

**Report to** Salisbury Area Board  
**Date of Meeting** 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2013  
**Subject** Community Area Grants

**Purpose of Report**

To consider 4 applications for community area grant funding, totalling £11,822.

A summary of the applications together with the Community Area Manager's recommendation is set out below.

<b>Application (and amount requested)</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
<b>Phoenix Stars Cheerleaders</b> Tumble Track for Phoenix Stars Cheerleaders - £750	<i>Approve</i>
<b>South Wilts Cricket Club</b> Academy Ground Pavilion Refurbishment & Grounds Upgrade - £5000	<i>Approve</i>
<b>Alabare Christian Care &amp; Support</b> Learning Disability Activities Room - £3000	<i>Approve</i>
<b>Salisbury Concert Band</b> Contra Bass Clarinet - £3000	<i>Approve</i>
<b>Total requested:</b>	<b>£11,750</b>
<b>Prior to consideration of these applications the Area Board's discretionary fund balance stands at:</b>	<b>£55,079</b>
<b>If all applications are approved as recommended the Board's balance will be:</b>	<b>£43,829</b>

## **1. Background**

- 1.1. Salisbury Area Board has authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to it by the Cabinet Member for Community Services. Under the terms of the delegation Area Boards are required to follow the Community Area Grant guidance and funding criteria.
- 1.2. 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.
- 1.3. 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.
- 1.4. A decision was made in 2010/2011 that paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce the volume of paper used. However, the applications are all available to view on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies can be made available upon request.

## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded satisfy the criteria set by the Council and are made to projects that can proceed within a year of the award being made.

## **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 of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

## **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1. Financial provision has been made to cover this expenditure. The Salisbury Area Board was allocated a discretionary budget for 2011/2012 of £88,493. During the year, the Area Board has allocated or committed £33,413.94, leaving a balance remaining for allocation of £55,079.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with the Community Area Manager's recommendations, the Salisbury Area Board will have a remaining balance of £43,829.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

## 6. Human Resources Implications

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

## 7. Equality and Inclusion Implications

7.1. Community Area Grants give all local community and voluntary groups an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

## 8. Officer recommendations

8	Phoenix Stars Cheerleaders	Tumble Track	£750

8.1. Phoenix Stars Cheerleaders is a thriving local sports club, having built up its membership from 22 to 60 in its first full year. Phoenix Stars hold training sessions three times a week but could offer more if training space was available because of the demand. They have introduced an assessment programme that includes six achievement levels and the cheerleaders can earn badges and certificates as they progress through the levels. In 2013, the Club entered two teams in an international competition finishing 13th and 11th.

8.2. As the Club develops it needs to acquire new equipment to enable the cheerleaders to raise their gymnastics skills to a higher level. The Club is seeking funding for an air tumble track – an inflatable mat for practicing gymnastic routines. This will help prolong the time the Club can train its athletes by reducing impact on joints such as wrists and ankles. It is also a safe place to land when trying out new stunts and tumbling moves.

8.3. This application meets the Council's grant criteria and it is **recommended** that the Board approves the award of £750 towards the cost of the tumble track.

9	South Wilts Cricket Club	Academy ground and pavilion refurbishment.	£5,000

9.1 South Wilts Cricket Club is one of the premier sporting clubs in the region with a thriving junior section and community cricket programme that draws large numbers of boys and girls into the sport. Due to the demand for junior cricket, the Club has forged close links with Steeple Langford Cricket Club to increase the opportunities available for youngsters to take up cricket, which is now rarely played in local schools.

9.2 To further strengthen youth cricket in South Wiltshire and to extend the use of the ground out of season (Salisbury City FC Youth Academy is now training at the ground), the Club is seeking to fully refurbish the existing Academy Ground pavilion at its Lower Bemerton ground both internally and externally by:

- Replacing door furniture and upgrading ironmongery to provide enhanced building security
- Rewiring and fitting new consumer unit to bring in line with current wiring regulations
- Installing a new sink unit, work top and cupboards
- Installing hot water to the sink in the main changing area and both male/female toilets (currently only cold provision)
- Repairing existing crumbled flooring and overlaying a non slip hard wearing vinyl flooring to both the main changing area and the toilets
- Recladding the external building walls
- Renewing the existing worn and broken rainwater goods
- Cleaning down moss from roof tiles
- Closing off existing water tanks to enhance Health & Safety
- Installing decking and hand rails to outside area to improve spectator facilities

To compliment the planned refurbished pavilion, it is also proposed to install a modern day removable electronic scoreboard to the South West corner of the playing area, controlled from within the proposed refurbished scorers' box.

