

Report to	Amesbury Area Board
Date of Meeting	21 July 2011
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 5 applications seeking 2011/12 Community Area Grant Funding, totalling £24.250

1. Amesbury 2012 – Community Events in the build up to Olympics 2012 and Diamond Jubilee - £4250
2. 2nd Bulford St Leonards Scout Group - Knock down of existing scout hut and replacement with a new building suitable for the scouts and other community groups - £5000
3. Wiltshire South Girlguiding – A new boiler for the headquarters at Berwick St James - £5000
4. Larkhill Community Action Partnership - St. Barbara's Hall is the old Roman Catholic Church within Larkhill Garrison. The building is not used for that purpose any longer and requires refurbishing for other community uses - £5000
5. The Amesbury Society – To continue exploration of a previously overlooked part of the Stonehenge ritual landscape and to provide further evidence for 10,000 years of continuous human activity and settlement within the area - £5000

Total Requested: £24,250

Recommendation

Approve in full

Approve in full

Defer

Approve in full

*Part Approve
(£1000)*

*Total
Recommended:
£15,250*

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) 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. At the Area Board meeting on the 2nd June a spend of £ 1,750 was agreed the available budget is £59,740 and then if grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, the Amesbury Area Board will have a remaining balance of £44,490 (This includes £11.000 set aside for Amesbury Parishes to bid to for the 2012 local celebrations).

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	Amesbury Town Council	Amesbury 2012 – community events in build up to Olympics 2012 and Diamond Jubilee.	£4250

- 8.1.1. It is recommended that this application is approved in full.
- 8.1.2. The application meets the Community Area Grants criteria 2011/12 (see 1.4 above) as it is a project benefiting the Amesbury community area. The Town Council has contributed £2.000 of its own funding to enable the project to take place.
- 8.1.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Stonehenge Community Plan 2004-9 which identified the need for additional cultural activities. (Leisure and recreation section).It also and enhancing the tourist offer.

8.1.4. Amesbury 2012 and beyond is a year long programme of events sporting challenges and competitions it aims to engage all members of the community in free sport and art based activities, creating stronger community links and developing a greater feeling of belonging within the community in the lead up to the Olympics and the Diamond Jubilee.

8.1.5. Activities which will be promoted will include Arts and Crafts workshops, competitions and sporting events.

8.1.6. Participation in Amesbury 2012 is open to everyone and is free. The project aims to also include the surrounding villages for example inter town competitions.

8.1.7. Additional benefits include improving activities for young people thus reducing anti social behaviour.

The project also aims to raise the profile of Amesbury and improve links with Stonehenge to put Amesbury on the tourist map which will benefit the local economy.

8.1.8. A unique book recording the history of Amesbury and Stonehenge will be born during the year and will be made of materials and a quality unseen today. It will become a record of Myths, Legends and the Historical facts surrounding Amesbury and Stonehenge and will become a visitor attraction in its own right. Locals will be asked to help contribute their stories and it will include a record of the moment in time.

8.1.9. The project will be managed by a special committee which includes representatives of the Town Council, local businesses, schools, the Church and other partners such as Police Fire etc.

8.1.10. Financial control will be maintained by the Town Council in a separate account.

8.1.11. The total project costs are detailed at £8,500. Project income includes £2000 from Amesbury Town Council, in kind contributions from Salisbury Arts festival, the Holiday Inn, Stonehenge Ales and other local businesses. The total project income is £4250 leaving a short fall of £4250.00.

8.1.12. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project, the project will be delayed as alternative funding is sought.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	2nd Bulford St Leonards Scout Group	Knock down of existing scout hut and replacement with a new building suitable for the scouts and other community groups	£5000

8.2.1. It is recommended that this application is approved in full.

8.2.2. The application meets the Community Area Grants criteria 2011/12

8.2.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Stonehenge Community Plan 2004-9 which identified the need for community halls and leisure and cultural activities for young people and additional youth centres. This theme is also reflected in the work carried out towards a new community plan for the area as below

Children & Young People

- *provide more indoor and outdoor recreational facilities and equipment*
- *improve transport for children and young people to access education, training and leisure*
- *improve support, information, guidance and advice services for young people*
- *support communities in the running of intergenerational events to promote a more integrated community where each generation understands and respects the needs of the other (draft Amesbury Community Plan 2011-16)*

The application meets locally agreed priorities as above. The 2nd Bulford St Leonards Scout Group is a member of the Scout Association Trust Corporation a company limited by Guarantee and a registered charity. The aims of the Scout Association are to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. The Scouting method is young people, in partnership with adults:

- enjoying what they are doing;
- learning by doing;
- participating in varied and progressive activities;
- making choices for themselves;
- taking responsibility for their own actions;
- working in groups;
- taking increasing responsibility for others.

