

Report to	Melksham Area Board	Agenda Item No.13
Date of Meeting	12 May 2011	
Title of Report	Community Area Grants	

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 1 application seeking 2011/2012 Community Area Grant Funding:

1. **Atworth Youth Club** have applied for a grant of **£783** to purchase camping equipment for Duke of Edinburgh. The recommendation is to award the funding.

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Community Services (27 February 2010). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance for funding.
- 1.2. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any recommendation of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the Leader, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Cabinet.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, however, the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.4. EXAMPLE Two applicants withdrew their applications and hope to reapply at a future date. One application did not meet the funding criteria and was referred to Charities Information Bureau (CIB) for support to seek funding from elsewhere. CIB work on behalf of Wiltshire Council to support community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils to seek funding for community projects and schemes both from the Area Board and other local and national funding sources.
- 1.5. Funding applications will be considered at every other Area Board meeting.
- 1.6. Melksham Area Board has been allocated a 2011/2012 budget of £49,762 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives. The carry forward from the 2010/2011 budget is £3687. This leaves a total budget of £53,449 for the 2011/2012 budget.
- 1.7. A decision has been made in 2010/2011 that paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.8. The 2010/2011 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Area Grant Application Pack 20010/11• Melksham Community Strategy• Grant applications
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2010/11 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. This will be the final round of funding during 2010/11.

3. Environmental & Community Implications

Community Area Grants will contribute to the continuance and/or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and wellbeing in the community area, the extent and specifics of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. Awards must fall within the Area Boards budget allocated to the Melksham Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Melksham Area Board will have a balance of **£52,666**

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1. There are no specific Legal implications related to this report.

6. HR Implications

- 6.1. There are no specific HR implications related to this report.

7. Equality and Inclusion Implications

- 7.1. Community Area Grants give all local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.
- 7.2. Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within section 8 – “Officer Recommendations”.

8. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Atworth Youth Club	To purchase camping equipment for Duke of Edinburgh.	£783

- 8.1.1. Recommendation is to award the funding.
- 8.1.2. Application meets grant criteria 2011/12.
- 8.1.3. This application demonstrates a link to the Melksham community plan in terms of 'achieving greater benefits and value for money from existing youth facilities and to provide a greater variety of activities and sessions at existing youth facilities'.
- 8.1.4. Locally agreed priorities: no local priorities
- 8.1.5. The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- 8.1.6. This project will allow 12 young people to take part in Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze expedition on 9th/10th July. The funding is to purchase camping equipment (tents and compasses) and Memory Maps a computer package to help with route planning. Once the group have all the necessary equipment they will only need to charge the participants the cost of maps, campsites, food, petrol etc for the expeditions. This is usually affordable for most families. It would be difficult for some of the young people to be able to participate if their parents had to buy tents, compass, Trangia and rucksacks for them.
- 1.1.1. Equality and inclusion issues are addressed by this project: This project will be giving young people aged 13-19 from Atworth and the surrounding area the opportunity to participate in structured activities, access to support and guidance from trained youth workers and the opportunity to take part in volunteering in their community.
- 1.1.2. If the area board does not grant funding the group would have to try and borrow the equipment.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 Grant application – Atworth Youth Club
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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