

**ITEM 13**

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Amesbury Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>2 June 2011</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Community Area Grants</b>

<b>Purpose of Report</b>	<u><i>Recommendation</i></u>
<p>To ask Councillors to consider 2 applications seeking 2011/12 Community Area Grant Funding, totalling £1750.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Stonehenge School – seeking £950 to contribute towards the cost of taking 25 year 8 students to the Action Adventure Centre in Powys, Wales, as an extra-curricular, outdoor education field trip.</li> <li>2. Wiltshire Fire &amp; Rescue Service – seeking £800 for Salamander training course which is a youth inclusion initiative aimed at young people who are offenders, at risk of offending, risk of exclusion, low in confidence or in need of team building skills.</li> </ol>	<p><i>Approve</i></p> <p><i>Approve</i></p>

## **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 (4 April 2011). 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 decision of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria and/or the officer's recommendation would need to demonstrate that the application in question has a wider community benefit, and give specific reasons for why this should justify an exception to the criteria.
- 1.3. The emphasis in the Coalition Government's Localism agenda supports the ethos of volunteering and community involvement. With this in mind Community Area Grants should be encouraged from and awarded to community and voluntary groups.
- 1.4. Area boards will not consider applications from town and parish councils for purposes that relate to their statutory duties or powers that should be funded from the local town/parish precept. However this does not preclude bids from town/parish councils, encouraging community projects that provide new opportunities for local people or those functions that are not the sole responsibility of the town/parish council.
- 1.5. Officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, although the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on the Area Board.
- 1.6. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.7. All applicants are encouraged to contact Charities Information Bureau who is working 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.
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. The 2011/2012 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website ([www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards)) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.
- 1.10. The Amesbury Area Board has been allocated a 2011/2012 budget of £50,455 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives. The carry forward from the 2010/2011 budget was £11,035. This gives a total budget of £61,490 for 2011/2012.

## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2011/12 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.

### **3. Environmental & Community Implications**

- 3.1 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 Amesbury Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, the Amesbury Area Board will have a remaining balance of £59,740

### **5. Legal Implications**

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

### **6. Human Resources Implications**

- 6.1. There are no specific human resources 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	The Stonehenge School	To take a group of 25 students from Year 8 (including challenging youngsters and those who are looked after, or from minority ethnic groups) to the Action Adventure Centre in Powys, Wales, for an extra curricular, outdoor education field trip.	£950

- 8.1.1. It is recommended that The Stonehenge School is awarded a grant of £950 to assist with the costs of taking 25 students from year 8 on an extra curricular outdoor education field trip.
- 8.1.2. This application meets the grant criteria for 2011/12, as the field trip is not part of the core service provided by the School, but an extra curricular activity. Additionally, it will provide community wide benefit, as the young people will return with an improved outlook on life, which will decrease the chances of them getting involved in anti-social behaviour, and increase the chances of them wanting to contribute positively to society, and secure a good quality higher education..

- 8.1.3. The area board grant will enable students, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds, looked after children, and those from minority ethnic communities, to enjoy the many benefits of this trip, which will include camping, kayaking, climbing, bush craft, problem solving and evening activities focusing on group work and sharing. The main aim is to improve the students outlook on life and to instil in them an increased aspiration to pursue higher education studies.
- 8.1.4. The School seeks to organise a range of extra curricular activities in partnership with others in the community, e.g. a different educational establishment, businesses, community groups etc, to provide the opportunity for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds or those generally classed as 'hard to reach', to benefit from the advantages of such activities.
- 8.1.5. The trip will be carried out in partnership with The John Bentley School, Calne – leading to a broader mix of students to enhance interaction, group and team activities. The students who will benefit from this grant all come from within the Amesbury Area, many from single parent families with financial difficulties.
- 8.1.6. The total cost of the trip is £3,750, and the School hopes to secure funding from the University of the West of England and the Fosseway (Stonehenge), in addition to putting in £1,000 of funds it has raised itself.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service	Salamander training courses for young people who are offenders, at risk of offending, risk of exclusion, low in confidence or in need of team building skills.	£800

- 8.2.1 It is recommended that the Fire and Rescue Service be awarded £800 to jointly fund a Salamander course at Salisbury Fire Station whereby young people from Amesbury, Southern Wiltshire and South West Wiltshire will take part in the course.
- 8.2.2 This application meets the grant criteria for 2011/12, as the Salamander course is not part of the core service provided by the Wiltshire Fire and Rescue service but an extra community focused activity. Additionally, it will provide community wide benefit, as the young people will develop skills, which will decrease the chances of them getting involved in anti-social behaviour.
- 8.2.3 The funding will enable young people who are known offenders, at risk of offending and exclusion take part in a meaningful activity. It will also demonstrate partnership working with the Fire and Rescue service and neighbouring Area Boards in tackling social issues. This is based on referrals from schools, youth offending teams and other avenues so the exact numbers of young people from Amesbury Community Area is not yet known but is likely to be in the region of about 5.
- 8.2.4 This application has gone to Southern Wiltshire Area Board and South West Wiltshire Area Board as it is recognised that there are young people that come from rural areas

that are put forward for the course. This will be recommended for approval at these boards too. Salisbury Area Board has already part funded on Salamander course.

<b>Appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 Grant Application – The Stonehenge School Appendix 2 Grant Application – The Salamander Course
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