8.2.6. The 2nd Bulford St Leonards Scout Group is the largest scout group in the area with a membership of over 60. The Scout group provides a safe environment for young people to meet and develop new skills which benefit both themselves and the wider community.

8.2.7. Due to health and safety concerns the group has had to vacate the existing scout hut at Milston Road Bulford and relocate to Briggerston, as this was the nearest available premises. This has had an impact on attendance and the group is anxious to return to Bulford.

8.2.8. The project is to knock down the existing scout hut at Milston Road and replace it with a new building suitable for the scouts and other community groups to use. The project will provide purpose built accommodation and ensures that children are able to undertake supervised activities in a controlled environment whilst supporting them in developing life skills and helping the local community. The project will also improve the offer to include Explorer Scouts thus attracting new members.

8.2.9. The Scout Association has secured a lease of the land at Milford Road which houses the existing hut, from the MOD, with a clause (10) to dismantle the derelict scout hut (which has now happened) and within 24 months construct a new scout hut building in compliance with Planning Permission Reference S/2009/871/FULL issued by Wiltshire Council.

8.2.10. The total project cost is stated on the application as £74,690 and the group has confirmed funding of £47,000.00 and provisional funding of £18,000.00. The applicant has approached a range of organisations and agencies including the Big Lottery, Tesco and Waitrose and has been successful in raising significant funds already. This still leaves a shortfall of £9,690 however and the applicant is now seeking £5,000.00 from the area board.

8.2.11. The group welcomes members from all backgrounds and does not restrict access on ability to pay.

8.2.12. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project, the project will be delayed

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	Wiltshire South Girlguiding	A new boiler for the headquarters at Berwick St James and associated new electrics	£5000

8.2.1 It is recommended that this **application is deferred**. The Area Board needs to award grants to projects which can realistically proceed within three months and which will be spent within one year of the award being made. As the applicant has only recently commenced fundraising and there is a large total to raise, it is not clear that this criteria will be met.

8.3.1. Aside from the above, the application meets the Community Area Grants criteria 2011/12

8.3.2. The application demonstrates a link to the Stonehenge Community Plan 2004-9 which identified the need for community halls and leisure and cultural activities for young people and additional youth centres. This theme is also reflected in the work carried out towards a new community plan for the area as below:

Children & Young People

- *provide more indoor and outdoor recreational facilities and equipment*
- *improve transport for children and young people to access education, training and leisure*
- *improve support, information, guidance and advice services for young people*
- *support communities in the running of intergenerational events to promote a more integrated community where each generation understands and respects the needs of the other (draft Amesbury Community Plan 2011-16)*

The application meets locally agreed priorities as above.

The Wiltshire South Girlguiding headquarters is managed by a voluntary committee on behalf of the Wiltshire South Guides. It is accountable to the County Commissioner and County Executive Committee. The aims of the Guide Centre is to provide space for meetings, residential holidays for girls from all over South Wiltshire and is used by other organisations, including local village activities. The aims of Guiding are to help girls and young women to develop emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually so they can make positive contributions to their communities.

