

Report to	Marlborough Area Board
Date of Meeting	20 May 2014
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider officer recommendations in respect to:

1. **Ramsbury Recreation Centre** – requested £3,000 towards construction of a new machinery store. Recommendation: Meets criteria.
2. **Ogbourne St George and St Andrew C of E VC Primary School** – Requested £3,482 towards updating and refreshing the outdoor play facilities at the school. Recommendation: Meets criteria.
3. **Marlborough Cricket Club** – requested £5,000 towards purchasing new gang mowers for the cricket pitch outfield. Recommendation: Meets criteria.
4. **MinalPlay** – requested £5,000 towards installing new outdoor gym / fitness equipment in the village. Recommendation – Meets criteria.
5. **Marlborough Rugby Football Club** – requested £4,000 towards an extension of the social space in the club. Recommendation – Meets criteria.

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. Links to these electronic documents can be found below.
- 1.5. Marlborough Area Board has been allocated a 2014/2015 budget of **£41,691.57** for community area grants, digital literacy grants, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives. This figure is lower than in previous years.
- 1.6. This figure is made up of £35,437.57 of Capital funding and £6,254 of Revenue funding. Grants awarded during 2014/15 will be allocated either Capital or Revenue funding.
- 1.7. 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.
- 1.8. In support of the Olympic and Paralympic legacy, in 2014/15 the Marlborough 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.
- 1.9. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1,001 - £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.
- 1.10. There will still be 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](#).

- 1.11. 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.
- 1.12. 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. This recommendation will be to confirm if the application meets the criteria of the grant scheme or not.
- 1.13. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.14. 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](#). Recipients of grants are also asked to come back to future area board meetings to provide a verbal update on their project to spread good practice and encourage other applicants. Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	<u>Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2013/14 as approved by delegated decision</u>
	<u>Marlborough Community Area Plan, 2012-17</u>
	<u>Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Marlborough, 2013</u>

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Marlborough Area Board has been allocated a 2014/2015 budget of **£41,691.57** that may be allocated through Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants, Area Board / Councillor Led Initiatives.
- 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 2014/2015 are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being

made.

2.4. There six funding rounds during 2014/15, including this meeting. Deadlines for receipt of funding applications to be considered at future area board meetings are as follows:

- **5 May 2014 for consideration on 20 May 2014**
- **7 July 2014 for consideration on 22 July 2014**
- **15 September 2014 for consideration on 30 September 2014**
- **10 November 2014 for consideration on 25 November 2014**
- **12 January 2015 for consideration on 27 January 2015**
- **9 March 2015 for consideration on 24 March 2015**

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 Marlborough Area Board.

4.2. Marlborough Area Board has received applications for projects totalling **£20,482**. These are all allocated as Capital costs. The area board will need to be aware that if all applications are awarded at this meeting, it will have just £14,955.57 of Capital funding remaining for the rest of the financial year.

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	Recommendation
8.1.	Ramsbury Recreation Centre	Construction of a new machinery store.	£3,000	Meets Criteria

- 8.1.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.1.2. This application is to help provide a new store for much of the machinery needed to maintain the 13 acres of land belonging to the Recreation Centre. By keeping this type of machinery in a store or garage, this project will help to protect it from the elements, thereby helping to keep the equipment in good working order for longer. In turn, this will help to reduce the servicing costs incurred by the recreation centre and mean they will not need to be replaced so soon.
- 8.1.3. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including access to sports facilities and recreation facilities & amenities for young people (p.10-11); sports & leisure facilities (p. 18).
- 8.1.4. This application meets priorities that were raised by the JSA document and discussions from March 2014. These include “improving young people’s access to community sports activities” and “increased awareness of existing opportunities in sport and physical activity”.
- 8.1.5. Marlborough Area Board has not previously funded Ramsbury Recreation Centre. A considerable proportion of the funding for this project comes from the applicant’s own funds, showing their commitment to it.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.2.	Ogbourne St George and St Andrew School Parents Supporter Assoc.	Outdoor Equipment for Young Children	£3,482	Meets Criteria

- 8.2.1. This application is the second part of a project looked at during the March 2014 area board meeting.
- 8.2.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.2.3. The School’s Parent Supporter’s Association aims to improve the outdoor

facilities available to younger children in the community. They will be including sensory and creative play areas, a reflection area and a role play centre. The facilities will be based at the primary school but are available to village children outside of school hours as well.

