

Report to	Calne Area Board
Date of Meeting	9th December 2014
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider:

1. An application from Goatacre Telephone Box Repair Group for £600.00 capital funding towards refurbishment and conversion of a former public telephone box as a community information point and book exchange.
2. An application from Jack & Jill Preschool for £2490.00 capital funding towards an interactive SMART table.
3. An application from the Calne Community Area Partnership for £950.00 capital funding towards improved access and security at the Community Hub.

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve funding under delegated powers. Under the Scheme of Delegation area boards must adhere to the [area board funding criteria and guidance 2014/15](#).
- 1.2. Key aspects of the 2014/15 criteria include:
 - The decision to support a funding application and to what level will be the decision of the area board, with no officer recommendation.
 - Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding, however the area board will look more positively on applicants where they are able to contribute some funding towards their project.
 - Amounts of £1,001 - £5,000 will be required to find matched funding.
 - The area board will rarely award more than £5,000.
 - Calne Area Board's Community Area Grants scheme will be for capital projects only.

- The area board will prioritise funding to projects which address the 3 priorities identified by local people under the JSA 2013 -2015 as top areas for the community and area board attention during the coming year.
 - Increase employment opportunities (especially through initiatives like apprenticeships and work experience) and social activities for and in consultation with young people.
 - Recognise and address child poverty and childhood obesity.
 - Build a positive reputation for Calne Community Area to attract more visitors to venues and events.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any decision of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria would need to demonstrate that the application in question has a wider community benefit, and give specific reasons why this should justify an exception to the criteria which must be minuted.
 - 1.4. 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 has emphasised it does not wish these to be used to avoid complying with Community Area Grant criteria or for filling gaps where there are council service shortfalls.
 - 1.5. There will only 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.](#)
 - 1.6. Funding will be considered at every area board and these dates including the [deadline for receipt of applications can be found on the Calne area board webpage.](#)
 - 1.7. There is 1 further funding round remaining during 2014/15. Deadline for receipt of funding applications is as follows:
 - 16 December 2014 for consideration at 3 February 2015 area board meeting
 - 1.8. Within the capital budget, £1,500 capital is ring-fenced for digital literacy grants of up to £500 each.
 - 1.9. Calne Area Board was allocated a budget of £38,536.98 capital funding and £6800.64 revenue in 2014/2015.
 - 1.10. Following decisions made in this financial year, the area board current balance is £30,598.98 capital and £600.64 revenue.

Background documents used this report	Area Board Community Area Grant Scheme and Digital Literacy Grants – information and funding criteria 2014/15
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that funding awarded by the area board satisfy [2014/15 area board funding criteria](#) and financial regulations of the council and can proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. On 3 June, Calne area board agreed to prioritise three themes from the 2013-15 Joint Strategic Assessment, which had been highlighted at the 'What Matters to You', event held in March. These were to:
 - Increase employment opportunities (especially through initiatives like apprenticeships and work experience) and social activities for and in consultation with young people.
 - Recognise and address child poverty and childhood obesity.
 - Build a positive reputation for Calne Community Area to attract more visitors to venues and events.

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 Calne Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded as outlined in this report, Calne area board will have a capital balance of **£26,558.98** and a revenue balance of **£600.64**.

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 and Small 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, of the funding report.

8. Applications for Consideration

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Goatacre Telephone Box Repair Group.	Refurbishment of public telephone box as a community information point and book exchange. (appendix 1)	£600 capital

- 8.1.1. This application meets the grant criteria 2014/15.
- 8.1.2. The project will provide local people with opportunities to feel part of the village community, and will further attempts to combat social isolation in the rural community.
- 8.1.3. Local people will be encouraged to maintain the facility as a landmark.
- 8.1.4. A similar project has been implemented in Hilmarton and appears to be a popular and successful initiative.
- 8.1.5. The application is seeking approximately 40% of the costs of the project; and it should be noted that in kind offers of voluntary help are included within the contribution of the group.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Jack and Jill Preschool.	To provide an interactive SMART table for the use of the preschool children and their families.	£2490 capital

- 8.2.1. This application meets the community area grant criteria 2014/15.
- 8.2.2. It also meets the Digital Literacy grant criteria 2014/15
- 8.2.3. The SMART table is a piece of interactive learning equipment that can be used by multiple people at the same time. It encourages the development of computer skills, problem solving and collaborative learning/play from an early age.
- 8.2.4. Members may wish to consider that there are a number of preschools in the community area who may benefit from this kind of equipment and if all pre-schools in the community area were to receive funding for similar projects, it could represent a major expenditure for the area board.
- 8.2.5. This pre-school includes the most deprived wards within its catchment area and the applicant intends to encourage the children and their families, to engage with opportunities to interact with modern technology, and enjoy playing and learning activities together. This will also encourage parents to engage more with their children's development.

- 8.2.6. As such the project addresses one of the 3 main community identified JSA priorities that the area board has resolved to target. (Recognise child poverty and childhood obesity and engage with parents to address it).
- 8.2.7. The Jack and Jill pre-school is a charity and is allocating £2490 towards the project.
- 8.2.8. If Members decide to make an award to this project, it would represent 50% of the total project costs.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Calne Community Area Partnership	To improve access and security at the Hub	£950.000 capital

- 8.3.1. This application meets the grant criteria 2014/15.
- 8.3.2. The Hub is a Community facility that is managed, maintained and facilitated by a group of enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers.
- 8.3.3. The Area Board has been involved and has supported the Hub since the pilot project in 2009. It is regularly used to promote and facilitate the work of the area board and Wiltshire Council and offers a free venue for its working groups, officers and members to progress their work.
- 8.3.4. In addition the Hub has become an important facility for a wide range of local people attending the venue for clubs, classes, advice and information, a friendly chat and a cup of tea as well as a shop window for the extensive range of local events and activities organised by local groups, the Community Area Partnership and its JSA themed groups.
- 8.3.5. Local demand for the Hub has resulted in it being made available to local groups outside of normal opening hours and has led to a complicated and inefficient arrangement of collecting keys in advance of use or of volunteers making out of their way journeys to provide access.
- 8.3.6. The Hub management group has reviewed access and security arrangements and identified a number of improvements including the provision of a new and more secure front door to the Hub, which will also improve energy efficiency.
- 8.3.7. The project will also provide key safes that will be located outside the building, secured with a combination lock. The combination will be changed regularly and users will be provided with the correct code remotely, prior to their arrival.
- 8.3.8. If Members decide to make an award to this project, it would represent 100% of the total project costs.

Appendices	Appendix 1 – Grant applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Calne Community Partnership application• Goatacre Phone box application• Jack and Jill SMART table application
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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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