Wiltshire Council

Report To	Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board
Date of Meeting	Wednesday, 18 January 2023
Title of Report	Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Grant Report

Purpose of the Report

- To provide detail of the grant applications made to the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade 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 sub-groups.

Area Board Current Financial Position

	Community Area Grants	Young People	Health and Wellbeing
Opening Balance For 2022-23	£ 24,639.00	£ 19,916.00	£ 7,700.00
Awarded To Date	£ 12,881.00	£ 2,915.00	£ 1,854.00
Current Balance	£ 11,758.00	£ 17,001.00	£ 5,846.00
Balance if all grants are agreed based on recommendations	£ 5,008.00	£ 15,551.00	£ 5,846.00

Grant Funding Application Summary

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
ABG850	Community Area Grant	RWB Environment Trust	EcoRWB Infrared Camera	£500.00	£500.00
Project Summary: We want to purchase an infrared camera for use by local people to assess the heat loss areas on their houses so they can target insulation measures to reduce their heating bills.					
ABG895	Community Area Grant	Purton Cricket Club	Purton Cricket Club Nets Resurfacing	£22271.00	£5000.00
Project Summary: Purton Cricket Club nets are our most used asset. We have had them for approx. 13 years and the surface is now in need of replacements. The approximate cost of this will be around £25,000 This is a much cheaper option than having the nets dug up and a new net bed laid.					

ABG903	Community Area Grant	St Bartholomew's Church Croft	St Bartholomew's Church Croft Boiler Replacement Project	£3500.00	£1750.00

Project Summary:

The current Croft boiler is at least 15 years old, and it has been known for some time that it is beginning to age. Efficiency has been declining, there have been a number of small repairs required and sourcing of parts is becoming more difficult. The latest failure was more significant and more costly than previous repairs. Following this latest repair, the plumber advised that the boiler is reaching the end of it's life and beyond economic repair.   The project is therefore to secure an energy efficient replacement boiler fit for purpose.   The Croft serves the people of Royal Wootton Bassett as a community space welcoming all for coffee and light refreshments. It is also used as a meeting space for a variety of local groups, e.g., Book Club, Flower Guild, the AA and French Teacher. One Saturday a month it is offered to Charities free of charge to raise money for their Charity.   Our current three mission and key initiatives are: *The Croft is registered with Wiltshire Council as a 'Warmer Space'. This offering is made 6 days a week to anyone who is struggling to heat their home during these challenging times. It provides somewhere warm for people to meet and have a gifted warm drink if required. *The Croft hosts a group of Ukrainian families who are able to come and meet with other Ukrainian speaking families. Both these initiatives are free of charge. *The Royal Wootton Bassett satellite branch of the Swindon Food Collective is operated from The Croft and is seeing an increased number of vulnerable people attending and needing food and support.

ABG940	Youth Grant	The Stay Safe Initiative CIC	The 2023 Digital Empowerment Programme	£2900.00	£1450.00

Project Summary:

To help address the ever-growing issue of online harm / abuse and the impact social media is having on young people, for example.... 1: Online grooming cases in the UK have risen by 80% since the pandemic (NSPCC). 2: The impact social media is having on young people's mental health by being exposed to content promoting self-harm and suicide is increasing every day. Highlighted by the death of Molly Russell 2022. 3: 68% of local young people have told us they know someone who has been a victim of online hate, bullying or sexual harassment. 4: Almost half (48%) of young people we have worked with over the last year have told us that social media and online interactions can have a negative impact on their mental health. ..... today more than ever, young people and their families need as much direction, advice and support as possible.   The Digital Empowerment Programme has been designed to be delivered in secondary schools to enable us to reach hundreds of our communities young people and families and will not only help them to stay safer online, but will also allow them to have a bright and positive digital future.   This project has four main elements: ELEMENT 1 - Preparation P r i o r to us working with anyone all young people are given a voice!   Allowing young people to share their own personal thoughts on living in the Digital World and giving them the opportunity to be heard is what shapes all of our work. It's for this reason that before we visit a school, we invite all pupils to take part in an anonymous online student digital life survey. This not only gives us a great insight into our audience, but also allows us to reference lots of the group's thoughts and concerns during our live face-2-face sessions. ELEMENT 2 – Working with the whole family Parenting in the Digital Word 'Virtual sessions' Before we work with young people, we want to bring parents and carers up to speed, to allow them to have a greater understanding of their young people's digital lives. Exploring what they are doing online, understanding the risks, and providing straightforward help and advice to keep everyone at home safer. Knowing that many feel overwhelmed trying to keep up with the constant evolution of games, app's and social media platforms, they are quite understandably worried about online bullying, grooming and what their children are sharing online. This session will allow them to be well informed and NOT scared ELEMENT 3 – 'In school' sessions for young people. These sessions are 100% about them. We will work with every Yr7 and Yr9 student in school. Yr7's 'Keeping up with my growing digital life' Yr9's 'Building a positive digital future' It's by reaching these audiences individually, that we are able to provide age-appropriate advice, direction and support throughout their secondary school journey. All of these sessions are delivered in a professional, relaxed and engaging way and involve audience participation / involvement throughout. It's important to us that our audiences always have the opportunity to be heard and are able share their thoughts and ideas. This allows for open and honest discussions to help promote critical thinking in young people when considering future online activity and behaviour. We don't want to talk AT THEM but instead WITH THEM.   We address and discuss issues such as... Social Media Pro's and Con's Online Hate (bullying and hate speech) Online Sexual Harassment (child on child abuse) Online Grooming and interacting with strangers Sexting (sharing indecent images online) Digital Resilience Self-Image and Identity Digital tattoo / footprint (my online future) Getting help and support and more... ELEMENT 4 – Follow on support and evaluation Ongoing Support: Due all live sessions we highlight and signpost a wide range of places both young people and parents can get instant, free and non judgmental (and in some cases anonymous) advice and support after our visits. To back this up, every student and family at school will be provided this an extensive resource pack with lots of additional information, help and support they can use moving forward. This pack will sign post them to a wide range of charities and support networks should they need them in the future. Evaluation: Following all sessions students and parents will be invited to evaluate what they have learnt and have the opportunity to feedback how useful they found the project. To enable this to be as transparent as possible this follow on evaluation survey will be 100% anonymous to everyone wishing to share their open and honest views.   This will allow us to continue to evolve both content and delivery of this project moving forward.

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 person's 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

Andrew Jack, Community Engagement Manager, Andrew.Jack@wiltshire.gov.uk