

Report to	Melksham Area Board
Date of Meeting	04/03/2020
Title of Report	Community Area Grant funding

Purpose of the report:

To consider the applications for funding listed below.

Applicant	Amount requested
Applicant: Melksham Without Parish Council Project Title: Shurnhold Fields Car Park View full application	£5000.00
Applicant: Poulshot Cricket Club Project Title: Poulshot Cricket Club New Mower View full application	£2000.00
Applicant: TransWilts CIC Project Title: Melksham Station Community Hub Car Park and Cafe View full application	£5000.00
Applicant: Wiltshire Youth Canoe Club Project Title: Melksham Adventure Centre Floor Renewal View full application	£2485.00
Applicant: Strange Old Things - The Mobile Museum Project Title: A Short History of Change View full application	£700.84
Applicant: Bulkington Parish Council Project Title: Bulkington Parish Council Storage Facility View full application	£1617.50
Applicant: Community Emergency Group Project Title: Community Emergency Group Shaw Whitley a generator	£745.00

View full application	
Applicant: Carer Support Wiltshire Project Title: Creative Writing Workshops for Carers View full application	£965.00
Applicant: Chippenham and District Sunday Football League Project Title: CDSFL Development Plan Grassroots football for young people View full application	£1960.00
Applicant: Seend United Football Club Project Title: Seend Lye Field Floodlights View full application	£677.50
Applicant: Primrose Nature Area Project Title: Primrose Nature Area Accessible to all Pathways View full application	£5000.00
Applicant: Melksham Town Council Project Title: GAZEBOS TO AUGMENT EXISTING PROVISION FOR TOWN EVENTS View full application	£1598.46

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

This is the final meeting of the current financial year 2019/20.

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
3678	Melksham Without Parish Council	Shurnhold Fields Car Park	£5000.00

Project Description:

Shurnhold Fields is a joint project of Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Council. Developing the public open space that was the former playing fields of George Ward School into a mini country park for all to enjoy. The provision of a fenced car park and bike rack is to ensure that this open space is accessible to all from Melksham Town Melksham Without and the wider Melksham Community Area and not just those within walking distance from the George Ward Gardens estate. It needs to be secure to prevent vehicles and unauthorised encampments accessing the fields.

In the Melksham Community Area profile 2014-2026 that informed the core strategy it states an under supply of amenity green space in both the urban area and rural area page 7 and 8. Page 16 priorities for the area recommends onsite provision for amenity green space should be sought in areas of under provision. The JSA is currently not available online for us to view and acknowledge that it is about to be updated but we feel the improvement of this public open space with its wildflower meadow 200 WW1 commemorative trees and rare orchard trees to be planted contribute to both the Wiltshire Council carbon neutral agenda as well as the general health and wellbeing of the residents of the Melksham community area. Giving them an easily accessible place to be able to walk in the countryside. Without adequate car parking facilities cars will park in Dunch Lane. A 10 space car park is planned and will require land drainage consent but likely to be considered permitted development. The car park construction will be of a grass matting variety to suit the land drainage requirements.

Input from Community Engagement Manager: Capital contributions of £ 6,000 each are promised by both Melksham Without Parish Council and Melksham Town Council. Maintenance expenses come from S106 contributions. Volunteer hours worth £ 1,250 are contributed by the Friends of Shurnhold Fields.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3634	Poulshot Cricket Club	Poulshot Cricket Club New Mower	£2000.00
<p>Project Description: Our current set of gang mowers which were given to the Club at foundation are very old and are no longer fit for purpose and thus need replacing with the most cost-effective solution possible to continue cricket in Poulshot.</p> <p>When we re-founded PCC three years ago we outlined that a successful Cricket Club on Poulshot Green would bring the following a breakdown of barriers related to socio-economic standing age demarcation and provide a communal and aesthetically beautiful space in the heart of our village. I believe that we have achieved and this more. In addition to the above I believe that the Cricket Club provides the following benefits to Poulshot A picturesque space for playing sports on the Green for not only cricket but football croquet and many forms of recreation during fete days. Due to the grass being maintained it is now a regular sight to see children playing football on the Green which was absent to a large extent previously The older and lonelier members of our community regularly watch the matches and take part in the teas etc and mix with people they may not have known or mixed with previously thereby reducing isolation. They will regularly stop for a chat when work is being conducted on the Green As PCC maintains and tenders at least 13 of the central Green at its own cost this provides an on cost reduction to the Parish for the mowing of the remainder of the Green PCC continues to fully support the Raven pub at this difficult time in its history sending c.20 players to the pub for food and refreshments most Wednesdays revenue that is vital to the Pub and its continued existence The Club has embraced and welcomed players of all ages and demographics from within the village and the wider local area and now feeds Potterne Cricket Club with some very talented junior cricketers whose first exposure to the game was on the Green The immeasurable but surely positive effect on local tourism and house prices desirability that a classic English village has when cricket is played on its Green for all to see and stop on a summers evening The rental of the Parish Hall for various functions and 100 support of any activities on the Green.</p> <p>Input from Community Engagement Manager: Matching contributions of £ 3,400 will be provided by the Poulshot Community Fund and cricket club reserves.</p>			
<p>Proposal That the Area Board determines the application.</p>			

