

<b>Report to</b>	Melksham Area Board
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	06/01/2020
<b>Title of Report</b>	Community Area Grant funding

**Purpose of the report:**

To consider the applications for funding listed below.

Applicant	Amount requested
<b>Applicant:</b> Great Hinton Memorial Hall <b>Project Title:</b> Great Hinton Memorial Hall Replacement LED Lighting <a href="#">View full application</a>	£650.00
<b>Applicant:</b> St Mary's Church Broughton Gifford <b>Project Title:</b> Installation of a disabled accessible toilet	£5000.00
<b>Applicant:</b> Conigre Mead Volunteers <b>Project Title:</b> Conigre Mead Nature Reserve Improvements <a href="#">View full application</a>	£810.00
<b>Applicant:</b> West Wiltshire Multi Faith Forum <b>Project Title:</b> Empowering Women through education and community engagement <a href="#">View full application</a>	£996.00

**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](#)

[The funding criteria and application forms](#) are available on the council's website.

**2. Main Considerations**

2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that funding awarded in the 2019/2020 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.

### 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

Financial provision had been made to cover this expenditure.

### 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.

### 9. Applications for consideration

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
<a href="#">3541</a>	Great Hinton Memorial Hall	Great Hinton Memorial Hall Replacement LED Lighting	£650.00
<b>Project Description:</b> The Hall lighting is a combination of fluorescent tubes and tungsten lights which we want to replace with LED fittings. This will reduce our running costs and maintenance as well with less frequent replacement of failed lights. This will be a step to improving our carbon footprint and an investment in the future of the hall as fittings should last for 20 years without maintenance on present level of hall use.			
<b>Input from Community Engagement Manager:</b> The project meets eligibility criteria and does not require match funding. The applicant is contributing 50% of costs.			
<b>Proposal</b> That the Area Board determines the application.			

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
<a href="#">3489</a>	St Mary's Church Broughton Gifford	Installation of a disabled accessible toilet	£5000.00
<b>Project Description:</b> Our objective is to make the church more user-friendly, so that it can be opened up to wider use by the community. A need has been put to us that mothers would like somewhere to meet and have a coffee and a chat after dropping off their children at school. We would intend, therefore, to initially open the church two mornings a week, to enable this to happen.			

The most pressing need is to have a toilet. This is much in demand at weddings and funerals, when people have often travelled some distance. Also when it is being used by the school and a child needs to go to the toilet, this means that a teacher has to be absent with the child for up to 20 minutes.

Our plan is to install a toilet with disabled access in what is now the vestry at the west end. This means moving the Saxon font, which is now at the entrance to the vestry, to the north-east corner of the church, where it will be in full view of the congregation.

The other major part of the plan is to move the welcome area, from its current place in what was the south chapel, to the rear of the church on the north side. There we will install a kitchenette, with sink and running water, simple cooking facilities and a range of storage cupboards.

We feel that the church is not just within the building itself, but within the community at large. As part of this we organise such events as the BG Games, the Barn Dance and quizzes in the Village Hall. From these we have recently raised money for such organisations as:

St. Mary's Primary School  
Broughton Gifford Pre-School.  
Broughton Gifford Magazine.  
Broughton Gifford Cricket Club.  
The Friendship Club.  
Melksham Food Bank.

We have also run litter-picks and joined in those run by the Parish Council. We are on the first steps of becoming an eco-church.

As has already been mentioned, we have a small and elderly congregation, which has to finance the running of St. Mary's. As well as the maintenance of the building, this includes heating and insurance. In addition, we make a contribution to the Diocese to pay for our Rector and his pension. This year, that alone amounts to £12,301. On top of this, we make donations each year to local and national charities of over £2,000.

With regard to our project, so far we have raised over £43,500, of which some £8,000 has been spent on architect's fees. We also hope to receive grants from other sources, but these, such as the Lottery Heritage Fund, have decreasing money for grants available.

