

Report to	Bradford on Avon Area Board	Agenda Item No.8
Date of Meeting	20 July 2011	
Title of Report	Community Area Grants	

Purpose of Report

- a) To ask Councillors to consider three applications seeking 2011/12 Community Area Grant Funding:

1. Saxon Church and St Mary Tory Trusteeship, Bradford on Avon

The officer recommendation is that £ 600 is awarded to the Saxon Church and St Mary Tory Trusteeship to remove and renovate or renew 3 directive signs to both churches

2. 1st Winsley Scout Group

The officer recommendation is that a reduced sum of £ 462 is awarded to the 1st Winsley Scout Group for the District Patrol Camping Competition

3. Limpley Stoke K6 Telephone Kiosk Refurbishment Group

The officer recommendation is that £ 560 is awarded to the Limpley Stoke K6 Telephone Kiosk Refurbishment Group for the Community telephone kiosk mini-library project

- b) To ask councillors to consider the withdrawal of funding granted at the Area Board meeting on 11 May for the following application:

Bradford on Avon Arts Festival - grant award of £ 1,175

in the light of the decision of the organisers to cancel the 2011 event and hold it over until June 2012. The officer recommendation, supported by the Grants Advisory Group, is that the application be withdrawn and re-submitted in the next financial year, closer to the date when more details are known of the exact nature and costs of the 2012 event.

1. Background

- 1.1 Area Boards have authority to approve Community 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 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 as to why this should justify an exception to the criteria.
- 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 Bradford on Avon Area Board has been allocated a budget in 2011/2012 of £47,110 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives. The carry forward from the 2010/2011 budget is £12,142. This gives a total budget of £59,252 for the 2011/2012 financial year. It will not be possible for unspent monies at 31/03/12 to be rolled forward into the budget for the 2012/13 financial year.
- 1.5 It has been decided that paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce the volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council website and hard copies will be available upon request.
- 1.6 The 2011/2012 funding criteria and application forms are available on the Council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) and 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 2011/12• Bradford on Avon Community Area Plan• Wiltshire Local Area Agreement• Report of Grant Advisory Group• Technical Officer reports
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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.
- 2.2 There will be 6 rounds of funding during 2011/12, this being the second round.

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 Bradford on Avon Area Board.

4.2 If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Bradford on Avon Area Board will have a balance of £ 56, 100 remaining in the grants budget for the 2011/12 financial year.

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 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	Saxon Church and St Mary Tory Trusteeship	Remove and renovate or renew 3 directive signs to both churches	£ 600

8.1.1 The application meets the Community Area Grant Scheme criteria for 2011/12. Highways Officers comment that the ownership of the current signs at Barton Farm is unclear, but likely to be in the ownership of the Bradford on Avon Preservation Trust, English Heritage or British Waterways. The Council is not in a position to undertake the renewal of these signs anytime soon and because the signs are not on the highway the Council does not need to be involved in erecting the refurbished signs.

8.1.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Bradford on Avon Community Plan and to the Wiltshire Local Area Agreement through its aim to protect local heritage and to stimulate tourism and spending in the local economy.

8.1.4 Members of the Grants Advisory Group consider that the project is ineligible for support because they take the view that the renewal of signage is the responsibility of the local authorities. The financial reserves of the applicant body are healthy. The GAG recommend refusal of this application, their full comments are available in an appendix to this report.

8.1.5 The signs are currently in a poor state and need attention either because they are unreadable or because of disintegration. Clear signage is important as these two churches are of great value to the town and bring in hundreds of tourists and visitors. The maintenance costs of the churches are high and although the trust has reserves it does rely on donations for the upkeep.

The officer recommendation is that £ 600 is awarded to the Saxon Church and St Mary Tory Trusteeship to remove and renovate or renew 3 directive signs to both churches

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	1st Winsley Scout Group	District Patrol Camping Competition	£ 924

8.2.1 This application meets the community area grant criteria for 2011/12.

8.2.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Bradford on Avon Community Plan and Wiltshire Local Area Agreement through its contribution to activities for young people and to community volunteering.

8.2.4 Members of the Grants Advisory Group are supportive of the initiative but given the resources available to the applicant recommend that 50 % of the grant be awarded, being a total of £ 462. Their full comments are available in an appendix to this report.

8.2.5 The camping competition involves using traditional camping equipment in the style of Baden-Powell, the founder of the scout movement. To group wishes to buy a canvass patrol tent, flysheet and traditional dining shelter to competition standards. The aim of the project is to give young people from Winsley Scout Group the opportunity to learn and improve their co-operation, team work, leadership and communication skills. Up to 40 children will benefit this year and in future years. The equipment will be available to use for other community events and regular scout camps.

The officer recommendation is that a reduced sum of £ 462 is awarded to the 1st Winsley Scout Group for the District Patrol Camping Competition

Ref	Applicant	Project Proposal	Funding Requested
8.3	Limpley Stoke K6 Telephone Kiosk Refurbishment Group	Community telephone kiosk mini-library project	£ 560

8.3.1 The application meets the community grant criteria for 2011/12.

8.3.2 The application demonstrates a link to the Bradford on Avon Community Plan and Wiltshire Local Area Agreement through its contribution to village services and community volunteering.

8.3.3 The Grants Advisory Group is supportive and recommends approval of the application in full.

8.3.4 The phone box was purchased from BT by the Parish Council some years ago but has remained disconnected and disused. The community agreed to turn the kiosk into a mini-library and local information point. Books will be offered for free exchange. Maps showing local footpaths, events, announcements and points of interest will be displayed. The physical work- stripping, repair and painting of the door; scraping, priming and repainting of the kiosk structure; replacement and fitting of glazing units - is being carried out by community volunteers. New steel frames, toughened glass units and genuine leather door straps need to be acquired and this is the specific purpose of the grant requested.

The officer recommendation is that £ 560 is awarded to the Limpley Stoke K6 Telephone Kiosk Refurbishment Group for the Community telephone kiosk mini-library project

Appendices:	Grant applications from: Saxon Church and St Mary Tory Trusteeship 1st Winsley Scout Group Limpley Stoke K6 Telephone Kiosk Refurbishment Group Report from the Grants Advisory Group
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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