

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Marlborough Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>24 March 2015</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Funding</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask councillors to consider officer recommendations in respect to:

1. **Marlborough Area Development Trust** – requested £5,000 towards WiFi Development for the Smart Town initiative. Recommendation: Meets criteria.
2. **Baydon Toddler Group** – requested £734 towards a new shed for storage of outdoor equipment and new play resources. Recommendation: Meets criteria
3. **Baydon Parish Council** – requested £200 towards replacement blackout blinds in BYPA hall. Recommendation: Meets criteria.
4. **Ramsbury Parochial Church Council** – requested £500 towards repairs to the churchyard lych-gate, Ramsbury. Recommendation: Meets criteria
5. **Marlborough Concert Orchestra** – requested £1,000 towards Project Drumbeat – purchase of new percussion and timpani instruments. Recommendation: Meets criteria.
6. **Fyfield and West Overton Parish Council** – requested £3908.50 towards new outdoor play equipment and other outdoor resources. Recommendation: Meets criteria
7. **Marlborough Riding for the Disabled Association** – requested £970 towards new safety equipment inc riding hats. Recommendation: Meets criteria.
8. **Kennet Valley Heritage Group** – requested £710 towards researching, publishing and displaying an 1887 village map. Recommendation: Meets criteria
9. **Baydon Pre-school** – requested £500 towards new folding tables for the pre-school and other hall users. Recommendation: Meets criteria.

## 1. Background

- 1.1. Each area board will receive delegated funding as determined from time to time by the Leader. Area boards will allocate their delegated funds in accordance with any rules and guidance issued by the Leader
- 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 as 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.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this report</b>	<a href="#">Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2013/14 as approved by delegated decision</a> <a href="#">Marlborough Community Area Plan, 2012-17</a> <a href="#">Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Marlborough, 2013</a>
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## 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 is just one funding round remaining during 2014/15: this meeting. Deadlines for receipt of funding applications to be considered at future area board meetings are as follows:

- **4 May 2015 for consideration on 19 May 2015**
- **6 July 2015 for consideration on 21 July 2015**
- **14 September 2015 for consideration on 29 September 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. For this meeting, Marlborough Area Board has received applications for projects totalling **£11,187.50** in Capital costs and **£2,335.00** in Revenue costs. The area board will need to be aware that if all applications are awarded at this meeting, it will have £4.58 of Capital funding and £1,646.49 of Revenue 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.	<b>Marlborough Area</b>	towards WiFi Development for the	£5,000.00	Meets Criteria

	<b>Development Trust</b>	Smart Town initiative		
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- 8.1.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a Capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department. This application also qualifies for Digital Literacy funding.
- 8.1.2. Marlborough Area Development Trust (MADT) has been developing a project that allows free access to broadband facilities via WiFi to locations along Marlborough High Street and a number of rural villages in the community area, notably throughout the henge at Avebury. Marlborough Area Board has funded earlier elements of the project before.
- 8.1.3. The next stage of development of the Marlborough Area Free Community WiFi aims to increase the service coverage (in terms of locations, node density, operational resilience, etc.) so that the service can be relied upon to a much higher degree. It will then be able to allow web based business, tourism and civic applications to confidently exploit it, i.e. it can support a range of activities that would let Marlborough become a so-called Smart Town.
- 8.1.4. The use of the Free Community WiFi is for local businesses and residents and aims to support the growing requirement to be able to do business and to manage our lives using on-line tools. Easy access to the internet on an anywhere, any time basis is an essential requirement for our lives in the 21st century. The goal for this total project is to increase the service coverage (in terms of locations, node density, operational resilience, etc.) so that the service can be relied upon to a much higher degree. It will then be able to allow web based business, tourism and civic applications to confidently exploit it, i.e. it can support a range of activities that would let Marlborough become a so-called Smart Town.
- 8.1.5. This project meets several of the aims set out in the Community Area Plan and the JSA 2013-2015 by helping to provide access to broadband service and increase ICT literacy. Having this service on the High Street also contributes to providing access to tourist information via a more reliable broadband connection. This project also meets the criteria of Wiltshire Online's Digital Literacy grant scheme.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.2.	<b>Baydon Toddler Group</b>	a new shed for storage and new play resources	£734.00	Meets Criteria

- 8.2.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a combination of Capital and Revenue funding project by Wiltshire Council finance department. The split is £425 Capital and £309 Revenue.

