

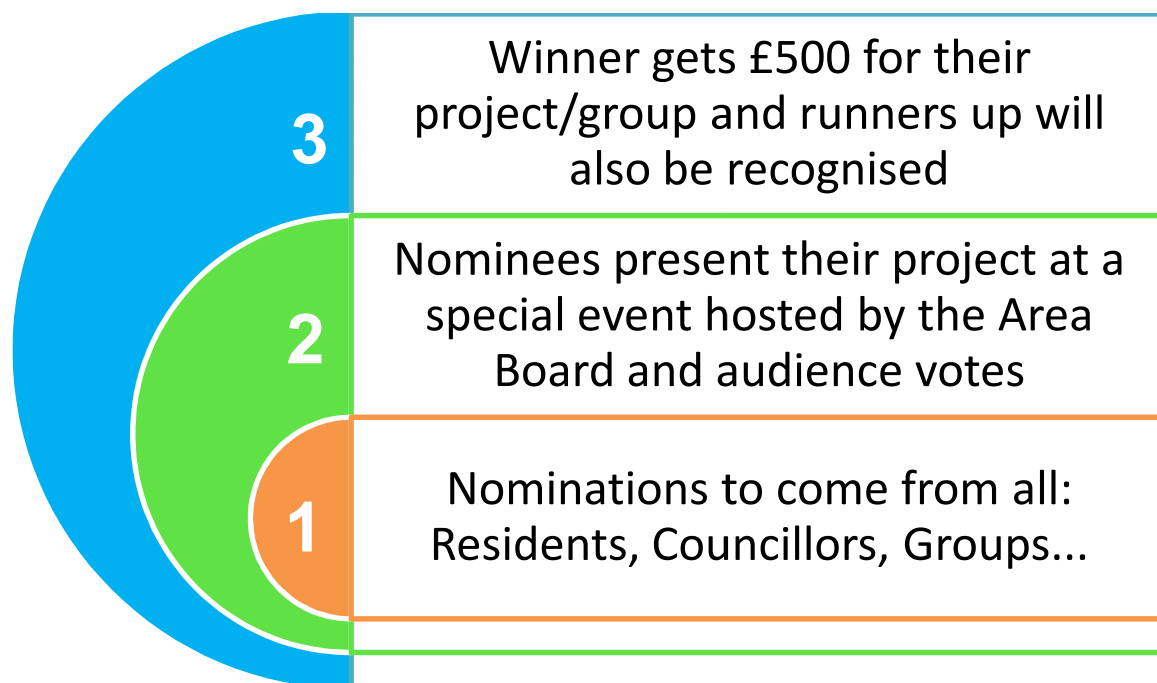
## Item 17 - Community Awards for Southern Wiltshire

### *Recognising the vitality of our community groups*

In 2012/13, as part of our theme of Volunteering, we awarded 4 nominated community groups £50 each and presented them with a certificate. We think that celebrating the fantastic contribution made to community life by individual volunteers and groups is really important so we would like to make Community Awards a fixed annual feature of the Area Board's programme.

We want to use our Awards process to further the way we engage with communities using a participatory budgeting\* approach as follows:

#### **In summary:**



#### **\*What is Participatory Budgeting?**

Participatory Budgeting (PB) involves local people in deciding how a defined portion of public resources will be allocated. It attempts to ensure that public spending is consistent with citizens' needs and priorities.

#### **Community Awards for Southern Wiltshire**

Community Awards are a great way to recognise the really important work of community groups across our area.

Our proposed approach will provide the community with a chance to come together, share ideas and celebrate the hard work that our communities put in to make this area the great place it is.

#### ***Nominations will be accepted for projects or groups that:***

- Can demonstrate real, tangible community benefits
- Bring people together to give up their time for the local community
- Have achieved particular success in the last few years or have been working towards a new project in the near future
- Have a constitution and bank account
- Are able to give a presentation at the event hosted by the Area Board

#### ***What's on offer for successful projects:***

The winner will receive £500 for their community group. There will be a smaller prize for runners up. A more detailed allocation will be decided nearer the time.

The Area Board is asked to set aside £1500 revenue funding for 2014/15: £500 for event costs such as hall booking and refreshments; £1000 to be available to the successful community groups. It is also asked to consider holding a special event in January 2015.

Funding implications are set out in the Community Grant report.