the Joint Strategic Assessment for Wiltshire (2011) with specific regard to the Calne Community Area:

- 2 wards (Abberd & Priestly) feature in the 10% most deprived in Wiltshire
- An above average % of children are living in poverty
- Education results are below national averages

- 8.1.5. In a report on the experiences of poverty and educational disadvantage, by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF), it is recognised that ‘children growing up in poverty and disadvantage are less likely to do well at school. This feeds into disadvantage in later life’ ... and this in turn perpetuates a circle of poverty and disadvantage through generations of family which could be linked outwards to other issues that are experienced in the Community Area such as higher than average numbers of people receiving out of work benefits, and incidents of perceived anti social behaviour.
- 8.1.6. It is generally recognised that there is a link between confidence, self esteem and literacy skills. The JRF report recommends the creation of environments outside of mainstream school that ‘allow children to develop new learning relationships’ and an ‘imaginative range of activities in which children are able to develop more positive relationships ... and feel more in control of learning than they do at school’.
- 8.1.7. The project will take place at the Community Hub, a neutral venue that lacks the perceived formality and conformity of a school or official building.
- 8.1.8. The project will be facilitated by Pageturners a locally based group that uses humour, art, drama and creative writing activities to promote reading for pleasure and encourage ideas of books as fun. Each participant will be given a copy of the book they are working with and the project will culminate with an event at the Library for parents/siblings etc to attend. This will provide an opportunity for whole families to engage with their local library and get enthusiastic about reading.
- 8.1.9. This project will be open to everyone in the community area within the age ranges of the sessions, however it will be targeted at, and is hoped will be of particular appeal to, children and young people who are in specific need of encouragement to read more.
- 8.1.10. The Community Partnership has already run a Pageturners Project as a pilot; this was over-subscribed and was felt to be a great success. Interest has already been expressed by potential participants in the projects proposed in this application
- 8.1.11. An award to this project will cover 100% of the cost of 2 programmes for 8 – 11 year olds and for 11 – 14 year olds.
- 8.1.12. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project the scheme will be delayed while alternative funding is sought.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 Grant application – CCAP / Pageturners project
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Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Calne Tennis Club	4 new floodlit hard tennis courts at the Beversbrook Sports facility.	£5,000

- 8.2.1 It is recommended that Calne Tennis Club is awarded a grant of £5,000 towards the creation of 4 floodlit hard tennis courts, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place; all lease/landownership issues being confirmed and upon the applicant's agreement to provide evidence of accessible membership opportunities and attempts to involve young people and families on low income to future Area Board meetings following completion of the project.**
- 8.2.2 Officers are of the opinion that, once issues addressed in the conditions laid out in 8.2.1 have been met, this application meets grant criteria for 2012/13.
- 8.2.3 Members might wish to consider that this application has been received from a Club, which charges membership fees. Officers have held lengthy conversations with the applicant and are of the opinion that it is the intention of the club to reach out more widely to the community and to work towards providing accessible membership terms for young people and families on low incomes.
- 8.2.4 Calne Area Board has previously discussed the specific issue of young women dropping out of physical activities in their teenage years and the possible subsequent detrimental effect upon women's health. The applicant has been in discussion with Wiltshire Council's Sports Development Team about opportunities to develop this sport to the wider community and in particular to young people and families on low income and people with disabilities.
- 8.2.5 The Sports Development Officer has advised he is of the opinion that this is a good project, which will meet a need in the Community Area and that he has provided the applicant with information and offered support and tools to assist in the creation of a development plan to target and engage different groups.
- 8.2.6 Members may also wish to consider that Beversbrook Sports facility is currently under the ownership of Wiltshire Council and is leased to Calne Town Council for a peppercorn rent. Officers have made investigations which have shown it is likely the Area Board will be approached in the relatively short term to consider this as a site for community asset transfer. Calne Town Council is not contributing towards the cost of this project, but it has been suggested it will provide the land for the project and will waive rental charges for the initial 2 – 4 years. These matters are not confirmed and officers would recommend that a positive response to this application should be made conditional upon these matters being settled.
- 8.2.7 A further consideration that Members may wish to consider is that the Town Council already manage public tennis courts at the Anchor Road Recreation Ground. The applicant has advised that these are past their design life expectancy and do not

provide the facilities that are required to increase the experience of this sport to the wider community and especially junior sections of the club.

8.2.8 The project addresses issues in the Calne Community Area Plan, providing positive activities for young people and children.

8.2.9 This project is a major piece of work for the tennis club and, provisionally, a significant amount of the funding has already been found. The sum that has been requested from the Area Board represents approximately 3% of the total project cost.

8.2.10 If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project the scheme will be delayed while alternative funding is sought.

Appendices:	Appendix 2 Grant application – Calne Tennis Club
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Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	St Laurence Church Hilmarton Parochial Church Council	Phase 1 (New Kitchen, disabled/toilet/nappy changing facilities) of a 'Community Corner' in Hilmarton Church.	£4025

8.3.1 It is recommended that St Laurence Church Hilmarton Parochial Church Council is awarded a grant of £4,025 towards the provision of a new kitchen/disabled toilet and nappy changing facilities.

8.3.2 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets grant criteria for 2012/13.

8.3.3 The project addresses aspirations in the Calne Community Area Plan to increase recreation land and facilities in the Calne Community Area, to exceed national guidelines.

8.3.4 This project will provide accessible space within the Parish Church in Hilmarton that will allow it to be used for secular activities (concerts/exhibitions/seasonal festivals/local social and interest groups etc).

8.3.5 Although Hilmarton already has a community hall, the applicant has explained that this is not available during school hours and there is an aspiration to provide activities in the church during these times for people who find leaving home a difficult experience as a result of age, infirmity, disability etc.

- 8.3.6** A consultation exercise has been carried out with households in the Parish which has shown that people will be more likely to attend events and activities in the church if better facilities are available.
- 8.3.7** The Parish Council has granted £1,000 to the Parochial Church Council, which will be put towards this project and the PCC will also be putting forward £668 from its own fundraising activities.
- 8.3.8** The grant being requested from the Calne Area Board represents 50% of the total cost of the project.
- 8.2.11** If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project the scheme will be delayed while alternative funding is sought.

Appendices:	Appendix 3 Grant application – Hilmarton Parish Church
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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