

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Devizes Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>4 October 2010</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Community Area Grants</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider four applications seeking 2010/11 Community Area Grant Funding

1. Drews Pond Wood Project, Funding for the purchase of a second hand tractor unit, seeking £1,000. Recommended for consideration for approval.
2. All Cannings Community Store Association Ltd. Upgrade of till and back office computer system, seeking £1,700. Recommended for consideration for conditional approval, subject to the balance of match funding being confirmed.
3. SUKOSTA. Theatre residencies with the elderly community of Devizes, seeking £3,350. Recommended for consideration for approval provided the applicant can confirm provisional bookings for the project.
4. The Lydeaway Allotment Association, funding for materials and equipment hire, seeking £1,000. Recommended for consideration for approval in part to the value of £910.
5. Bromham Social Centre, funding towards replacement heating system, seeking £5,000. Recommended for consideration for approval.

## 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. Devizes Area Board has been allocated a 2010/2011 budget of £58,117 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives. A grant for £1,856 which was carried over from the previous year has now been settled. Grants have been approved so far this year to the value of £17,207, which leaves a balance of £41,686.
- 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](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards)) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Area Grant Application Pack 20010/11</li><li>• Devizes Community Area Plan</li></ul>
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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 remaining dates are;

- 29 November 2010
- 24 January 2011
- 21 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 Devizes Area Board.
- 4.2. Should the applications in this agenda be awarded, Devizes Area Board will have a balance of £29,636.

### **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 (Grant Register ref no)	Drews Pond Wood Project	Funding for replacement tractor.	£1,000

- 8.1.1. Officer recommendation is that this application be considered for approval.
- 8.1.2. The application meets grant criteria 2010/11

- 8.1.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan (greater public participation in the management of open spaces and community nature reserves),.
- 8.1.4. The cost of the project is £1,000 and therefore does not require any match funding.
- 8.1.5. The Project receives annual funding towards the administration of the project direct from the council's Countryside Manager. He has confirmed that this application towards a capital cost would not constitute double funding. He has provided the following comments on the application:

“We are keen that this project is supported and we help through financially supporting the administration of the group, we also assist in terms of officer input, management planning and training. The Project does need something to replace its existing machine which has after a good number of years service given up the ghost, a replacement machine is required and although this would not be an 'off the shelf' item, with contacts locally the project should be able to purchase a second hand machine that with some additions will meet their specific needs. Certainly this can be achieved within a budget of £1,000.00. We will also ensure that the machine once purchased is checked to see that it is maintained and remains safe to use. In terms of users, the site involves local community in the running of the project, it engages them in practical outdoor conservation and woodland management tasks, it meets a number of objectives in terms of Biodiversity and ensures that the site remains a resource for passive recreation for the local Community.”

- 8.1.6. The applicant is not able at this stage to confirm the final cost of a second hand tractor unit, although a local supplier has confirmed that it should be possible to purchase one for the value of the grant. It would be expected that, should a unit be purchased for less than the value of the grant, the balance would be returned to the council.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2. (Grant Register ref no)	All Cannings Community Store Association Ltd.	Upgrade of till and back office computer systems	£1,700

- 8.2.1. Officer recommendation is that this application be considered for approval.
- 8.2.2. The application meets grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.2.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan (Protecting rural services).
- 8.2.4. The applicants have already received a grant of £919 from the area board this year. They have completed all of the evaluation paperwork however and are

entitled to apply again.

- 8.2.5. The applicants are achieving match funding through, in part, an application to All Cannings Parish Council. That application has not yet been determined and as such any grant awarded should be conditional upon all match funding being confirmed.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3. (Grant Register ref no)	SUKOSTA	Theatre residencies with the elderly community of Devizes	£3,350

- 8.3.1. Officer Recommendation is that this application be considered for approval subject to the applicant being able to provide a list of provisional bookings for the workshops.

8.3.2. The application meets grant criteria 2010/11

8.3.3. The application will allow explorative theatre workshops to be run in residential homes and possibly at luncheon clubs.

8.3.4. The applicant has been asked to provide proof that residential homes in the Devizes area wish to make use of the workshops.

8.3.5. The application matches closely with aspirations in the draft Devizes Community Area Plan, and seeks to base the project in areas which rank poorly in the index of multiple deprivation.

8.3.6. The Council's Arts Development Officer is broadly supportive of the application as helping to deliver Council priorities around wellbeing.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4. (Grant Register ref no)	The Lydeaway Allotment Association	Funding for materials and equipment hire.	£1,000

- 8.4.1. Officer recommendation is that this application be approved in part to the value of £910 subject to the following condition:-

The applicant to seek planning advice regarding access to the site (the allotments do not need planning permission). It is also recommended that they visit [www.allotmentssouthwest.org.uk](http://www.allotmentssouthwest.org.uk) for further information and advice-

- 8.4.2. The application meets grant criteria 2010/11 except that it falls short of providing 50% match funding, which is one of the core aspirations of the scheme.
- 8.4.3. The application contributes to one of the strategic objectives of the Devizes Community Area Strategic Action Plan 2007-2012 - SO1 healthy and vibrant villages for the rural population.
- 8.4.4. The applicant is the Lydeaway Allotment Association, a not for profit organisation with 5 voluntary members. The Association has raised matched funding through a donation from the Lions Club, fundraising and a loan. Income is also confirmed from prospective allotment holders.
- 8.4.5. The project is to provide fencing, water, shrubs, netting, and insurance, refurbishment of a shed and machine hire to get the plots to an acceptable standard to be rented to allotment holders.
- 8.4.6. The project is open to all members of the community. There will be 14 large plots available at the outset, with others to follow once the rest of the land has been drained.
- 8.4.7. The project will enable community activities such as barbeque evenings and fundraising events.
- 8.4.8. There will be 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.
- 8.4.9. Yearly plot rentals will enable the project to be sustainable long term.
- 8.4.10. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project the Association would need to apply to other potential funders, which would significantly delay the project.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5. (Grant Register ref no)	Bromham Social Centre	Overhaul of Central Heating System	£5,000

- 8.5.1 Officer recommendation is that this application be considered for approval.
- 8.5.2 The application meets grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.5.3 The application will allow different parts of the building to be heated separately, reducing the heating bills for the venue and allowing different parts of the building to be heated appropriately.

8.5.4 It is noted that the cheapest quotation has not been chosen. The applicant has confirmed that the cheapest quotation did not allow for the same level of heating control throughout the building, in particular the stewards flat.

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

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