

Report to	Pewsey Area Board
Date of Meeting	6 September 2010
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider five applications seeking 20010/11 Community Area Grant Funding.

1. Pewsey Vale Ladies Netball Club - Start up costs. Seeking £1,000. Recommended for approval.
2. Marden Village Hall - Replacement Oil Tank. Seeking £1,501. Recommended for approval.
3. Sunflowers Pre-School - Play equipment. Seeking £981. Recommended for approval.
4. Wootton Rivers Village Hall – Replacement Ceiling Tiles. Seeking £1,895. Recommended for approval.
5. Great Bedwyn School Association – To build a community room accessible to the public of out school hours. Seeking £5,000. Recommended for refusal.

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 (27 February 2010). 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 recommendation of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the Leader, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Cabinet.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, however, the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.4. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting (providing there is money available).
- 1.5. Pewsey Area Board has been allocated a 2010/2011 budget of £44,949 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives. The carry forward from the 2009/2010 budget is £38. This gives a total budget of £44,987 for 2010/2011. At the last meeting the Area Board approved grants totalling £6,731 which leaves a total budget of £33,090.
- 1.6. A decision has been made in 2010/2011 that 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.
- 1.7. The 2010/2011 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Area Grant Application Pack 20010/11• Pewsey Community Area Plan
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2010/11 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be six rounds of funding during 20010/11. The third is contained in this report the remaining will take place on;

- 22 November 2010
- 10 January 2011
- 7 March 2011

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 Pewsey Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Pewsey Area Board will have a balance of £27,713.

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 (59)	Pewsey Vale Ladies Netball Club	Setting up of Ladies Netball Club to include purchase of kit, registration and affiliation	£1,000

- 8.1.1. Officer recommendation is that this application be approved
- 8.1.2. The application meets grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.1.3. The application demonstrates a link to the (2009/10) Community Plan on page 15

increasing levels of obesity; page 26 closure of leisure centre, p26 improving sports and leisure facilities, p29 lack of activities for older children and young adults.

- 8.1.4. The applicant is Pewsey Vale Ladies Netball Club, which is managed by a committee of volunteers.
- 8.1.5. The project is to provide playing kit and registration costs.
- 8.1.6. The project allows females to have a chance to socialise outside of work and home life. Personal costs will be kept to a minimum in order that low income females are not excluded.
- 8.1.7. If the Area Board made the decision not to fund the project then the club would not be able to join the league.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2. (49)	Marden Village Hall	To replace and move the existing heating oil tank to comply with regulations	£1,501

- 8.2.1. Officer recommendation is that this application be approved.
- 8.2.2. The application meets grant criteria 2010/11.
- 8.2.3. The application doesn't demonstrate a specific link to the Pewsey Community Area Plan but it is recognised that village halls are part of the fabric of local communities, and a vital resource for local people for recreation, social events, meetings etc, much of which is included in the Pewsey Community Area Plan. Village halls help to facilitate many of the objectives of the Plan.
- 8.2.4. The applicant is Marden Village Hall Committee which is providing £1,501 match funding.
- 8.2.5. The project is for the removal and replacement of the existing heating oil tank to comply with current regulations. A recent heating inspection has confirmed that the existing tank is too close to the building and is not bunded. It is also within 10 metres of controlled water.
- 8.2.6. The project will ensure the continued availability of the hall as a village asset with all that it offers.
- 8.2.7. If the Area Board decided not to approve this application the applicant would have to consider if it went ahead or not as they need to be prudent about future income and anticipated expenditure as is the case with assets such as buildings. The applicant does have a relatively high level of reserves which are understood to be used in the future for refurbishment of the building and car park.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3. (53)	Sunflowers Preschool, Grafton	Play equipment	£981