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3586	TransWilts CIC	Melksham Station Community Hub Car Park and Cafe	£5000.00
<p>Project Description: The project is to acquire a lease from Wiltshire Council to provide a community asset at Melksham Station at the former Reeds site using car parking income to sustainably fund the lease. Planning permission was granted in July 2019 for a car park and cafe. The lease award has been delayed into 2020 by works to replace a lead water pipe. Design and preliminaries have been completed using previous grant funding. Construction work will now commence and complete in 2020. This grant application will be used for the cafe refurbishment and to match a GWR grant application.</p> <p>A Melksham Gateway Melksham population 23000 is still growing and the railway station is an important gateway to the town. Passenger numbers have grown on the TransWilts line to 250000 passenger journeys with 75000 starting or finishing at Melksham. The current Station is not very attractive to passengers and has no facilities or bus access. The project provides a caf</p>			

and a toilet for a friendly meeting place for travellers and visitors. Access to Employment and Services Major employers such as Herman Miller Knorr-Bremse have relocated to Melksham with significant employment opportunities at Chippenham and Swindon. Planned improvements in service frequency and service extension to Southampton Airport will potentially double current passenger numbers. Non car drivers have access to employment and services by using rail. Climate Emergency The increasing focus on Climate Emergency will accelerate the transfer of more passengers to rail where the CO2 emissions are 25 of car. The enlarged car park will include electric car chargers. Community This project will provide a community hub area together with a caf and more parking spaces. The new piazza outdoor space will accommodate pop-up community business opportunities and make a more attractive view from the station platform. The warehouse on the site is under consideration for conversion as a community training centre. Discussions are ongoing with potential business sponsors as the additional lease cost is too high to be funded by the car park income. However the opportunity is ideal for a suitable community rail project such as providing a path for unemployed or homeless into work. The caf can also provide training opportunities for suitable volunteers.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

Total project costs are £110,000 towards which match funding contributions have been made by GWR, Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Council among others.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3674	Wiltshire Youth Canoe Club	Melksham Adventure Centre Floor Renewal	£2485.00

Project Description:

The adventure centre is a home for many activities and clubs the floor is used as a café, gym, meeting place, exercise room, educational training such as first aid courses, training sessions and any other community projects requested. The upstairs floor is degrading it was laid in 1976 and contains one percent asbestos. The floor is uneven has holes in it is a possible health and safety hazard. Without the new floor the community will not be able to use this UNIQUE facility. Our community is suffering from lack of viable exercise space.

The grant will benefit all these current Melksham Users these include: 1.Wiltshire Youth Canoe Club. 2.Twelve primary schools in an area of six miles. 3.The children at these schools are actively encouraged to take up canoeing and this in turn provides the children with an afterschool club and hopefully a lifelong sporting ambition.4.The building is used to host Melksham Oak School canoe club 5.The centre is host to the Saturday parkrun reaching out to 200-500 hundred adults in the area. The park run is extremely well supported. 6.The centre also hosts the Sunday Junior parkrun.The club provides toilets, a free cafe and a base and a storage facility to the parkrun. 7. The ladies fitness group. 8. Youth Action Wiltshire. 9. People attending educational courses at the centre. 10. Party in the Park and food festival users. The users will benefit because they will be able to continue to use the facility without health and safety issues and as our footfall is increasing further members will benefit. The club will seek to increase its footfall once the floor is renewed as currently it inhibits use.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