9.3 The total cost of the works is £15,175 of which the Club has raised £8,250 from fundraising events such as the visit of the Lashings International Cricket XI to Lower Bemerton in the summer of 2013. In kind donations of material and volunteer labour will bring the total contribution to over £10,000. The Club is seeking the remaining £5,000 from the Board to enable this project to proceed in time for the summer 2014 season.

9.4 The project meets the grants criteria and supports activities for young people – a priority identified in the Salisbury Community Plan.

9.5 It is **recommended** that South Wilts Cricket Club is awarded a grant of £5,000 to support the refurbishment of the academy ground as outlined above.

10	Alabaré Christian Care & Support	Learning Disability Activities Room	£3,000

10.1. Alabaré Christian Care Support was founded in South Wiltshire in 1985 and now provides drop facilities in for homeless people who are in need of shelter, hot food and drinks and practical assistance. Over 700 service users attend each year.

- 10.2. This project seeks to refurbish and equip a unit adjacent to the Charity's support offices with an accessible toilet, kitchen and tables/chairs, to allow for a day activity centre for people with learning disabilities who live in Salisbury and the surrounding area.
- 10.3. The funding requested is to help meet the capital costs of refurbishment and provision of disabled toilet and heating equipment. The day to day expenses are broadly covered by personal attendance fees generated by those beneficiaries who attend.
- 10.4. Beneficiaries are young adults with learning disabilities and those with enduring mental health issues. Day activities at the Alabaré Centre include training in life skills; social responsibility and personal safety awareness; dietary and cooking skills, aiding and maintaining physical and mental wellbeing. Learning is focused on essential skills for everyday living: learning to learn; communication skills; IT skills; creative skills to promote self expression and build confidence.
- 10.5. Consultation with service beneficiaries revealed that they value flexible provision, sessions that are fun and that enable them to learn at their own pace: they also expressed a desire to be involved in deciding what they learn. They also expressed a preference for the facility to be fun, somewhere they could meet their friends and socialise and to be able to talk about their lives, achievements and challenges.
- 10.6. The day activities are supervised and organised by skilled staff and trained local volunteers.
- 10.7. The total cost of the project is £12,000 and so far Alabaré have raised £6,500. They are seeking a grant of £3,000 from the Board to help with the capital costs. It will be noted that this leaves a shortfall of £2,500, although this is currently being sought through other funding applications.
- 10.8. Subject to 10.7 above, this application meets the Council's grant criteria and therefore it is **recommended** that Alabaré Christian Care and Support are awarded £3,000 to support the creation of a learning disabilities activity room subject confirmation that match funding has been secured.

11	Salisbury Concert Band	Contra Bass Clarinet	£3,000

- 11.1. Salisbury Concert Band was formed in 2005 to bring together musicians under the band's original name of Salisbury Community Band. The band, which changed its name in 2012, has proved to be very popular and has a current membership of around 65 players.
- 11.2. The Band plays a range of music from the classics, shows and wind-band

repertoire and whilst the aim of the band is to play to a high standard, it is also to have fun. It provides an opportunity for those people, no longer at school, who have reached a good standard of playing at some time in their lives with a chance to return to playing in a social environment. The band plays at least three concerts each year and in 2010, members were invited to participate in a music festival in Sweden with their hosts making a reciprocal visit to Salisbury in 2011.

- 11.3. This application seeks £3,000 to help fund the purchase of a Contra Bass Clarinet. Some of the Band's repertoire requires this instrument but as it is an expensive, specialist instrument it is not something which they can expect a Band Member to own. The plan is to purchase the instrument and loan it to a player for several terms and this would expand their playing experience as well as enriching the overall sound of the Band. The instrument would then be passed on to another player. The band is small, self-funding and funds are used for running costs so buying expensive specialist instruments is something of a struggle.
- 11.4. The cost of the Contra Bass is £4,270; the Band has raised £1,270 towards the cost and is seeking the remaining £3,000 from the Area Board. Normally the Board would fund no more than 50% of the cost of a project. However, with an operating loss of over £1,000 in 2013 and reserves of just £5,000 earmarked to cover contingencies and running costs the band may be stretched to increase its contribution. Consequently, it is:
- 11.5. **Recommended** that, in view of the circumstances set out in 11.4 above, a grant of £2,500 is awarded to Salisbury Concert Band to help with the cost of purchasing a Contra Bass Clarinet, subject to confirmation that the remaining costs will be met by the Band utilizing reserves if necessary.

Background papers:	Grant Application – Phoenix Stars Cheerleaders Grant Application – South Wilts Cricket Club Grant Application – Alabaré Christian Care and Support Grant Application – Salisbury Concert Band
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