

Devizes Area Grant Report

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide details of the grant applications made to the Devizes Area Board. These could include:
 - community area grants
 - youth grants
 - older and vulnerable people grants
 - area board initiatives
2. To document any recommendations provided through sub groups.

Area Board Current Financial Position

	Community Area Grants	Youth Grants	Older and Vulnerable People Grants
Opening Balance For 2023/24	£ 25,869.00	£ 22,320.00	£ 7,700.00
Awarded To Date	£ 7,850.00	£ 4,600.00	£ 0.00
Current Balance	£ 18,019.00	£ 17,720.00	£ 7,700.00
Balance if all grants are agreed based on recommendations	£ 8,019.00	£ 7,371.35	£ 7,700.00

Grant Funding Application Summary

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
ABG1252	Community Area Grant	Seend Tennis Club	Seend Tennis Club Courts Resurfacing and Renovation	£34356.00	£5000.00

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
<p>Project Summary: Seend Tennis Club Courts Resurfacing and Renovation Application number: 1355 This project aims to raise a minimum of £30,000 towards renovating and surfacing the two Seend Tennis Club courts which are in urgent need of repair. The courts were resurfaced in 1998, largely funded by a National Lottery grant. The life expectancy of a court is approximately 15 years. The courts have been well maintained by volunteers and were cleaned by a contractor several years ago. The surface is now beginning to break up, and the perimeter fence is collapsing in several places. • Working together/ Improving social mobility: The two courts are located on the Lye Field in the centre of the village, and can be accessed safely by children walking from school, or avoiding roads along local paths, including the canal towpath between Melksham and Devizes. Members live in Seend, surrounding villages including Marston, Worton, Poulshot and in Melksham. Members of the club are from a variety of social backgrounds, the common bond of playing tennis together improving social interaction, mutual respect and community integration. There is weekly social tennis for adults of any age, players ages range between 17 and 75 years. Younger and older members are engaged in county league tennis matches for men and mixed teams. Frequent updates on activities and league match results, are published in local parish magazines, on Facebook, and on the Seend Tennis Club website. WhatsApp groups maintain communication for various activities and voluntary commitments. Members join for exceptionally low fees, purposely kept at an affordable rate for anyone wishing to play tennis, providing access to the courts and booking facilities, along with other benefits of LTA affiliation. The tennis club’s annual revenue allows for maintenance and other costs, and contributes to a small sinking fund, which could be used to match funding granted up to £5000. • Youth engagement and positive activity opportunities: In April 2023 Seend Tennis Club initiated engagement with Seend Church of England Junior School. A Wiltshire LTA starter fund of £250 was made available to the school for junior coaching, a coach was engaged; courts, changing room and toilet facilities are provided by the club. As a result, group coaching for Year 6 commenced this term. It has been hugely successful. The school has agreed to continue this activity and, next term, to double the number of pupils involved. The pupils become Seend Tennis Club members as part of this arrangement, allowing them access to the courts in their free time, at weekends and in the holidays. Summer junior tennis camps are also arranged for two weeks in the summer holidays. A tennis coach will attend the Seend Fete, with fun tennis activities for children. • Prevention and early intervention: The physical benefits of exercise, particularly racket sports, are recognised to improve coordination, balance, health and longevity. The mental health benefits of engagement with fellow members of the community of all ages and social backgrounds in playing sport, cannot be overestimated. Seend Tennis Club is actively engaged in encouraging and promoting these benefits, not only on court with coaching and social tennis sessions, offered to children and adults of all ages and tennis ability, but also by encouraging social interaction off court in the community centre adjacent to the courts for post tennis R&R, in post match gatherings and arranged social events. • Understanding Communities: The tennis courts are a hugely valuable asset for the school and communities of Seend and surrounding villages. Renovating and maintaining this facility is of the utmost importance to the youth and adults of our locality. I believe this project addresses Wiltshire Council’s priorities, and the Area Board’s key priorities of youth engagement and positive activity opportunities, as well as helping to reduce isolation and loneliness in a safe and accessible village location. The accessibility and location of the courts reduces the need for people to make longer journeys to access sport and social facilities, making a contribution to reducing carbon emissions. Please support our application. Sally Jackson Chair, Seend Tennis Club 29th June 2023</p>					
ABG1304	Community Area Grant	The Patch in Potterne Community Interest Company	The Patch in Potterne Multi Purpose Community Centre	£135000.00	£5000.00

