

Report to South West Wiltshire Area Board
Date of Meeting 13/1/2021
Title of Report Revised Pedestrian Gate Fund

Pedestrian Gates Fund:

1. At the time of writing this report there is **£4710** unclaimed funding remaining for this scheme. The only grant issued from the original fund of £5000 in 2019/20 was to South Newton Parish Council.
2. All awards are subject to a photograph of the existing stile, gate or access point, and a quote for the work to be done being provided by the applicant. Funding approved will be released on receipt of an 'after' photograph of the new gate in place.
3. A slightly modified policy is attached at appendix 1. The main clarification made to the policy is that the fund can be used for a wider range of improvements and associated works to facilitate easier access across the rights of way network, i.e. edging boards or surface improvements.
4. Alex Howson, Wiltshire Council's Rights of Way and Countryside Officer has been involved in the setting up and discussions to slightly revise the policy. Noting that only one bid has been made so far to this fund, we have asked Alex to supply the area board with a suggested list of sites where the fund might best be used in 2021, for example those access points of high use and places of considerable structural demise. Please note this is a target list of improvements the Rights of Way team at Wiltshire Council has and not all have been suggested by or discussed with the local parishes at this stage.

Recommendations

- a) Councillors agree this revised policy
- b) Councillors consider the list of sites in the attached, and agree to work with Parish Councils to support them in exploring whether or not to submit an application to this policy.

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