

Report to	Melksham Area Board
Date of Meeting	Wednesday, 08 December 2021
Title of Report	Melksham Area Grant Report

Purpose of the Report

- To provide detail of the grant applications made to the Melksham Area Board. These could include; community area grants, health and wellbeing, young person's grants and Area Board initiatives.
- To document any recommendations provided through subgroups.

Area Board Current Financial Position

	Community Area Grants	Young People	Health and Wellbeing
Opening Balance For <u>2021/22</u>	£ 44,617.00	£ 18,349.00	£ 7,700.00
Awarded To Date	£ 23,177.88	£ 5,000.00	£ 2,000.00
Current Balance	£ 21,439.12	£ 13,349.00	£ 5,700.00
Balance if all grants are agreed based on recommendations	£ 1,669.12	£ 13,349.00	£ 4,917.75

Grant Funding Application Summary

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
ABG296	Area Board Initiative	Cllr Jon Hubbard	Cycling Support in Melksham	£4150.00	£2075.00
<p>Project Summary: This is a councillor sponsored initiative jointly from Cllr Jon Hubbard (to Melksham Area Board) and Cllr Carl Houghton (to Melksham Town Council). It is based on a suggestion from a local resident. This project proposes installing two cycling maintenance stations (http://bit.ly/2n0FeBX) in the town, one adjacent to the Town Hall and one in King George V Playing Fields near the Pavilion. Additionally, 5 cycle stands using the same style as in the Market Place to be installed at the Pavilion by the maintenance station. The procurement and installation of the units will be managed by the Town Council.</p>					
ABG243	Community Area Grant	Melksham Hub	Melksham Station Hub Fitting weatherproof blinds to the canopy and improved signage	£5000.00	£2500.00

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
<p>Project Summary: The application is for fitting weatherproof blinds to the canopy at Melksham Hub to provide a more usable space during the winter months and bad weather. We have recently provided an outside canopy space with a solid wooden pergola construction complete with lighting and Halogen heating. A defibrillator has been installed. This was funded from a grant earlier this year. This canopy space is popular and has been a well-used space during the good weather months. The cafe interior has limited table space for seating and the use of the canopy area has been popular for small community groups - it is wheelchair friendly, and the cafe has a accessible toilet. We would like to extend the use of the exterior space for as much of the year as we can by fitting roller blinds with visibility panels. To improve the attractiveness of the exterior space the storage container will be clad with a large mural and new signage provided. The signage will include a "You are Here" map with connections to Melksham Town Centre and local bus, walking and cycling routes, plus Timetable and Notice Boards.</p>					
ABG258	Community Area Grant	PCC of Shaw and Whitley	Christ Church Shaw reordering and redecoration to form a Community Hub	£60000.00	£5000.00
<p>Project Summary: Christ Church Shaw is the largest community venue in the local area and the nearest venue to the George Ward Estate which has no community facilities. But the Victorian layout of the church makes it inflexible and inaccessible for the community to use it for non-religious purposes. We are hoping to redecorate the church, remove the pews and replace with quality wooden chairs, replace and upgrade the audio-visual system including a new hearing loop. Whilst these changes will benefit the congregation and our worship, we hope that the changes will also enable the community to use the church for concerts, exhibitions, meetings etc. The church hopes to set up a new dementia cafe which would only be practical if the pews were removed. The church already has an accessible toilet and a small kitchenette. Overall, we estimate this work to cost about £60,000 but already have in excess of £20,000 and are applying for further grants and undertaking local fundraising for this community-based project.</p>					
ABG262	Community Area Grant	Independent Living Centre Semington	Bees and Oil Tank	£10158.00	£2300.00
<p>Project Summary: With have 2 urgent capital projects we need help with. One is that a survey has highlighted that our Oil Tank is rusty and needs replacing before we need to start using it again this winter. We are keen to make our building as efficient as we can so want to carry out an additional survey to improve the thermal efficiency and explore different ways of heating the building in the long term. The other is that we have a bees nest in our Chimney that needs further exploration to plan how it can be removed (to save the bees we may need to have the Chimney taken down and rebuilt). This is urgent also as we are getting wasps using the nest and getting into our building. One of our charity tenants has a staff member who is allergic to wasps so we need to deal with this as quickly as possible.</p>					
ABG289	Community Area Grant	Riverside Club	Riverside Club Improvements to the existing kitchen	£5790.00	£2895.00
<p>Project Summary: Riverside Club has a number of Community run activities, including a regular lunch time club. The facilities currently offer a limited space for storage of food - freezers and fridges. The project is to provide an extended storage area to allow more use of the cupboard space within the kitchen. This will allow other groups to use the kitchen for meals.</p>					
ABG237	Health and Wellbeing Grant	Alzheimers Support	Melksham Movement for the Mind project for local people with dementia	£1564.50	£782.25

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
<p>Project Summary: In Melksham, we currently run fortnightly Movement for the Mind sessions at Bowerhill Village Hall on alternate Wednesdays. Our "Movement for the Mind" project provides activity sessions blending exercise, reminiscence and fun, helping people regain confidence, providing a social outing and helping to stimulate brain function. Our Melksham Movement for the Mind group meets fortnightly at Bowerhill Village Hall for gentle exercise to music in a supportive and friendly group setting. The groups were started in response to research showing the benefits of physical activity to people with memory and cognitive problems. Each session offers gentle, regular exercise, which supports mobility and co-ordination, improves memory and cognitive skills and relieves stress and anxiety. Carers will also be able to attend as they too can benefit from the chance to de-stress in a warm friendly environment. Our facilitators include dance therapists, fitness coaches and physiotherapists who are specialists in their field and trained in dementia awareness. Sessions start with a gentle warm-up before moving on to the main activity. Everyone is encouraged to do as much or little as they feel able to and you do not have to be 'super-fit' to take part. People with restricted mobility and wheelchair users are welcome. The exercise lasts for about an hour and at the end of the session refreshments are served during a social half hour before the group closes. As one of our Therapists puts it: 'You can see the people's mood change as they go through the session. Their confidence grows as if they are saying to themselves 'I can do this'. What matters to me is that the members have come out, done some exercise in a social setting and they go away feeling great.' And one of our carers notes that "They are a wonderful activity for anyone living with dementia/Alzheimer's and you should all be super proud of the work you do. I'm very grateful for all the sessions my grampie attended, they certainly helped him. Thank you all."</p>					
ABG327	Community Area Grant	Melksham Cricket Club	New Cricket Playing Astro	£11478.00	£5000.00
<p>Project Summary: Melksham CC Astro playing surface based at Melksham House is over 25 years old and come to the end of its life cycle and is unsafe to bowl on due to the uneven surface. We wish to install a new Astro surface which will benefit the whole of Melksham and make the sport playable in all weathers as the surface dries within a shorter space of time with new modern materials. The new surface also replicates a grass like surface allowing the bowl and bat to be more like playing on grass.</p>					

1. Background

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.

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)
- ◆ Young People (revenue)
- ◆ Health and Wellbeing (revenue)

The Area Board will be advised of the funding available prior to their first meeting of each financial year.

2. Main Considerations

2.1. 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.

2.2. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation to Area Boards.

2.3. Councillors need to consider any recommendations made by sub groups of the Area Boards.

3. Environmental & Community Implications

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.

4. Financial Implications

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

5. Legal Implications

There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

6. Human Resources Implications

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

7. Equality and Inclusion Implications

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

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.

8. Safeguarding Implications

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

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

Report Author

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