

Report to	Southern Area Board
Date of Meeting	29 January 2015
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

# **Purpose of Report**

To ask councillors to consider the following grant requests:

- 1. Farley Village Hall £774 for new curtains.
- 2. Boscombe Down Aviation Collection (based at Old Sarum Airfield) £996 for new metal frame to support the fuselage of one of the world's first passenger jet aircrafts Comet 2 "Sagittarius".
- 3. Old Sarum New Community Centre £5,000 for main hall equipment, set up and launch

# 1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance.
- 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 wish to link funding to local priorities, including those identified in their Community Plan, Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment and any other community based consultative work.
- 1.5. The community area grants budget has been approved for 2014/2015 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

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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. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which do 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.
- 1.8. A ring-fenced budget of £1,500 has been provided specifically for Digital Literacy Grants, although the area board may spend more. Up to £500 per project is available for capital projects.
- 1.9. There 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 provide advice on how the application meets with the scheme's criteria, but the decision to support applications is made by Amesbury area board councillors.
- 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 the Southern Wiltshire 'Our Community Matters' blogsite. Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

#### 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation outlined in Section 1 of this report.
- 2.2. 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.
- 2.3. This is the fifth funding round of the 2014/15 financial year.

Future rounds will take place as follows:

• 12 February for consideration on the 26 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 Southern Wiltshire Area Board. Capital Budget allocated in 2014/15 is £37,335.35, Revenue Budget is £6,588.59
- 4.2. If the grants are awarded Southern Area Board will have a balance £0 capital funds and £3368.59 revenue funds (£1,500 of this having previously been allocated to the community awards project).

## 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. Grant Requests

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Farley Village Hall Committee	To replace curtains with new fully functional ones which conform to all health and safety regulations	£774

- 8.1.1. The application has been appraised by the Community Area Manager and meets the grants criteria. The funding requested is to make a capital purchase of new curtains which meet all health and safety requirements and which are to replace some old, threadbare, non-blackout, non-flame retardant ones.
- 8.1.2 The hall is well used by a varied cross section of the community, including art

- groups, pilates club, village play school, church groups, gardening club and residents for parties and events.
- 8.1.3 The committee is unable to fully fund this from its reserves, as, due to its age (built circa 1900), it will require roof repairs and possible new flooring in the short to medium term.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Boscombe Down Aviation Collection Ltd	Aircraft Restoration – Comet C2 "Saggitarius"	£996

- 8.2.1. The application has been appraised by the Community Area Manager and meets the grants criteria. The funding requested is to contribute towards the production costs of a metal frame to support the fuselage of one of the world's first passenger jet aircraft. The support will enable volunteers to proceed with the restoration of the fuselage and subsequently allow visitors access using steps.
- 8.2.2. Boscombe Down Aviation Collection (BDAC) is now based at the Old Sarum Airfield and is establishing itself as a top visitor attraction this project will assist in further increasing visitor numbers to this attraction and to other attractions in the area.
- 8.2.3. Air Cadets from 1010 Squadron (Salisbury) and 1011 Squadron (Amesbury) are regular volunteers at the museum and will gain much practical experience from working on this iconic aeroplane. In addition we are seeing an increasing number of local residents volunteering at our museum which should assist in building a good community spirit in the Old Sarum area. Local School classes visit the museum and our trained guides explain the history behind the local airfields and aircraft and cockpits on display. To have an accessible Sagittarius will be an excellent hands-on addition to our exhibits and demonstrate what it was like to be on the flight-deck of an early jet airliner.
- 8.2.4. BDAC does not have sufficient funds in its reserves to fully pay for this project as it is still building reserves following its relocation to Old Sarum from Boscombe Down Airfield in 2012, which cost nearly £6,000.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Old Sarum Community Centre Interim Management Committee	Main Hall Equipment, Set up and Launch	£5,000

8.3.1. The application has been appraised by the Community Area Manager and meets the grants criteria, subject to confirmation of the ownership of the new Community Centre and any associated lease agreements. The new Community Centre is being built as an asset from the S106 funding from

Persimmon, and is keenly anticipated by many in the community as a very welcome facility.

8.3.2. The interim management committee is already building a list and diary of usage, to accommodate toddler groups, seniors groups, sport and fitness groups and other activities which the local community have expressed a need for. The building will also be promoted to host community events, parties, receptions and similar celebratory events.

• •	Appendix 1 – Farley Village Hall Appendix 2 – Boscombe Down Aviation Collection Appendix 3 – Old Sarum Community Centre

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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