- 8.2.4. The village children will benefit from these planned improvements as the school already allows local children to use their site in and out of school hours. These improved resources will link to the Marlborough Area Plan's aim to address the deficiency of suitable recreational facilities aimed at specific age groups. Parents and children do use the school site as there is a lack of facilities within the village and this project will enhance the rather basic facilities available at school. The Little Dragons Pre School also have access to the school's facilities throughout the year
- 8.2.5. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including provision of safe social facilities for young people, recreation facilities and amenities for young people (p. 11) and lack of local entertainment & cultural facilities (p. 18).
- 8.2.6. This project is the second part of an application previously looked at by Marlborough Area Board in March 2014. £1,018 was awarded which was the total funds remaining for that financial year. An offer of further funding in the new financial year was made. This application is for the remainder of that overall figure.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.3.	Marlborough Cricket Club	Purchase of new gang mowers	£5,000	Meets Criteria

- 8.3.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.3.2. Marlborough Cricket Club has previous used second hand mowers for a number of years to maintain their two pitches. These have now come to the end of their working lives and need to be replaced. Specialist mowers are important in keeping the cricket pitch to a high standard which is a job carried out by the club's own Groundsman and volunteers from the club.
- 8.3.3. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including access to sports facilities and recreation facilities & amenities for young people (p.10-11); sports & leisure facilities (p. 18).
- 8.3.4. This application meets priorities that were raised by the JSA document and discussions from March 2014. These include "improving young people's access to community sports activities" and "increased awareness of existing opportunities in sport and physical activity". The application also supports volunteering activities through the work of volunteer coaches and administrators committed to running and helping the club. The club also contributes to improving the health and well-being of children, young

people and local residents.

- 8.3.5. Marlborough Area Board has not previously funded Marlborough Cricket Club before. A large proportion of the total funding for the project, over 50%, comes from the club's own fund-raising activities showing their commitment to the project.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.4.	Marlborough Rugby Football Club	Alterations to the social area of the clubhouse	£4,000	Meets Criteria

- 8.4.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department. However, Marlborough Area Board members are minded to defer this application until the consultation over the extension of the clubhouse is carried out and there is a clearer picture of the future of the clubhouse and the activities that happen there. This is to give the area board more confidence in releasing any funding to the club.
- 8.4.2. Marlborough RFC is a growing sports club with a vibrant junior section (U6 to U17). Junior membership has increased from 118 in 2006-2007 to 323 this year. Junior members of the club will benefit from an improvement to the social space. There will be more room to congregate before and after matches and training and parents will benefit from better facilities while their children are training and playing.
- 8.4.3. All ability groups are welcome at the rugby club. In addition to the rugby club, other sports clubs are able to make use of the club house. They will also benefit from access to improved social spaces. In particular, Marlborough Youth Football Club uses the clubhouse. The club house is available to hire by local charities, voluntary groups etc at attractive rates. They too will be able to benefit from the improvements made.
- 8.4.4. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including access to sports facilities and recreation facilities & amenities for young people (p.10-11); sports & leisure facilities (p. 18) and lack of meeting spaces for small clubs, theme groups and societies, (p 18).
- 8.4.5. This application meets priorities that were raised by the JSA document and discussions from March 2014. These include "improving young people's access to community sports activities" and "increased awareness of existing opportunities in sport and physical activity". The application also supports volunteering activities through the work of volunteer coaches and administrators committed to running and helping the club. The club also contributes to improving the health and well-being of children, young people and local residents.
- 8.4.6. Marlborough Area Board has not previously funded Marlborough RFC. This

project is supported by Wiltshire Council's Sports Development Officer. It is part of a move by the Rugby Football Union (the governing body) to encourage more social space at rugby clubs to increase the social aspect of the sport and to increase the profitability of individual clubs and thus their sustainability. This project is part of a bigger development intended to increase the footprint of the club and increase changing facilities.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.5.	MinalPlay	New outdoor gym equipment	£5,000	Meets Criteria

- 8.5.1. Officers recommend that MinalPlay is awarded £5,000 towards the costs of installing new outdoor gym and fitness equipment at the playground site within the village.
- 8.5.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.5.3. As part of a much larger project to install new play equipment for the village's playgrounds, MinalPlay now wish to install new outdoor gym equipment for use by older children and adults. Feedback gathered from consultation within the village, which was used to determine what was wanted by younger children, showed there was an appetite amongst older residents for fitness equipment that all could use.
- 8.5.4. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including access to sports facilities (p. 10), recreation facilities and amenities for young people, provision of safe social facilities for young people (p. 11) and sports and leisure facilities (p. 18).
- 8.5.5. This application meets priorities that were raised by the JSA document and discussions from March 2014. These include "improving young people's access to community sports activities" and "increased awareness of existing opportunities in sport and physical activity". It also meets priorities raised by data gathered in the What Matters To You survey that shows that a large proportion (46.3%) of residents from the community area would like to do more physical exercise and 56.2% said they would like to lose some weight.
- 8.5.6. In November 2013, Marlborough Area Board awarded £5,000 to MinalPlay towards to installation of new play equipment for younger children at the village playground. This application is part of the same overall project to re-develop recreation facilities for the village

Appendices	Appendix 1 Grant Application – Ramsbury Recreation Centre Appendix 2 Grant Application – Ogbourne St George & St Andrew School Appendix 3 Grant Application – Marlborough Cricket Club Appendix 4 Grant Application – Marlborough RFC Appendix 5 Grant Application – MinalPlay
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report other than those requested in the funding criteria e.g. estimates.

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