- 8.3.1 Officer Recommendation is that this application be approved.
- 8.3.2 The application meets grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.3.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan on page 22 – 5.6 – need to support parents in their parenting, page 23 5.8 – small primary schools under pressure and page 28, 6.13 – the need for more people in communities to engage in volunteering.
- 8.3.4 The applicant is the Sunflowers Preschool which is a not for profit organisation managed by a voluntary committee.
- 8.3.5 The project is for play equipment to meet the needs of the increased numbers of children.
- 8.3.6 Sunflowers Preschool extends the range of childrens' services available in Grafton parish and ensures that Grafton is a thriving and resilient community in its own right, rather than merely being a dormitory community to neighbouring towns and village.
- 8.3.7 If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project it is unlikely to proceed, the pre school experience would be less attractive and parents may consider pre-schools and nurseries outside of the village.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4. (43)	Wootton Rivers Village Hall	To replace suspended ceiling tiles with new insulated tiles and to replace lights and install convector heater in toilet	£1,895

- 8.4.1. Officer Recommendation is that this application be approved.
- 8.4.2. The application meets grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.4.3. The application doesn't demonstrate a specific link to the Pewsey Community Area Plan but it is recognised that village halls are part of the fabric of local communities, and a vital resource for local people for recreation, social events, meetings etc, much of which is included in the Pewsey Community Area Plan. Village halls help to facilitate many of the objectives of the Plan.
- 8.4.4. The applicant is Wootton Rivers Village Hall Committee, a not for profit

organisation who is contributing £1,895 match funding (total project cost £3,790)

- 8.4.5. The project is to replace existing suspended ceiling tiles with new insulated tiles to improve insulation. To replace existing lighting with more cost efficient, environmentally friendly recessed luminaires plus spot lights for occasional use and install convector heater in family toilet.
- 8.4.6. The village hall facilities are for the benefit of all. The village hall provides the ideal community meeting place for many types of activity thereby assisting all good community activities and relations.
- 8.4.7. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project it will take much longer to raise the funds through other activities. There is already quite a pull on the committee's financial resources to cover other maintenance work.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5. (47)	Great Bedwyn School Association	To build a room which will be accessible to the public out of school hours	£5,000

- 8.5.1. Officer Recommendation is that this application be refused.
- 8.5.2. The application would only meet the community area grant criteria 2010/11 if it demonstrated wider community benefit. Schools and Parent, Teachers Association's, unless demonstrating a wide community benefit, are not eligible to apply for Community Area Grants.
- 8.5.3. There is no identified link to the community plan.
- 8.5.4. There is a village hall within Great Bedwyn, together with the Royal British Legion which has bookable meeting space, and which has already received funding for refurbishment from the Pewsey Area Board.
- 8.5.5. The application states that that the room is needed, a demanded facility, and an aspiration that the Parish Council have been seeking – the application also states that the facility is high on the priority table for the Parish Council. However the formal response from the Parish Council is that “whilst the proposed room could be useful to the village there are concerns amongst some councillors that its availability could detract from the business generated by letting rooms at the Royal British Legion”.
- 8.5.6. The room would be available out of school hours only – therefore if this grant were to be approved it would be subsidising education provision, which is against the funding criteria. Members would need to feel satisfied that the community benefit is greater than the school's use. The applicant states that the room would be available for the equivalent of 104 days per year. The use of the room would be chargeable.

- 8.5.7. In order to make best use of contractors and specialists it is intended that the community room will be built concurrently to works at the school which is replacing a mobile classroom structure with a new classroom and facilities. This will allow the remainder of the school to be linked to the community room and classroom extension whilst the design will allow independent and separate use (out of school hours).
- 8.5.8. The applicant is the Great Bedwyn School Association, a not for profit organisation. Wiltshire Council is contributing to the cost of a new classroom which is being built at the school.
- 8.5.9. There are letters of support from a football coach; a choir; an after school club; a French club; a piano teacher; a music teacher and an aerobics instructor.
- 8.5.10. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project the group have stated that they would not be able to fund the new room – applications to other sources of funding have not been successful.
- 8.5.11. The total project costs for the community room are listed as £81,264 – with provisional funding income of £51,286. It is not clear where this amount is from as the Association’s reserves are £5,236. Even with £5,000 from Pewsey Area Board there is a shortfall of £17,440 and the £51,286 is not confirmed.

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

Appendices (available online only)	Grant application forms
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