The applicant is match funding the project.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3659	Strange Old Things - The Mobile Museum	A Short History of Change	£700.84
<p>Project Description: A project to create a new history exhibition for Melksham and deliver it to local school pupils and the public. The exhibition will be a light-hearted look at money trade and treasure from the stone age to modern times. We'll be holding sessions in Bowerhill school and Melksham library and aim to support at least 300 people at five initial sessions and more in future.</p> <p>We intend to run 6 sessions 3 in local schools and three public events. These will be educational allowing people to handle artefacts and learn about different periods. The public events will take place in school holidays and be free entry providing free activities for low income families. The school sessions will also be free for the school and parents. We hope to directly support 300 local people in these sessions and more going forward as other organisations make use of the collection.</p> <p>Input from Community Engagement Manager: This capital costs relate mostly to the purchase of coin sets. The Community Librarian is supportive of the project.</p>			
<p>Proposal That the Area Board determines the application.</p>			

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3653	Bulkington Parish Council	Bulkington Parish Council Storage Facility	£1617.50
<p>Project Description: Bulkington Parish Council owns equipment e.g. Marquee tables chairs cooking equipment and water boilers which have been stored by a local farmer for many years. He now requires the space and has asked us to find alternative storage. We have decided the best way forward is to own our own storage facility.</p> <p>Beneficiaries will be local residents of Bulkington. The Equipment was purchased by the community so the secure storage unit will protect the integrity of the items therefore preventing further expenditure.</p> <p>Input from Community Engagement Manager: The Parish Council in FY 2021 is focusing its available reserves on the replacement and refurbishment of playground equipment no longer deemed safe by ROSPA.</p>			
<p>Proposal That the Area Board determines the application.</p>			

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3624	Community Emergency Group	Community Emergency Group Shaw Whitley a generator	£745.00
<p>Project Description: In the event of an emergency the Reading Rooms Whitley becomes a muster station and</p>			

control room for the Community emergency group CEG. In the event of a loss of electric power it would be beneficial to have the back up of a dual fuel LPG/petrol 1000w inverter generator. This type of generator provides a pure sine wave which can be used to power mobile phones walkie-talkies and lap tops. In addition, it would be used to power lights and boil a kettle. It could also be used to power our submersible water pumps to help remove water from any flooded properties in the 2 villages.

In an emergency any villagers who have to vacate their property because of flooding can be accommodated in the Reading Rooms we have a limited supply of sleeping bags and camp bed. If we lost electrical power this generator would power our mobile lights walkie-talkies mobile phone and lap tops. the Reading Rooms also serve as a Control Room where our volunteer Flood Wardens we have about 25 volunteers gather and carry out duties in and around the village. We have a detailed emergency plan and volunteers have been trained what to do in an emergency. The CEG was formed as a result of severe flooding in our 2 villages in 2014 when many properties flooded and some had to be evacuated.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

The applicant does not have any reserve funds as all funds have been in the form of grants for specific items.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3602	Carer Support Wiltshire	Creative Writing Workshops for Carers	£965.00

Project Description:

Carer Support Wiltshire seeks 965 from the Melksham Area Board to launch a five-part series of creative writing workshops for carers. These workshops will run in Melksham on a monthly basis. Each session will last for a minimum of three hours for up to fifteen carers and will be led by a dedicated teacher to cover a range of creative writing topics. Carers who attend will benefit by getting a vital break from their caring role improve valuable communication and writing skills and obtaining skills which make further education and employment opportunities more accessible.

