

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Pewsey Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>11 November 2013</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Funding</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask councillors to consider 6 applications seeking 2013/14 Community Area Grant funding.

1. Grafton Parish Council is requesting £1,591 towards the rejuvenation of Wilcot Pond – Officer recommendation is for members to consider this for approval.
2. Little Bedwyn Parochial Church Council is requesting £1,000 towards the re-gilding of Little Bedwyn Village Clock – Officer Recommendation is for members to consider this for approval.
3. Pewsey and Marlborough Judo Club is requesting £441 towards the purchase of new mats – Officer Recommendation is for members to consider this for approval.
4. Alton Barnes Coronation Hall Committee is requesting £770 towards the purchase of a projector screen, PA equipment and broadband line – Officer Recommendation is for members to consider this for approval.
5. Great Bedwyn Youth Club is requesting £375 for sports sessions for 30 young people who attend the club weekly – Officer Recommendation is for members to consider this for approval.
6. Community First is requesting £1,300 for Good Neighbour Scheme support to elderly people during the winter months – Officer Recommendation is for members to decide whether or not to support this application as there is limited revenue funding available, and it doesn't meet the criteria.

It should be noted that numerous organisations approach the community area manager for advice; those that don't meet the criteria often do not go on to submit a full application. It is for members to decide whether to approve or not, based on the information provided in this report.

Further information about each application and the Officer's comments can be found later in this report

## 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 Adult Care, Communities and Housing (5 April 2013). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the [Area Board Grants Guidance 2013/2014](#).
- 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 Localism agenda supports the ethos of volunteering and community involvement and the nurturing of resilient communities. With this in mind Community Area Grants (CAGs) should be encouraged from and awarded to community and voluntary groups.
- 1.4. The area board may want to link funding to local priorities, including those identified in their Community Plan, Local Area Joint Strategic Assessment and any other community based consultative work.
- 1.5. Pewsey Area Board has been allocated a 2013/2014 budget of **£49,132** for community area grants, digital literacy grants, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.
- 1.6. In addition to CAGs and digital literacy grants councillors can submit an Area Board/Councillor Led Initiative. This enables area boards to tackle sticky community issues and/or community identified priorities. Cabinet have emphasised that they do not wish these to be used to avoid complying with Community Area Grant criteria or for filling gaps where there are council service shortfalls.
- 1.7. In support of the Olympic and Paralympic legacy, in 2013/14 the Pewsey area board invites applications that encourage young people and people with disabilities to become more actively involved in sports, outdoor activities, recreation, arts and volunteering
- 1.8. Applications of up to and including £500 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £501 - £5,000 will be required to find matched funding. The area board will rarely award more than £5,000. Grants of up to £500 are available for Digital Literacy projects.
- 1.9. New for 2013/14 is a single on-line application process for Community Area Grants (CAG) and Digital Literacy grants, introduced to provide an easy step by step application process. The application process and funding criteria can be found [here](#).

- 1.10. Area boards will not consider CAG 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.
- 1.11. Officers are required to provide recommendations in their funding reports (except in the case of Area Board/Councillor led initiatives), although the decision to support applications is made by Wiltshire councillors on the area board.
- 1.12. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.13. All recipients of area board funding are expected to complete an evaluation form as soon as the project has been completed and provide receipts if requested. Groups are encouraged to up-load information and photographs about their project on to their area board [blogsite \(pewsey.ourcommunitymatters.org.uk\)](http://pewsey.ourcommunitymatters.org.uk). Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

<p><b>Background documents used in the preparation of this report</b></p>	<p><u>Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2013/14 as approved by delegated decision</u></p> <p>Pewsey Community Area Plan <a href="http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/adopted-pewsey-ca-plan-2011-new-intro.pdf">http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/adopted-pewsey-ca-plan-2011-new-intro.pdf</a></p> <p>Outcome of 2012 Pewsey JSA event <a href="http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/notes-from-discussion-groups-pewsey-forward.pdf">http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/notes-from-discussion-groups-pewsey-forward.pdf</a></p>
---	--

## 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Pewsey Area Board has been allocated a 2013/2014 budget of **£49,132** that may be allocated through Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants, Area Board/Councillor Led Initiatives and core funding for the CAP.
- 2.2. Councillors will need to ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation outlined in Section 1 of this report.
- 2.3. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in 2013/2014 are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.4. There are now three funding rounds remaining (including this one) during 2013/14. Deadlines for receipt of funding applications are as follows:

- Friday 29 December 2013 for determination at the 13 January 2014 area board meeting
  - 31 January for determination at the 10 March 2014 area board meeting.
- 2.5. On 9 May 2011 it was agreed that in respect of urgent matters and exceptional circumstances that may arise from time to time between meetings that the Pewsey Community Area Manager, in consultation with the Councillors of the Pewsey Area Board, be granted delegated authority to approve expenditure not exceeding £500 from the Pewsey Area Board budget. A report explaining any such decision and the reasons why it was considered to be urgent shall be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the Pewsey Area Board.