- 8.3.6. The Centre requires a new boiler to replace the old existing one which causes disruption to planned events and activities. The Centre will benefit approximately 2000 girlguiding members and other users of the facility.
- 8.3.7. The project requires significant investment therefore this grant will be part funding a project worth around £27,825. As fundraising has just got underway then it is likely that this project could take some time to realise, therefore if funds are allocated there is a risk that they will not be spent within the 1 year period. It is recommended that the application is deferred. The applicant could re apply when they have secured further funding.
- 8.3.8. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project, the project will be delayed.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4	Larkhill Community Action Partnership	St. Barbara's Hall is the old Roman Catholic Church within Larkhill Garrison. The building is not used for that purpose any longer and requires refurbishing for other community uses	£5000

- 8.4.1. It is recommended that this application is approved in full.
- 8.4.2. The application meets the Community Area Grants criteria 2011/12
- 8.4.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Stonehenge Community Plan 2004-9 which identified the need for community halls and leisure and cultural activities for young people and additional community facilities.
- 8.4.4. The application meets locally agreed priorities as above. The refurbishment of this facility will provide a community 'hub' which is outside the MOD area. The Larkhill Community Partnership engage with a wide range of community groups who will be able to use the facility once it is refurbished.
- 8.4.6. The total project cost is £25,050, with a range of funders approached to secure this amount. The project is backed by Durrington Town Council which is contributing

£5,000. The funding sought is for phase one of the project to provide kitchen, toilets and storage areas to enable full functional use of the hall at this stage. Funders contributing to phase one include Durrington Town Council, Larkhill Primary School and funds raised by the local community. Pledged funders for phase two include Army central welfare fund, headquarters 43 Wessex Brigade and support from local units non-public funds. The shortfall between funds secured and pledged and total project costs is £5,000 for which this application is being made to the area board.

8.4.7. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project, the project will be delayed

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5	The Amesbury Society	To continue exploration of a previously overlooked part of the Stonehenge ritual landscape and to provide further evidence for 10,000 years of continuous human activity and settlement within the area	£5000

8.5.1. It is recommended that this application is approved in part to the sum of £1000.

8.5.2. The application meets the Community Area Grants criteria 2011/12.

8.5.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Amesbury Community Strategic plan 2006 - 2016. *'Links with Stonehenge needs to be improved. Need to derive some benefit from the town, perhaps by a Henge visitor centre near Amesbury'*.

8.5.4. The application meets locally agreed priorities as above.

8.5.5. The Amesbury Society was formed in 1975 by a group of local people inspired by an exhibition about Amesbury's history, displayed in the towns' library. The Society, which is registered with the Civic Trust, holds a programme of public meetings and lectures during winter months; during the summer, field trips and outings to sites of historical and environmental interest.

It was a major contributor to the Amesbury Millennium celebrations in 1979 and has published an account of the towns' history: *"AMESBURY history and description of a South Wiltshire town"*, now in its second edition (sold out), and an illustrated guide to the town, with suggested walks: *"In and Around Amesbury"*, now in its third edition. Members are kept in touch with Society activities via a periodical newsletter, which also features items of local interest.

The aims of the Amesbury Society are:

- to secure the conservation of features of historic and public interest
- to try to promote high standards of planning and architecture
- to stimulate interest in the town and its environment

- 8.5.6. This project aims to continue exploration of a previously overlooked part of the Stonehenge ritual landscape and to provide further evidence for 10,000 years of continuous human activity within the area.
- 8.5.7. The project will support excavation for two weeks each year from 2011 – 2014.
- 8.5.8. The project is in its sixth year and has received academic support from the Open University, Winchester University and Cambridge University.
- 8.5.9. Some of the finds are of national importance and Amesbury profile has been raised by articles on the excavations in several important journals.
- 8.5.10. The dig director is keen to help in the improved information and local displays and has given presentations to the public and Stonehenge School.
- 8.5.11. Total project cost is £14,250 Project Income includes support from English Heritage and the Town Council as well as support in kind from volunteers and academics.
- 8.5.12. Whilst the project could be considered national importance it is more difficult to assess the level of engagement of the wider community and demonstrate community benefit, for this reason it is recommended that the Area Board match the funding contributed by English Heritage and the Town Council, to the sum of £1000.
- 8.5.13. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project, the project may not go ahead.

<p>Appendices – available online or by request</p>	<p>Appendix 1 Grant Application - Amesbury 2012 Project Appendix 2 Grant Application - 2nd Bulford St Lenard Scout Group. Appendix 3 Grant Application - Wiltshire South Girl Guides Appendix 4 Grant Application - Larkhill Community Action Partnership Appendix 5 Grant Application - Amesbury Society</p>
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