
Marlborough Area Grant Report

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide details of the grant applications made to the Marlborough 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 2024-25	£ 15,835.00	£ 17,786.00	£ 7,700.00
Awarded To Date	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Current Balance	£ 15,835.00	£ 17,786.00	£ 7,700.00
Balance if all grants are agreed based on recommendations	£ 6,835.00	£ 17,786.00	£ 3,700.00

Grant Funding Application Summary

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
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ABG1864	Area Board Initiative	Marlborough Health & Wellbeing Group	Health and Wellbeing Group Networking and Engagement event Summer 2024	£500	£500
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Project Summary:

In order to raise awareness about both itself and the many voluntary and community sector organisations working in the local area, Marlborough Health and Wellbeing Group will host a showcase and engagement event in Summer 2024. Lots of different organisations will be invited to meet and share information with each other and the public. There will be activities and bitesize sessions for people to take part in and find out about what's available in the area. This funding from Marlborough Area Board will help to pay for the different elements of this event.

ABG1696	Community Area Grant	Marlborough Tennis	New clubhouse top floor lounge and kitchen fit out	£8750.00	£3000.00
<p>Project Summary: Marlborough Tennis is a 100% volunteer run club and we moved to our current location just over 5 years ago and at that time erected a recycled, second hand portacabin as a "pavilion". The portacabin was only ever intended to have a limited life and indeed planning permission required that after 5 years – May 2023 - it must be removed. The clubhouse is being constructed and funded as two distinct projects, the first of which is to physically construct a two-storey building. The main build cost is £248,337 without the fit out of the second floor. Fundraising is now only short by and estimated £11985 and with other fundraising in place we are confident this will be raised by the summer. The upper floor is being treated as a separate, second phase project and the fit out of this important area is where we are seeking financial support. The upper floor will be a shell in need of completion and fitting out. The top floor will comprise of a lounge and kitchen area where members, visitors, or coached players can relax after a game of tennis. Importantly, and recognising our charity status, we want to create a space that can be used by community groups in the Marlborough area who currently struggle for space to hold their gatherings. We want the space to be used regularly, and to be attractive to external groups, so we need the standard of fixtures and fittings to be of a good standard so they are durable and will stand usage on a regular basis. We are working with Wiltshire & Swindon Sport (WASP) to identify groups who would benefit from having this space made available. We intend to work with WASP to ensure that in fitting out the top floor, we take in to account the needs of any community groups who will use the facility. We will also work with club members to make sure final designs meet the needs of members and the community. A survey has already take place and communicated back to members.</p>					
ABG1761	Community Area Grant	Aldbourn Scouts and Guides Supporters Association	Aldbourn Scout and Guide Hut New Kitchen	£10000.00	£3000.00
<p>Project Summary: We are installing a new stainless steel, industrial style kitchen in the newly built extension of our Scout and Guide Hut. This will include units, a new cooker, a microwave and fridge freezer and will be used for scouting and guiding cookery activities.</p>					
ABG1776	Community Area Grant	2nd Marlborough Scout Group	Roof repairs for Scout Hut	£26286.00	£3000.00
<p>Project Summary: A recent survey has indicated that the roof must be repaired before next winter to avoid expensive damage to the fabric of the building. We have asked for quotes from three companies for the repair and have the selected the cheapest at £26,286.00.</p>					
ABG1844	Older and Vulnerable Adults Funding	Marlborough Area Poverty Action Group	Marlborough Area Poverty Action Group Summer Outings	£2985.00	£1000.00

Project Summary:

Marlborough Area Poverty Action Group is a voluntary group who aim to raise up to £5,000 a year to support a range of activities/support for Vulnerable adults and children in our community. There being areas of the Marlborough and Manton community with high social deprivation. The following are some of our activities:

- Enable participation in holiday activities for children/families and provide additional support for families in need throughout the year**
- Distribute Foodbank boxes in Marlborough and the surrounding area**
- Build up relationships with the homeless and rough sleepers**
- Support campaigns on local issues, e.g. the Cost-of-Living Crisis**
- Offer vouchers to disadvantaged families at Christmas.**