### **3. Environmental & Community Implications**

- 3.1. Area Board Grants 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 Pewsey Area Board.
- 4.2. If all grants are awarded Pewsey area board will have a balance of **£15,123 (£13,823 if the Community First application is approved)**. The budget is made up of Capital, Revenue and Digital Literacy 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 will give local community and voluntary groups, town and parish council's equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes, where they meet the funding criteria.
- 7.2. Implications relating to individual grant applications will be outlined in section 8, "Officer Recommendations" of the funding report.

## 8. Officer Recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Grafton Parish Council	Rejuvenation of Wilton Pond	£1,591 (capital)

- 8.1.1. It is the Officers recommendation that an award of £1,591 towards the project be considered for approval.
- 8.1.2. This application meets the grant criteria 2013/14. The applicant is the parish council who are coordinating and leading the project, they are not wholly responsible for the pond and are therefore eligible to apply to the area board in this case.
- 8.1.3. The total project costs are £7,964. The remainder of the funding has been confirmed and is coming from North Wessex Downs AONB Sustainable Development Fund, and volunteer time (32 days manual labour).
- 8.1.4. The wild ducks, water voles, pond insect life and fish which once lived in and on the pond no longer do so. The silt deposits need pumping out and the depth of water in the pond needs to be increased to improve the environment for the pond life and aquatic birds. Advice has been sought, and permission to deposit the silt on local farmland has been obtained from the Environment Agency. The local Community have offered to help with the manual work and the necessary support facilities.
- 8.1.5. The last adopted Pewsey Community Area Plan lists the need to support natural wildlife.
- 8.1.6. The Parish Council are leading the local community Pond Rejuvenation Project and have to date received signatures supporting their plans from 453 local residents and 280 visitors to the area.
- 8.1.7. Wildlife will benefit - the goal is that wild ducks will return to the pond, and by increasing the water depth this will enable water voles to live in the banks and a wider spectrum of pond life, amphibians and fish will live in the rejuvenated pond. To encourage this, plantings around the pond will be done following the silt removal.
- 8.1.8. Visitors will be able to stop and enjoy the spring fed pond rather than just walking past it. The pond is on the circular walk from Wilton Windmill to Crofton via the Roman road and Wilton Water and this project will enhance the pleasurable experience of visitors to this part of the Pewsey Vale.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Little Bedwyn Parochial Church Council	Re-gilding of Little Bedwyn Village Clock	£1,000 (capital)

8.2.1. It is the Officers recommendation that an award of £1,000 towards this project be considered for approval on condition that all of the match funding is in place before the money is released.

8.2.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14.

8.2.3. The total project costs are £4,225. Funding has been confirmed from the parochial Church Council of £1,000 and village residents donations of £725. Parish Council have been asked for £500 (unconfirmed), and the SW Farmer Trust £1,000 (unconfirmed).

8.2.4. The clock has been marking the time in Little Bedwyn since 1905. The PCC is the custodian of the clock. The gilding on the clock face has not been renewed for over 25 years and is so faded that some of the figures are no longer visible. The quote from the original makers of the clock, Smiths of Derby, is £2796 Scaffolding is £725. Total including VAT is £4225.

8.2.5. This year the PCC is facing the following exceptional guarantees and expenditures: Contributing to and underwriting the bells restoration project; Fitting a roof alarm to counter theft of lead; carrying out a Quinquennial inspection of the church, and the repairs and maintenance that will arise.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Pewsey and Marlborough Judo Club	Purchase of new mats	£441 (capital)

8.3.1. It is the Officers recommendation that an award of £441 for this project be considered for approval.

8.3.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14.

8.3.3. The total project costs are £883. The Judo Club is providing the match funding.

8.3.4. Pewsey and Marlborough Judo Club has been dedicated to teaching and practicing the art of judo for over 40 years .The main catchment area is in the Vale of Pewsey and Marlborough area and includes the surrounding villages.

- 8.3.5 The last adopted Pewsey Community Area Plan lists the need to improve sports, leisure and play facilities.
- 8.3.6 The club has been operating since the 1950's originally in a pub function room and then at Marlborough college gym. In 1988 the college increased the rent to such a level that the club was forced to seek a new home and fortunately ended up at Pewsey Sports Centre and has continued at this venue ever since and added Pewsey to the club's name. It is very much a Pewsey community club.
- 8.3.7 The club has a current membership of thirty two members ranging in age from 5 years to 65 years. The club actively supports Wiltshire Councils Sportivate Project that enables young people to sample alternative sports other than those offered in the school curriculum or youth club environment this has also led to increased membership. 21 of the Club's members are residents in the Pewsey area and six reside in the Marlborough Area plus two from the Devizes area and one from the Southampton area there are also members who are currently working in America or China or the local service personnel who on occasions use the club.
- 8.3.8 As a legacy of the 2012 Olympics there has been an upsurge of interest in Judo by both the young and not so young and the club wish to expand its current mat area that has become a limited factor in welcoming new members.
- 8.3.9 The club is seeking to purchase 16 new mats at the cost of £883.30 to allow for expanded membership.
- 8.3.10 The club's funds are modest and are used to provide insurance and membership of the governing body (the British Judo Association) and to cover the hire cost at Pewsey Leisure Centre. The club's coaches provide their time voluntarily and pay the same subscription as do all members. The club also supports young people who are struggling.
- 8.3.11 The club has been operating for the last 40 years and up until this point has been self funding. The purchase of replacement and extra mats to cope with increased membership which will increase the club's ability to be self funding.