A carer is someone of any age who provides unpaid support to family or friends who could not manage without this help. This could be caring for a relative partner or friend who is ill frail disabled or has mental health or substance misuse problems. New research reveals that 8 out of 10 people caring for loved ones described themselves as lonely or socially isolated due to their caring responsibilities and 40 of carers said they hadn't taken a day off for more than a year. Melksham has a high proportion of carers 11.1 of the total population 3146 in total. Carer Support Wiltshire supports 650 of them. Of the 297 of them who have completed our Initial Assessments-84 never have the opportunity to take a break-172 worry about money-187 feel lonely or isolated-207 have difficulty feeling positive about the future. It is critical that carers have time to be themselves develop new skills and feel involved in the community. It is clear that carers in Melksham need support to do this and to feel recognised valued and supported by their community. Our creative writing workshops for carers will help attendees build their confidence take a rare break from their day-to-day caring role reduce their feelings of loneliness and isolation meet other carers and build a support network in their local area. Sessions will be therapeutic calming and will give the carers who attend the skills to express themselves effectively. Carers who attend the workshops will gain valuable writing and communication skills and will therefore be useful for carers who are keen to return to work after leaving employment to care for their loved-ones on a full-time basis. These workshops will give these carers the experience and confidence to strive for work that interests and challenges them.

Young adult carers aged 18-25 will also benefit from these workshops as they to seek experiences and opportunities which will make further education and employment more accessible. We are also confident that this series of creative writing workshops for carers supports Melkshams local priorities to provide increased support for carers and to improve levels of mental wellbeing participation and activity for people of all abilities. We would like to involve the Melksham Area Board in this unique project and ask for funding to cover some of the costs for the five monthly workshops venue stationary equipment refreshments etc.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

The Jack Lane Charitable Trust is contributing £ 1,000 towards total project costs of £ 2,243. This is a revenue project under the Health and Wellbeing budget.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3654	Chippenham and District Sunday Football league	CDSFL Development Plan Grassroots football for young people	£1960.00

Project Description:

We have noticed a need for young people to become Qualified refs with DBA clearances and first aid training but alas a cost they cannot afford. Also, the domestics of applications is daunting. We want to fill this gap our group of qualified volunteers will free of charge do the paperwork booking courses and dates locations and use the Grant to cover the costs. We have seen the odd few young refs blossom with support we wish to offer this support to ANY under 18 male female this opportunity. This is a confidence builder character building and fills a need in Under 91012 and 18 football leading to a continued ability to follow through the adult ranks . We also wish to provide a small allowance towards the successful candidates on uniform flags whistle etc from this Grant .As a parallel initiative we want to hold a football tournament in Melksham to invite all under 18 teams to play against Sunday adult teams to encourage them to continue football when they reach 18 often only the few get games with local clubs .The FA have dictated rightly that no adult club can play under 18s with a DBS qualified in the club we free of charge will provide a qualified interviewer with just FA admin fee 15 to some 30 clubs from this Grant without which we would lose young people from the game. We will look to local youth clubs e.g Canberra offer this opportunity plus all such clubs. The non-mandatory request we will ask of candidates is they support the shortage of refs at all areas such as Disabled Football as a pay back We intend Communicating this activity across the community.

This project will allow as a starter 12 young people to become FA qualified refs to support a ask of refs at this age group to support a massive growing Melksham and oval area football with adults unqualified and not always DBA qualified in managing the league games across Melksham and beyond .They will also be trained in disabled football game management filling a requirement .The CDSFL committee will mentor these young people and allow a career path that can help and support progression .The new FA regulation the calls on all clubs to have a DBSCRC qualified member of the club means no under 18s can play for adult teams of the officer is not in place we have a committee member who will give this service free to some 30 clubs with just the admin few being reauired15 per club candidate this keeping the progression from youth football to adult open.The tournament will invite all Wiltshire under 18 teams to play against a mixture of average Adult Sunday teams to encourage them to continue playing as they become 18 only the exceptional ones get picked up and the others can be lost to sport We also intend publicizing this using our committee press officers free services and only costs of press etc and tournament Medals Cdsfl will donate cup free.We are weekly seeing a shortage of qualified refs for local football but have seen small pockets of Under 18 men and women being

a life blood but we need to increase the help to young people who can not afford to go down this route

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

A £2,000 match funding contribution is being provided by the Wiltshire Community Foundation. This a revenue project application to the local youth budget.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3593	Seend United Football Club	Seend Lye Field Floodlights	£677.50

Project Description:

I run a Saturday League football team and we have nowhere to train as the local school is booked up and nowhere else has outside lighting. The field has a few floodlights that no longer work but I would like to have them replaced so our team and others have a new space to do activities and train. We have tried to raise as much as we can to have them fixed but just cannot do it on our own.

