

Report to	South West Wiltshire Community Area Board
Date of Meeting	20/03/2019
Title of Report	Pedestrian Gates Fund

## 1. Purpose of the report:

To ask Councillors to agree a Pedestrian Gates capital fund for 2019/20.

## 2. Main Considerations

Councillors are asked to refer to the considerations listed in the attached Cllr Project Form.

Comments from Wiltshire Council's Rights of Way Service in support of this fund:

*Since the initial launch of the volunteer/ public rights of way improvement day at Dinton, there has been a lot of work undertaken on the ground, by parishes/ walking groups/ individuals and also the Ramblers, within the S/West Area Board area. This has largely been the installation of kissing gates to replace stiles-from the initial funding that was made available at the outset of this project. Not only kissing gates but footbridges, also lately a signage programme.*

*The legacy of the project has been very encouraging with groups/parishes taking a real interest in their local paths, inspecting and improving them and keeping them clear of annual growth. What is very heartening is that a better rights of way network is being achieved by this broader involvement- much better and more usable than if it were just left to us to do. I think that we have proved, here and in other areas, that this kind of enthusiastic public engagement works. A few more gates would certainly help to keep this all moving forward.*

## 3. Financial Implications

The area board is asked to agree £5000 from its 2019/20 capital budget to fund 20 gates. Parish Councils are asked to make a reasonable contribution towards each gate request they make. At the end of the financial year, the area board will need to consider whether it reinvests remaining funds into a new fund for subsequent years.

## 4. Recommendation

That councillors agree to earmark £5000 to fund pedestrian gates for parishes in 2019/20.

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