Our application for funding from the Area Board is to support our 2024 summer outings which are extremely important for both the adults and children who attend. Vulnerable adults with young children are often socially isolated with their own Physical, mental health and well-being needs. They have limited funding to give their children broader experiences and activities outside the home environment. The summer outings offer support for these vulnerable adults, providing an experience, with their children; spending time with them, without having to worry about organising transport etc. The outings help reduce the risk of social isolation, improving their confidence and ability to enjoy time with other isolated adults/parents and 'quality time' with their children. It was obvious last year that many parents were equally excited with the trip on a coach arriving at the venue and sheer delight at seeing the sea spending time on the beach (Weston Super Mare). I am sure it was similar on the other trips. Parents experiencing this anticipation of the trip, the day etc. I am sure their self-esteem went up and also mental health improved, for the rest of the summer holidays. These adults often find the anticipation of the school summer holidays are filled with dread due to what could be an overwhelming experience looking after their children 24/7 without having the skill, finance, opportunity etc. This year's trips are to Weston Super Mare, Marwell Zoo and Bournemouth.

ABG1846	Older and Vulnerable Adults Funding	Arts Together	Arts Together Projects for Isolated and Vulnerable Older People in Marlborough	£8320.00	£2500.00
<p>Project Summary:</p> <p>Arts Together runs a regular art group for lonely older people in the Marlborough area, helping to keep them creative and connected and improving their wellbeing. 'I don't go out at all except for Arts Together. Others do my shopping and I don't even see the doctor in person because I can't get there but Arts Together come and collect me and I feel safe.' Group member's evaluation. Offering a creative outlet for some of the most vulnerable people in our community, in a supportive and friendly environment, these weekly group sessions are held in the lounge at Marlborough Bowls Club, led by professional artists with the support of a team of local volunteers. Meaningful creative activities that build trust, confidence and friendship and support them to stay living at home within their community. A freshly cooked lunch is made after each art session and specialist community transport is provided for group members who need it, the majority of whom would be unable to attend otherwise. Being creative in a community setting of like-minded people can really help to improve cognitive function and confidence in practicing new skills, feelings of fulfilment and togetherness to combat depression, not to mention fostering new friendships and the joy and fun of being creative. The Arts Together Group is supported by trained volunteers and care professionals to encourage an inclusive, supportive and comfortable environment. We rely totally on donations and grants to continue our work and are very grateful to Marlborough Area Board for awarding us a grant in March 2023 when we faced a huge increase in our transport and other costs due to the cost-of-living crisis. Since then, in response to growing demand and referrals, we have increased the number of members in the group from 12 to 16. Our group members are in their 70's, 80's and 90's with conditions including Parkinson's, dementia, limited sight or hearing, stroke, mental health issues and multiple sclerosis, that make it very difficult or impossible to leave the house without assistance. We have a limit on numbers due to the range and complexities of support needs of our members, so that we can provide the support required to each person and to enable meaningful interactions and friendships within the group. From September 2024 to February 2025, we will run 3 new art projects for lonely and vulnerable older people in Marlborough. Each project will be led by a different artist and supported by a team of local volunteers and takes place over a 5-week block. Projects are stimulating and challenging and adapted specifically so that they are accessible to all. Our art tutors are professional artists, fully insured and with Enhanced DBS checks. Our group manager and volunteers (also DBS checked) are trained in supporting members who might have barriers to taking part, be it through poor health, disability, or mental health issues. An accredited carer is at each group session as the dedicated emergency first-aider and for any personal support needs. The group manager has extensive experience and offers wellbeing support to each beneficiary beyond the weekly sessions to enable them to keep attending the group and signpost them to other support services as required. Our costs have increased in line with the increase in regular members in the group from 12 to 16 since we last applied for funding. The Marlborough group is immensely popular and has become a place of immense support and friendship. It is currently at capacity with a waiting list due to increased need and referrals. The group are currently working with artist Joanna Dewfall on a collaborative mosaic panel. The members are excited to share their mosaic with the wider community and are over the moon that their mosaic will soon be on permanent display at the Bowls Club. What a sense of pride and belonging this has engendered! We are constantly fundraising and request £2,500 from Marlborough Area Board towards the cost of running three of these engaging, confidence building and life enhancing projects for some of the most vulnerable older members of our community.</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 person's 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.

Report Author

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