Our football team for a start will benefit because it gives us a place to do what we love and keep the team going. Without training people lose interest because we lose games this leads to the club folding and then we have nothing. Seend lye field rent out to other football teams too and I am sure they would be interested in training under the lights if they are installed. There is also a young footballers foundation that use the pitch so even children would benefit from the lights. The committee relies on the community to keep an income so the lights being installed will mean more people renting the field which leads to the community making more money to boost the village. I really dont see any negatives to the flood lights being installed as so many people would be able to enjoy sport and activities after dark which they arent able to do at the moment.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

The club is raising match funding towards total project costs of £ 1,355.00

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3644	Primrose Nature Area	Primrose Nature Area Accessible to all Pathways	£5000.00

Project Description:

The aim-create a permanent accessible to all pathway through Primrose Nature Area. Currently those less able are unable to access the nature area they can only skirt the edges on 2 sides. During a community bulb planting event senior citizens and people in wheelchair/scooters turned up to help but were unable to access the area due to the pathing. During the wet winter months, the area is slippery and dangerous for able bodied walkers and gaining access to empty the two dog poo bins is treacherous at times. We would like to replace worn shingle pathways and install a new pathway alongside the brook as per the area marked pink on the emailed area plan. This inclusivity would meet vision 4 of the Corporate plan 2017-2021 <https://www.melkshamtown.co.uk/town-council-reports/506-corporate-plan-2017-21file>

The work - Committee members and volunteers would build the pathway. It would be 10cm, 4 deep have a thick weed resistant membrane and MOT Type 1 stones these are the same stones as currently used for the pathway from Primrose Drive past the play ground to Primrose

Drive near the Nature Area access - this will result in pathways not needing repairing for at least 5 years. A mini digger less damaging to the environment better for wildlife and less noisy for neighbouring properties would be hired for weekend usage throughout the springsummer until the project is finalised. The pathway installation would be in an area where people currently walk not where wildlife resides. Once completed residents and visitors regardless of their physical abilities will all be able to enjoy the area be able to attend help with community events and feel included. We envisage the area as being a tranquil place where Melksham residents and visitors can enjoy it visually can socialise there walk their dogs senior citizens mums with pushchairs disabled can access the area to feed the birds watch the wildlife and take part in activities. This pathway would allow access to the area all year round. This inclusivity would meet vision 4 of the Corporate plan 2017-2021 <https://www.melkshamtown.co.uk/town-council-reports/506-corporate-plan-2017-21>

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

Of total project costs of over £ 15,000, contributions include £ 7,000 of equipment, volunteer time and donations.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3662	Melksham Town Council	GAZEBOS TO AUGMENT EXISTING PROVISION FOR TOWN EVENTS	£1598.46

Project Description:

This project will augment the existing infrastructure in the form of professional events gazebos and ancillaries to allow the popular Melksham Makers Market to grow. Also, this purchase will augment the existing infrastructure to develop existing and facilitate additional events for the benefit of the Melksham community and to develop the local economy. These to take place at Melksham Market Place and elsewhere in the town.

This project will allow the Melksham Makers Market organisation to develop and play its part in growing the local economy by providing an increasing sales platform capacity for local Makers and Crafting businesses by increasing the numbers of such businesses which can be accommodated. Such markets have proved popular with residents and visitors and the larger number of Makers and Crafting businesses attending will provide a greater attraction and hence increase support for the visitor economy. The applicant will support the Melksham Makers Market with professional marketing advice in order to ensure it grows and the visitor economy develops. The local community and visitors will also benefit from the improved facilities these gazebos will provide for local events. It is important that events and festivals are attractive and well resourced in order to attract audiences each year. There is established correlation between visitors visiting a town and economic benefit accrued.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

Income from Melksham Makers Market will partially fund this project and the cost of servicing the market to put up take down and secure gazebos will be met by the applicant. The applicant has insufficient reserve funds to entirely fund this project.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

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

Report Author:

Peter Dunford

Community Engagement Manager

01225 713060

Peter.Dunford@wiltshire.gov.uk