

Melksham Area Grant Report

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide details of the grant applications made to the Melksham Area Board. These could include:
 - community area grants
 - youth grants
 - older and vulnerable people grants
 - area board initiatives
2. To document any recommendations provided through sub groups.

Area Board Current Financial Position

	Community Area Grants	Youth Grants	Older and Vulnerable People Grants
Opening Balance For 2024/25	£ 22,309.00	£ 18,349.00	£ 7,700.00
Awarded To Date	£ 2,484.52	£ 0.00	£ 333.99
Current Balance	£ 19,824.48	£ 18,349.00	£ 7,366.01
Balance if all grants are agreed based on recommendations	£ 19,446.48	£ 7,269.00	£ 5,866.01

Grant Funding Application Summary

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
ABG1925	Community Area Grant	Saxon Group Riding for the Disabled Association	Surface Topper	£1512.00	£378.00

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
<p>Project Summary: The current equestrian surface is very uneven and makes it difficult for our volunteers and horses to have the best footing. Sudden movements can be particularly uncomfortable and unnerving for our disabled riders which has an impact on their balance. It is quite uneven for our volunteers to run alongside riders and horses who are trotting and can jar ankles, knees etc. A new surface topper would generate a better, durable, dust free and environmentally better area for the activities we carry out such as flat work, dressage and light jumping.</p>					
ABG1952	Older and Vulnerable Adults Funding	Wiltshire Music Centre	Celebrating Age Wiltshire	£10809.00	£1500.00
<p>Project Summary: Celebrating Age Wiltshire is a Creative health and wellbeing project that delivers high quality professional creative arts, music, theatre and heritage events and activities on a monthly basis for older, vulnerable adults in local daytime settings.</p>					
ABG1945	Youth Grant	4Youth South West	Delivery of Seniors Youth Club sessions for young people in Year 9 and above aged 13 to 19	£15150.00	£5000.00
<p>Project Summary: Senior Youth Club sessions run every Thursday from 6.30pm to 9pm, 50 weeks a year, and are for our "older" young people, those in Year 9 and up (aged 13 to 19). The sessions are great opportunities for young people to meet other young people, explore who they are and how they feel about issues, in a safe space. Our club sessions are packed with positive activities such as cooking, arts and crafts, fun games, guest visits and sports. These activities are delivered alongside informal educational issue-based provision and support that address a wide range of issues that affect young people and topics that interest them.</p>					
ABG1946	Youth Grant	4Youth South West	TeenTalk Young People Counselling	£37118.00	£5000.00
<p>Project Summary: TeenTalk is a counselling service offering free person-centred support for young people aged 10 to 25 who are experiencing mental health or well-being issues. A typical offer is six one-hour sessions (mostly face-to-face) from centres in Melksham, Chippenham, Trowbridge, and Westbury. 4Youth have been successfully delivering a counselling service for young people aged 10 to 25 for the past 10 years. We have worked hard to find alternative funding for the service following receipt of seed funding from the Area Board several years ago and have been successful in achieving this. However, we are looking for funding to support the further development of the service, as over the past 5 years we have seen a consistent rise in the starting level of need of the young people we are working with. As their need increases it becomes harder to fully address the challenges the young people are dealing with in the limited time we can work with the young people.</p>					
ABG1947	Youth Grant	Melksham Town Council	Melksham Youth Council	£2160.00	£1080.00

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
<p>Project Summary: We will be holding a preliminary event, in the form of an interactive concert, to engage the youth of the community area. The concert will be interspersed with information and questions relating to the area, to help capture young people's opinions and interests, and this data will be provided back to the area board and all parish councils following the event for their information. This will also support the community area set up of a youth advisory board alongside Melksham Town Council and Melksham Area Board, aged between 14-19 years old, and up to 25 years old for SEND. The representatives would sit on various sub-committees and working groups in an advisory role to the councillors. The grant will go towards engaging the youth community within the area to garner their interest in joining the advisory board.</p>					

Background

3. Area Boards have authority to approve funding under powers delegated to them. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Funding and Grants Criteria. This document is available on the council's website.
4. Three funding streams are available to the Area Board, each with an annually awarded amount. These funding streams are as follows:
 - Community Area Grants (capital)
 - Youth Grants (revenue)
 - Older and Vulnerable People Grants (revenue)
5. The Area Board will be advised of the funding available prior to their first meeting of each financial year.

Main Considerations

6. Councillors need to be satisfied that the applications meet the requirements as set out in the Area Board Funding and Grants Criteria and that the health and wellbeing and young persons funding guidelines have been adhered to.
7. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation to Area Boards.
8. Councillors need to consider any recommendations made by sub groups of the Area Boards.

Safeguarding Implications

9. The Area Board has ensured that the necessary policies and procedures are in place to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Public Health Implications

10. The Area Board has ensured that the necessary policies and procedures are in place to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Environmental & Climate Change Implications

11. Grant funding will contribute to the continuance and/or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and wellbeing in the community area, the extent of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

Financial Implications

12. Councillors must ensure that the Area Board has sufficient funding available to cover the grants awarded.

Legal Implications

13. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

Workforce Implications

14. There are no specific human resources implications related to this report.

Equalities Implications

15. Community Area Boards must fully consider the equality impacts of their decisions in order to meet the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty.

16. Community Area Grants will give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes where they meet the funding criteria.

Proposals

17. To consider and determine the applications for grant funding.

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