- 8.2.2. The group needs storage for its play equipment and toys. As a small village group, they do not have enough of their own funds to be able to pay for these items. This is borne out by the groups accounts shown within their application form (appendix 2).
- 8.2.3. All children and parents/carers who attend the group now and in the future will benefit from this grant and the new resources it brings. The village of Baydon is a very small rural community and as such there are very limited opportunities for children and parents/carers to attend groups to play and meet other families. There are no other groups within walking distance and public. Transport to other villages and towns is very limited and a number of parents do not have private transport.
- 8.2.4. This application meets priorities that were raised by the Community Area Plan. Priorities met include “recreation facilities and amenities for children & young people” and “provision of safe social facilities for children & young people” (p.11).
- 8.2.5. The area board has previously funded Baydon Young People’s Association hall but never this toddler group.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.3.	<b>Baydon Parish Council</b>	replacement blackout blinds in BYPA hall	£200.00	Meets Criteria

- 8.3.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a Revenue project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.3.2. The BYPA village hall in Baydon is used by many community groups including Little Crickets pre-school, Toddlers, yoga and Brownies etc. Currently the blinds in the hall have large holes, and tears due to their age. Some have no pulley to open and close them. The applicant would like to replace them with thermal blackout blinds that can be used easily by all groups.
- 8.3.3. All the user groups of the hall will benefit. The hall is also hired by villagers for children's parties on a very regular basis. It is also used by Baydon Parish Council, Parish Assembly and Parliamentary elections etc. As the hall is available for everyone in the village to use, everyone in Baydon can benefit. Having properly functioning blinds is a basic and very useful facility for the hall.
- 8.3.4. This project to improve the facilities for hirers and users at the hall meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including ‘recreation facilities and amenities for young people’ and ‘provision of safe social facilities for young people’ (p. 11) and ‘lack of local entertainment and cultural facilities’ (p. 18).

8.3.5. This application meets priorities that were raised by the JSA document and discussions from March 2014. These include “develop events and cultural programs to enliven the *whole* community, particularly cinema and other highly inclusive activities”.

8.3.6. The area board has previously funded Baydon Young People’s Association hall but never Baydon Parish Council.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.4.	<b>Ramsbury Parochial Church Council</b>	repairs to the churchyard lych-gate, Ramsbury	£500.00	Meets Criteria

8.4.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a Revenue project by Wiltshire Council finance department.

8.4.2. The Lych-gate was built in 1910 as a family memorial. It is oak-framed on a stone base; a major beam is severely decayed endangering the whole structure. The gate is in daily use by many in the community and the focus of many community events. It is listed grade 1 and approval for the repair has been authorised by the appropriate authority.

8.4.3. The total cost of this work is estimated at £8,600. The applicant has already raised over £8,000 towards the total from a range of other sources including their own funds and other grants. This should be recognised and commended.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.5.	<b>Marlborough Concert Orchestra</b>	Project Drumbeat – purchase of new percussion and timpani instruments	£1,000.00	Meets Criteria

8.5.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a combination of Capital and Revenue funding project by Wiltshire Council finance department. The split is £884 Capital and £116 Revenue.

8.5.2. Marlborough Concert Orchestra (MCO) plays light music and popular classics. It has entertaining rehearsals and performs three concerts a year. It aims to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of orchestral music in all its aspects. The Drumbeat project will enhance the orchestra's percussion section, in particular by providing MCO’s own timpani, negating the need to borrow / hire instruments for concerts.

8.5.3. MCO’s concerts aim to reach three distinct audiences throughout the year – adults, younger children and their parents though a special concert and local

musicians through MCO's regular rehearsals. These concerts regularly attract 120 people who enjoy the music from MCO.

- 8.5.4. The orchestra's work is in line with the aim of the Marlborough Area Plan of increasing the opportunities for entertainment in the town and enhancing the quality of life. Having a high standard amateur orchestra is an asset for the town and an added attraction for those moving into the area. In particular, this application addresses the 'lack of local entertainment and cultural facilities' (p. 18).
- 8.5.5. This application meets priorities that were raised by the JSA document and discussions from March 2014. These include "develop events and cultural programs to enliven the *whole* community, particularly cinema and other highly inclusive activities" and "Increase of volunteers – community engagements".
- 8.5.6. Marlborough Area Board has not previously funded Marlborough Concert Orchestra in any way.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.6.	<b>Fyfield and West Overton Parish Council</b>	new outdoor play equipment and other outdoor resources	£3,908.50	Meets Criteria

- 8.6.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a Capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.6.2. The project is to provide a low level timber trail, replacement timber swing beam and new edging to the wet pour surface at Lockeridge Dene. Currently there is only a set of swings at this play area within the village but since Kennet Valley School has moved onto one site and more families have moved into the village it was felt that another piece of equipment would be of significant benefit to this location. For the Fyfield play area we would like to provide a picnic bench and new edging to the wet pour surface of the swings area.
- 8.6.3. This project will be of benefit to all families, carers and grandparents of children living in Lockeridge & Fyfield, visiting friends and relatives or attending the village primary school. Lockeridge has seen a large increase in the number of young families moving into the village over the last few years and currently has very limited play facilities. The addition of extra play equipment will provide the children with a more stimulating and active area to play in which will aid social interaction and provide positive health benefits. The new picnic table at Fyfield will allow parents, carers and children a place to sit down whilst others are playing.
- 8.6.4. This project addresses issues raised by the Marlborough Community Area Plan including "recreation facilities and amenities for children & young people"



and “provision of safe social facilities for children & young people” (p.11) and “sports & leisure facilities” p.18).