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
<p>Project Summary: The Patch in Potterne, Wiltshire, is a new initiative to turn the former Potterne village school into a vibrant, community hub to host activities for all ages, including special provision for the vulnerable and those most in need. The commercial value of this building is around £300,000. However, as a community asset the unique opportunity exists to purchase it for just £105,000. This new community regeneration project will breathe new life into the former school building, bring the Potterne community closer together and empower and support a wide variety of people and activities: business, social, cultural and well-being. It will be available for practical skills, physical and mental awareness, creative learning and development. These objectives will be achieved by offering new space for arts, clubs, crafts, exhibitions and health services, so drawing in all sections from the village community. The heart of the centre will be the beautiful tearoom which will also double as a bar for smaller evening events. This area will also be where local craft and artisan traders can display and sell their wares using the cabinets provided. Music and the arts will be part of many activities for local and visiting artists to use the venue as a practice or learning centre. Other uses include a music and book library, a repair shop and a mini-museum of village history.</p>					
ABG1273	Youth Grant	The Market Lavington Community Hall Management Trust	Market Lavington Community Hall New Seated Shelter and Other External Works for the community use	£4635.30	£2317.65
<p>Project Summary: The seated shelter is for the youth of Market Lavington to meet up out of the rain, wind etc. At present they sit on the ground outside of the Community Hall Entrance (as it is sheltered from the rain and wind) which some of the hall users find intimidating and make them feel uncomfortable with the youth sat right by the main entrance door. We are also marking up specific parking spaces for the disabled. We are installing a long life battery for a defibrillator.</p>					
ABG1302	Youth Grant	Bromham Youth Club	Bromham Youth Club	£6062.00	£3031.00
<p>Project Summary: Bromham youth club runs a two hour evening session every week during school term times for young people aged 11-18 from Bromham and the local area. We are also welcoming to young people up to the age of 25 with additional needs and disabilities. The club enables young people to socialise, take part in sports activities, enjoy new experiences, learn new skills and take part in new activities that include themed youth sessions, educational workshops and trips. This is a friendly and successful club that currently has between 10 and 20 members most weeks and has been running for around 8 years. This is the only club for young people in the village.</p>					
ABG1305	Youth Grant	West Lavington Youth Club	West Lavington Youth Club	£20000.00	£5000.00

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
<p>Project Summary: West Lavington Youth Club currently supports young people from the ages of 8 - 16 years old across two sessions but due to the increase in young people attending we are adding a third session from September to accommodate the amount of young people. We have young people attending from not only West Lavington but also Market Lavington, Seend, Worton, Easterton and Devizes showing their is a big need for a Youth Club in the area. We have children with a wide range of Special Educational Needs attend the youth club and we are able to provide a service that they can engage with on a weekly basis. Our sessions range from cricket, litter picking, karaoke and cooking to name just a few. It gives young people a safe space to come and join in with fun and engaging activities whilst hanging out with friends and being able to talk to staff about day to day life or any worries they may have such as exams. It also helps to keep them from getting bored and vandalising the local area. We are free at the point of access and quite a lot of the children attending come from a single parent family meaning there is only one income for these families. There is also a much higher uptake in the amount of free school meals in the local primary schools of St Barnabus and Dauntsey Academy than the national average showing local deprivation income.</p>					

Background

3. 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.
4. 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)
 - Youth Grants (revenue)
 - Older and Vulnerable People Grants (revenue)
5. The Area Board will be advised of the funding available prior to their first meeting of each financial year.

Main Considerations

6. 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.
7. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation to Area Boards.
8. Councillors need to consider any recommendations made by sub groups of the Area Boards.

Safeguarding Implications

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

Public Health Implications

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

Environmental & Climate Change Implications

11. 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.

Financial Implications

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

Legal Implications

13. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

Workforce Implications

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

Equalities Implications

15. Community Area Boards must fully consider the equality impacts of their decisions in order to meet the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty.
16. Community Area Grants will give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes where they meet the funding criteria.

Proposals

17. To consider and determine the applications for grant funding.

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