

Report to	Calne
Date of Meeting	03/02/2015
Title of Report	Community Youth Grants

1. Purpose of the report:

To ask Councillors to consider the following applications seeking funding from the Calne Area Board.

Application	Grant Amount	
Applicant: Calne Wild Life Project Title: Wildlife and Conservation Youth Group (working title)	£3119.60	
Applicant: Calne Parkour Project Title: Calne parkour	£2188.00	
Total grant amount requested at this meeting	£5307.6	
Total amount allocated so far	£	

2. Main Considerations

Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2014/15 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.

Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Cabinet member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2014/2015.

Community Youth 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.

Community Youth Grants give all local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

The Local Youth Network (LYN) has reviewed these applications and scored them. Their recommendations are included in the report.

3. The applications

<p>Applicant: Calne Wild Life Project Title: Wildlife and Conservation Youth Group (working title)</p>	<p>Amount Requested from Area Board: £3119.60</p>	
<p>This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.</p> <p>Project Summary: This application is for funding to establish and run a Wildlife and Conservation Group for young people. A Level 3 qualified Forest School leader and local naturalist with much youth work experience will facilitate the group. The group would encourage and enable young people with an interest in nature by exploring local wildlife hotspots, observing and monitoring, and getting involved in the management of local nature reserves. The group would foster the enjoyment of the great outdoors and engage in classic Forest School activities. It would be a weekly session. Applying for funding for 6 months initially as a trial to build up the group.</p> <p>WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from this project and benefit the local community?:</p> <p>It is well known that enjoyment of the outdoors and engagement with nature has a very positive impact on general well-being of young people. As far as is known, this project fills a gap in local provision by providing a safe group environment led by a qualified practitioner with a focus on wildlife and conservation.</p> <p>At the LYN launch, it was clear that nature and the environment are areas that young people want to engage with more. It is envisaged that up to 20 young people could be involved initially, but this could be expanded if required. If the area board are able to support this application, the project would be free to the participants and therefore be very accessible and affordable. The group will be inclusive and open to all with any necessary adaption's made as required.</p> <p>In addition to the obvious physical and mental benefits that being outdoors will bring, the walks, monitoring and reserve management will develop a variety of skills for the young people – observation, recording, teamwork, communication and practical skills. Engagement in Forest School activities will give the young people a greater connection to nature and develop understanding and skills that build self esteem and confidence.</p> <p>As the group connects with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and other local organisations (such as Friends of Abberd Brook), we will be encouraging the young people to volunteer in the management of local nature reserves and other wildlife hotspots. This will enhance the environment locally, encourage partnership with other community groups, and will greatly benefit the wider community.</p> <p>There has been verbal agreement in the past to use the woods at John Bentley School for such groups. The practitioner also hires and uses</p>		

Turnham Woods at Spirthill, and there are a number of areas locally that are accessible to the public - Bentley Wood, Castle Park, Abberd Brook, riverside walk from Wessington Park to Horsebrook to name a few.

In the early stages, the group will gather ideas and get a sense of direction from the young people that express an interest. There is a great variety of activities that could be enjoyed within the group eg wildlife photography, nest box construction and more.

LYN recommendation

The LYN recommends this project is funded the full amount.

They scored 80/100

The LYN think this project is well thought through and addressing an interest group expressed at the LYN launch. On their reflection of their school cohorts interests they believe it will be a group that will attract many young people.

JSA links

Priority for Children and Young People: Addressing childhood poverty and childhood obesity.

Studies on nature connection show that activities in nature have benefits on all levels of health and wellbeing including immune system, stress levels and fitness. (National institute for Health and Care Excellence, 2009)

Nature connection gives a broader understanding of biodiversity and where food comes from leading to nutritional understanding and better eating habits.

Priority: Activities for young people.

This is an activity for young people that is not provided at the moment and was mentioned numerous times by different young people at the launch of the LYN in November. This is directly responding to that need.

Applicant: Calne Parkour Project Title: Calne parkour	Amount Requested from Area Board: £2188.00	
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This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary: The group aims to offer classes and practice sessions for the youth to train Parkour/Free Running in a safe environment, with the help of coaches and assistants. It will also offer members of the group the

opportunity to become coaches themselves with coaching qualifications.

Parkour is described as a discipline. It uses toning, strength, gymnastics skills and awareness of surroundings to create Parkour routines. The group describes the aim to be 'better, not the best'. The emphasis on self improvement and encouragement of each other.

WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from this project and benefit the local community:

The idea came from young people therefore reflects a need within the community. There was a previous Parkour group and initial interest comes from these young people who wish to be trained up as coaches to start their own group.

The group will supply demonstrations and performances for community events.

They will make sure the group is accessible to all by keeping a low price and making allowances to people in need, the young coaches are also experienced in teaching at Springfields school where the students have special educational needs and disabilities and are able to incorporate all types of abilities.

The group will be open to all and there will be no exclusion and they will encourage inclusion and a group mentality of inclusion.

They are working with the community area partnership, local sport centres and a few schools within the local area, and are keen to work with others.

They are being supported by the Community youth Officer to set up their policies and procedures and taking safeguarding training to gain more knowledge in that to safeguard the young people taking part.

They are also being supported by the sports development team in Wiltshire council who helping them apply to a coaching bursary to provide match funding for their coaching qualifications and will connect them with an alternative sports network to provide support on an ongoing basis.

Local Youth Network recommendations:

The LYN recommends funding this project the full amount.

They scored 85.5 out of 100.

The LYN were extremely impressed by the young men, aged 15 and 20 who want to restart this previously popular group and train themselves up to coach other young people.

JSA Links

Priority: addressing child poverty and child obesity.

Being an intensive sport it addresses health and fitness and encourages a healthy body and mind. It also encourages young people to be outdoors and constantly finding ways to be active which also has health benefits.

Priority: providing work opportunities and placements:

The main young people are initially going to train up as coaches meaning they can also coach other groups giving them the opportunity to become freelance coaches as their employment. This is also giving them experience in setting up and running an organisation. It will also support this opportunity for all young people in the group to go through training leading to coaching qualifications.

Priority: activities for young people:

This is in response to a particular request at the LYN launch and also provides an opportunity in alternative sports which supports Calne's status as an alternative sports hub.

Report Author:

Helen Bradley, Calne Area Board
01249 709402