8.6.5. 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 “improving young people's access to community sports activities”.

8.6.6. Fyfield and West Overton Parish Council is already committing its own funding to this project to the level of 50% of the entire project cost. This is in line with expectations in the criteria.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.7.	<b>Marlborough Riding for the Disabled Association</b>	new safety equipment inc riding hats & gloves	£970.00	Meets Criteria

8.7.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a Capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.

8.7.2. The project is for the replacement of 18 riding hats which by the end of 2015 and changes to safety regulations, will no longer comply and will need to be replaced. The group has already withdrawn some of their hats as they do not conform with the latest safety regulations. This has reduced the pool of equipment the group has available. The hats are a safety requirement, without these they would be unable to allow approximately 32 children with physical and/or learning disabilities to ride. As riding hats are not adjustable and one size does not fit all we require an absolute minimum of 15 hats of varying sizes to safely run each of the four sessions but 18 would allow for a better selection of sizes. The group also seeks to replace 14 pairs of riding gloves, these are provided to keep hands warm and provide a better grip on the reins and many of these are now thinning and will soon develop holes.

8.7.3. Marlborough Riding for the Disabled has been running for 25 years and provides a service for children aged between 5 and 16 years old attending from local schools. All of the children that attend have either a physical or learning disability and sometimes both. Roughly 32 children attend each week throughout term time. The hats that are used in each of the four sessions with Marlborough Riding for the Disabled are British Standard and of very high quality regarding safety.

8.7.4. This project addresses issues raised by the Marlborough Community Area Plan including “recreation facilities and amenities for children & young people” and “provision of safe social facilities for children & young people” (p.11) and “sports & leisure facilities” p.18).

8.7.5. 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”, “improving young people's access to community sports activities” and “Increase of volunteers – community engagements”.

- 8.7.6. Marlborough Area Board has not previously funded Marlborough Riding for the Disabled in any way.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.8.	<b>Kennet Valley Heritage Group</b>	Contribution towards analyses costs of archaeological finds	£710.00	Meets Criteria

- 8.8.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a Revenue project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.8.2. The Kennet Valley Heritage Group is a volunteer group whose aim is to preserve old photos and documents relating to the Upper Kennet Valley. Research identified an old archaeological map from 1886 showing both typography and historical settlement information about the valley, including old field names - the original objective of the research. The plan is to reproduce the map in a 6ft x 3ft frame and mount it on the wall of Kennet Valley Hall alongside other heritage displays. Although it will have aesthetic value the main aim is to provide an educational device that will provide both adults and children with a graphic view of the past.
- 8.8.3. Members of the community, plus the numerous visitors to the village hall, will find the map both of educational value and academic interest. Specifically as the map will reveal the numerous changes to the community they live in which have evolved during the last 130 years. Children from the local village school will be encouraged to view the map and learn how the community has changed and names have evolved.
- 8.8.4. This application meets priorities that were raised by the JSA document and discussions from March 2014. These include “Protect, enliven and promote access to the historic landscape and natural environment beyond the World Heritage Site” and “Develop events and cultural programs to enliven the whole community”.
- 8.8.5. Marlborough Area Board has not funded Kennet Valley Heritage Group in any way before.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.9.	<b>Baydon Pre-school</b>	new folding tables for the pre-school and other hall users	£500.00	Meets Criteria

- 8.9.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a Revenue project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.9.2. Baydon Pre-School group wish to buy new folding tables to use as part of the activities run with young children at the group.
- 8.9.3. All children and parents/carers who attend the group now and in the future will benefit from this grant and the new resources it brings. The village of Baydon is a very small rural community and as such there are very limited opportunities for children and parents/carers to attend groups to play and meet other families. There are no other groups within walking distance and public. Transport to other villages and towns is very limited and a number of parents do not have private transport.
- 8.9.4. This application meets priorities that were raised by the Community Area Plan. Priorities met include “recreation facilities and amenities for children & young people” and “provision of safe social facilities for children & young people” (p.11).
- 8.9.5. The area board has previously funded Baydon Young People’s Association hall but never this pre-school group.

<b>Appendices</b>	Appendix 1 Grant Application – Marlborough Area Development Trust Appendix 2 Grant Application – Baydon Toddler Group Appendix 3 Grant Application – Baydon Parish Council Appendix 4 Grant Application – Ramsbury Parochial Church Council Appendix 5 Grant Application – Marlborough Concert Orchestra Appendix 6 Grant Application – Fyfield & West Overton Parish Council Appendix 7 Grant Application – Marlborough Riding for the Disabled Association Appendix 8 Grant Application – Kennet Valley Heritage Group Appendix 9 Grant Application – Baydon Pre-school
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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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