Ref	Applicant	Project Proposal	Funding requested
8.4	Alton Barnes Coronation Hall Committee	Coronation Hall IT project	£770 (digital literacy)

- 8.4.1 It is the Officer's recommendation that an award of £770 towards this project be considered for approval.
- 8.4.2 This application meets grant criteria 2013/14.

- 8.4.3 The total project costs are £1,527. The remainder of the funding is coming from reserves.
- 8.4.4 The project (including costs) include:-BT Broadband Monthly Charge £16.00, however first 6 Months are free. BT Line Rental Monthly Charge £15.45 or an Annual advance payment of £141.00 BT Line Installation £130 but appears to attract a £130 discount so is free. Ceiling mounted High Definition Digital Projector £819.00 PA System £250.00 (Indicative Cost) Projector Screen £125.00 (Indicative Cost)
- 8.4.5 The local community will benefit: whether it be specific societies who do illustrated lectures; or entertainment for elderly people's clubs or children's parties; or whole parish events held during the year; or local business or commercial interests.

Ref	Applicant	Project Proposal	Funding Requested
8.5	Great Bedwyn Youth Club	'Have a Go' Sports Activities	£375 (revenue)

- 8.5.1 It is the Officers recommendation that an award of £375 for this project be considered for approval.
- 8.5.2 This application meets grant criteria 2013/14.
- 8.5.3 The total project costs are £375
- 8.5.4 This project will provide 7 sports sessions throughout the year.
- 8.5.5 The youth club holds very little money for projects as it is a voluntary group which relies entirely on funding applications and fundraising.
- 8.5.6 There are currently 30 young people attending the sessions provided weekly in the village. This is the only youth provision in the village. It is expected that all of them will participate in at least one session and are confident that at least half will take part in all sessions
- 8.5.7 Monitoring will take place through signing in sheets, photographs and observations
- 8.5.8 The latest adopted Pewsey Community Area Plan lists the need for activities for young people.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.6	Community First	A Winter's Journey – funding for Good Neighbour Scheme support to elderly people through the winter months	£1,300 (revenue)



- 8.6.1 This application is for an additional service to be provided by the local Good Neighbour Scheme Coordinator, designed to help older vulnerable people stay warm, well and safe during the winter months across the Pewsey Community Area.
- 8.6.2 This application does not meet the grant criteria 2013/14 as it is providing a salary to increase the role of the local Good Neighbour Scheme Coordinator between November 2013 and March 2014.
- 8.6.3 If members decide to award the funding, there will be no further revenue available for any future projects from the area board. (It only had a limited amount at the beginning of the year).
- 8.6.4 The last adopted Pewsey Community Area Plan (2011) lists the need to care for older people and vulnerable people in the winter months.
- 8.6.5 The project will support about 200 older people through presentations and publicity with intensive support to an additional 10 older, vulnerable people in the area to ensure that they can stay warm, healthy and engaged at a time when they are at their most vulnerable.
- 8.6.6 Practical support will be provided which might include how they can save money on their energy bills including giving plenty of practical energy saving tips for around the house. Regular follow up is provided which might include essential shopping during bad weather and organising transport for medical appointments.
- 8.6.7 Promotional activity throughout the community area will highlight the importance of staying warm, well and active which will be targeted specifically to the over 60's. Through a combination of presentations at local clubs and events and articles in local publications, information and advice about staying warm and healthy and who to contact for additional support will be provided.
- 8.6.8 This is a piece of work that is delivered in addition to the core Wiltshire Good Neighbour Service. The core service is an information and signposting service that provides older people with a friendly and approachable first point of contact within their community. They are able to identify those in need and visit clients in their own homes, listen to what they have to say, and identify which organisations can best suit their needs. Once their needs have been addressed the Good Neighbour Scheme steps back. This project goes several steps beyond this core service and directly provides clients with practical help and support.
- 8.6.9 Without the additional funding this additional support will not be delivered.

<b>Appendices</b>	Appendix 1 Grant Application –
-------------------	--------------------------------

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report other than those requested in the funding criteria e.g. estimates.

<b>Report Author</b>	Caroline Brailey, Pewsey Community Area Manager Tel: 01225 718609 E-mail: <a href="mailto:caroline.brailey@wiltshire.gov.uk">caroline.brailey@wiltshire.gov.uk</a>
----------------------	--