

Report to Malmesbury Area Board

Date of meeting 01.03.17

Title of report Community Area Grant funding

Purpose of the Report:

To consider a councillor-led initiative requesting funding from the Area Board.

Applicant	Amount requested	
Simon Killane	£1077.64	

1. Background

Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that funding awarded in the 2016/2017 year is made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of it being awarded.
- 2.2. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation to Area Boards.
- 2.3. Councillors will need to be satisfied that the applications meet the Community Area Board grants criteria and practice papers for <u>councillor-led initiatives</u>
- 2.4. Best practice advises that applications relating to young people or highways and transport should be considered by, and seek a recommendation from, the Local Youth Network or Community Area Transport Group.

3. Environmental & Community Implications

Councillor led-projects are designed to enable councillors to tackle issues in their area, including projects and initiatives which have been initiated by the community eg. a community issue. Councillor-led projects should not be used to fill gaps where there are service shortfalls or where it is possible for the matter to be resolved through the use of the Community Area Grants scheme.

4. Financial Implications

Financial provision had been made to cover this expenditure. The Community Area Grants scheme which funds Councillor-led initiatives can only provide capital funding.

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.

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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.

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.

9. Applications for consideration

Application Name	Provider	Project Proposal	Requested
Malmesbury Library Childrens Area	Malmesbury Library	Simon Killane	£1,077.64

Project description

The library supports the reading, literacy and lifelong learning of the people of Malmesbury town and the surrounding area. We have 5,472 members and issue 57,864 items per year.

We would like to extend our provision to children in the Malmesbury library area especially in light of the recent closure of the children's centre. Research by the National Literacy Trust shows parents who introduce their babies to books give them a head start in school and an advantage over their peers throughout primary school. Although literacy levels in Malmesbury are good: in 2015, the percentage of children achieving level 4 or above in reading, writing and mathematics at the end of primary school was slightly higher in the Malmesbury Community Area (87%) that across Wiltshire (80%), there is still room for improvement.

In November 2015 the library introduced an additional baby session on a Tuesday to coincide with the Registrar appointments. This month we started a book and craft activity for 4-7 year olds on a Saturday. We had 364 children on our Summer Reading Challenge which encourages children to keeping reading during the break.

Appendix A includes items which we think will: -

- ✓ enhance the children's area making it a bright and welcoming space
- ✓ enable us to use the space for home work and children's activities with the addition of a table and chairs
- ✓ improve our rhyme time sessions with soft furnishings for babies, and enough instruments and scarves for all attendees.

Feedback we have from customers is positive and our sessions are well attended. Friday rhyme times attract on average 22 children + parents/carers to each session. However we have seen 30+ coming along recently which is excellent.

"Love rhyme time in Malmesbury library. Use it every Friday – would be great to have some cushions & soft furnishings for the floor – it's pretty hard."

"Malmesbury library is a great place where to take children for a happy and playful time. Children really enjoy the activities and the staff are brilliant at making everybody welcome and at ease. Both parents and children feel involved with the rhyme time. I counted 20 children, which confirms how good the time in the library is. Great to have the opportunity available and we wish for continuous support from who can sponsor it."

"Please could we have a brightly coloured rug and soft seating in the children's area?"

	Scarves Consortium (in packs of 3) Code: 161710PK3	£4.59 per pack 4 x = £18.36
Ee G KA NIM S SS	Medium Aquarium Rug - 93723 LFC Code: 4059985	
	Beancube Peters Code: 178	£55 2 x £110
Beast	Beanbag Peters Code: 184	£65
	Rattles Consortium Code: PE009027	£1.39 each 10 x £13.90
A Zoon	Small corner rug Peters Code: 1894 (Special offer price)	£25 each 2 x £25 = £50

Floor cushions Gresswell Code: Purple 409517410 Red 409517409	£42.25 each + VAT 2x £42.25= £84.50
Enviro daisy table Consortium Code: 026985RD Red, table height 6400mm	£186.99
Chairs Consortium Code: Chair height 3400 MM 3 x Grape 430219PU 3 x Yellow 430219YL	£21.99 each 6 x £131.94
Gruffalo wall sticker (large) LFC Code: 4142815LGE	£89
Total	£1077.64

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application from Simon Killane for £1,077.64

Background documents used in the publication of this report: Quotes/estimates for this proposal can be obtained from the Community Engagement Manager upon request. **Report Author**

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