

Report To	Melksham Area Board
Date of Meeting	Wednesday, 09 March 2022
Title of Report	Melksham Area Grant Report

Purpose of the Report

- To provide detail of the grant applications made to the Melksham Area Board. These could include; community area grants, health and wellbeing, young person's grants and Area Board initiatives.
- To document any recommendations provided through subgroups.

Area Board Current Financial Position

	Community Area Grants	Young People	Health and Wellbeing
Opening Balance For <u>2021/22</u>	£ 44,617.00	£ 18,353.00	£ 7,700.00
Awarded To Date	£ 36,947.88	£ 5,000.00	£ 1,884.65
Current Balance	£ 7,669.12	£ 13,353.00	£ 5,815.35
Balance if all grants are agreed based on recommendations	£ -£1,080.88	£ 7,248.50	£ 4,115.35

Grant Funding Application Summary

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
ABG374	Community Area Grant	Friends of Shurnhold Fields	WW1 Wood replenishment	£1500.00	£750.00
<p>Project Summary: We currently have a tree nursery with nearly 200 saplings which have been donated by the Woodland Trust at no cost to us. They were planted Nov 2020 to help bring them on with a view to replanting them in the WW1 wood as replacements for the saplings that died as well as the general area.</p>					
ABG451	Community Area Grant / Youth Grant	Spurgeons	Canberra Centre Parent Support Project and Community Garden Project	£3000.00	£1500.00
<p>Project Summary: There are two areas of need / projects we are applying for. For the first we will integrate parent support alongside the 'Teen Talk' counselling sessions that are already taking place at Canberra 4Youth for 6-13-year-olds. This will be a 6-week group parenting course for up to 10 parents of the children who are having counselling to ensure that they have basic strategies to support their children through the difficulties that they are going through. 2 x Spurgeons staff will work with a staff member of Canberra 4Youth to deliver this. For the second project Spurgeons will create a community garden behind the Canberra Children's Centre in Melksham - which runs a wide range of community activities including family support workshops, information services for families, activities, clubs and classes. The garden will be a focal point for community members to create, work together and meet new people, with a focus on supporting children to learn more about nature and the outdoors, promoting positive mental and physical healthy activities.</p>					

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
ABG454	Youth Grant	Melksham Amateur Swimming Club	Vital swim teacher training	£750.00	£750.00
<p>Project Summary: We require suitably qualified swimming teachers and assistants to run our sessions and we lost several due to the pandemic and we will be losing a few more in September when they go to university. We urgently need to fund the training for new volunteers in order to keep our sessions running.</p>					
ABG469	H&WB Grant	Melksham Free Dining	Coming Together to Dine with Us	£3500.00	£1700.00
<p>Project Summary: Financial support to maintain our ability to provide a FREE two course nutritious lunch to Melksham residents and the surrounding areas, with the option to stay after the meal and join in the social activities, interact with others and ask for advice on personal matters. This charitable organisation has been set up for all vulnerable adults, in particular the elderly from all walks of life, to enjoy a nutritious FREE lunch. Grant support will help with consumables, catering equipment, transportation and communication costs.</p>					
ABG459	Youth Grant	4Youth South West	Expansion and delivery of Seniors youth club for young people in Y9 and above aged 13 to 19	£9709.00	£4854.50
<p>Project Summary: To re-open the open access Seniors Youth Club on Thursday evening's from 6:30pm till 9pm for young people aged 13-19. The club will provide a place where young people can go and meet young people and mix with others with a mixed of activities such as cooking, arts and crafts, guest visits and sports. These activities will be delivered alongside informal educational issue-based provision and support that address a wide range issue base topics that affect young people.</p>					
ABG467	Community Area Grant	Bowerhill Scout Group	Scout and About	£14000.00	£7000.00
<p>Project Summary: New Scout minibus. In 2019 the group applied for a grant for a £9,000.00 minibus. Our last application was for support in purchasing a replace minibus, requesting £4,500 at the end of 2019. Unfortunately, there was not enough money in the pot but were kindly awarded £1,900. Sadly, we were then thrown into the grips of lockdowns, pandemics, school closures and massive disruption. Thankfully the group started up again in May 2021 but with no activity for over a year and zero subs/funding, we have struggled to gain momentum. As of the end of 2021, we now have four sections up and running covering ages from 6-18. We still have the £1,900 grant issued in 2019 as we were unable to buy or sell without knowing the future of youth activities in the post (are we post yet) pandemic. The original project we were embarking on was to create a fund of £9,00.00 to purchase a second hand 17-seater minibus. As secondhand vehicles seem to have a higher premium these days, the project may now be out of date and undervalued. This coupled with a lack of funds and group fundraising during lockdown leaves us short of our goal.</p>					

1. Background

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.

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)
- Young People (revenue)
- Health and Wellbeing (revenue)

The Area Board will be advised of the funding available prior to their first meeting of each financial year.

2. Main Considerations

2.1. 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.

2.2. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation to Area Boards.

2.3. Councillors need to consider any recommendations made by sub groups of the Area Boards.

3. Environmental & Community Implications

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.

4. Financial Implications

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

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.

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.

Community Area Grants will give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Council's equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes where they meet the funding criteria.

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.

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

Report Author

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