**Input from Community Engagement Manager:**

The project meets eligibility criteria. A contribution from the Area Board will help to complete the fundraising effort, with £ 43,500 raised towards the £ 50,000 target.

**Proposal**

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
<a href="#">3551</a>	Conigre Mead Volunteers	Conigre Mead Nature Reserve Improvements	£810.00

**Project Description:**

The 2 benches have been requested by visitors to enjoy and observe wildlife. As a small community group we have very limited reserves of £ 585 and these have been promised to help with a new liner for the pond, to be installed by the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.

**Input from Community Engagement Manager:**

The project meets eligibility criteria and does not require match funding.

**Proposal**

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
<a href="#">3567</a>	West Wiltshire Multi Faith Forum	Empowering Women through education and community engagement	£996.00

**Project Description:**

The project provides ESOL lessons to women from different racial backgrounds and organises a few events for the purpose of community engagement with statutory and voluntary sector bodies and developing the skills of women to speak in public. Request students to organise events with support to acquire planning and admin skills. Help support vulnerable people in the community. New women join every year and during the year. Many attend lessons and shared lunches to socialise learning about different cultures and making friends.

Beneficiaries are women from Ethnic minorities: Bangladeshi/Turkish/Albanian/Russian/Chinese in the Melksham Community. Melksham older people: men, though we only hear of men needing help through wives or the mosque. We work with Schools giving talks on faith and cultures and support People needing help victims of hate crimes. Mostly women from different ethnic Bangladeshi Turkish Eastern European backgrounds benefit from learning English, gaining confidence and volunteering to gain experience and giving back to society. Through our End of Term Shared lunches the students meet with a wider community. Shared lunch is open to wider the community and we have women from different backgrounds including African and Caribbean. This is our regular community engagement event with the statutory and voluntary sector. The refreshments are donated by the student's friends and colleagues. This year we have one carer coming with an older person to our shared lunch. We would like to see older people attending shared lunches. It is one of our tasks to target this specific group in future to invite to our shared lunch. This again helps women to developing skills for women to speak in public to organise events with support if needed help support vulnerable people. Many women attend lessons and shared lunches to socialise learning about different cultures and making friends. The absence of these activities will result in isolation. The confidence of ladies making them productive citizens. Recently one of our Turkish students started to support a father of 5 children who has gone through divorce and the children's mother does not have anything to do with the kids. The father was suffering anxiety and depression in coping with the kids and the kids are now happy to spend leisure time with the volunteer. Father is also happy and able to cope with ongoing challenges. This is only one example from many demonstrating the impact of our work. We are also working closely with the area board manager specifically helping him to identify locations where the BAME community especially Muslims live in Melksham. This task is also incorporated in the project following a meeting with the Area board manager. Loneliness and isolation cause anxiety and can lead to mental health and depression. Meeting people be it education or engagement or volunteering provide a healthy environment. Two of our students are volunteering with Dorothy House Two are supporting individuals within the community and others are continually looking for suitable voluntary work. There are always challenges with new students especially from the Bangladeshi community. With the support of volunteer teachers and paid teachers everyone quickly integrated into the group. One of our students has volunteered to work with Wiltshire Police and two have volunteered to work with Health Watch Wiltshire. A number of students help at an allotment from time to time. This is not yet very successful in that a routine has not been established. A number of students have helped run afternoon Tea an evening meal and lunch to raise money for groups in Melksham BOA and Devizes. These women are good at making food and donating it free to raise funds. Clearly many different people and groups are benefitting from our work in Melksham. We are supporting a victim of hate crime who lives in Melksham and works in Devizes. All incidents took place in Devizes. Total volunteers in Melksham 5 Volunteer and total Group Committee members 6 working for both Trowbridge and Melksham.

**Input from Community Engagement Manager:**

The project meets eligibility criteria and does not require match funding.

**Proposal**

That the Area Board determines the application.

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

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