

## **Agenda Item 10**

### **Community Area Grants**

#### **Purpose of Report**

To ask councillors to consider two applications seeking the following funding from 2011/12 Area Board Grants:

1. Westbury Arts and Music Festival application for £750 to fund the staging of a market and music event held as part of the festival
2. 1<sup>st</sup> Westbury Scout Group application for £897 to part fund the erection of a metal storage building

#### **1. Background**

1.1 Area boards have authority to approve grants under powers delegated to the area boards by the leader of Wiltshire Council (13 May 2009). Under the terms of that delegation area boards must operate within the policies set by the leader and/or the council. Wiltshire Council has adopted an Area Grants Policy, with funding criteria, to which the area boards must adhere.

1.2 In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any recommendation of an area board that was contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the leader, the appropriate cabinet member or the Cabinet.

1.3 In 2011/12 the Westbury Area Board was allocated a budget of £40,447. At the area board meeting of February 3 2011, the decision was taken to roll over unspent totals of £7492 making a total of £47,939. Following the approval of grant funding at the area board of June, we currently have **£35,489** remaining for this financial year.

#### **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 before 31 March 2012.

2.2 Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting until 31 March 2012.

#### **3. Environmental Impact of the Proposals**

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 Westbury Area Board.

4.2 If the grant application is approved, there will be **£33,842** left in the Westbury area board budget for 2011/12.

## 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

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
<b>Westbury Arts and Music festival</b>	This year one of the main features of this popular festival will be a folk festival including poetry workshops and a craft market to be held in All Saints churchyard on Saturday 17 September. The funding will pay for stage and the hire of associated sound equipment and marquee.	£ 750

8.1.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets 2011/12 grant criteria.

8.1.2 . The arts and music festival is organised by volunteers from within the Westbury community and its wide range of events attract people from all over the area. It offers an insight into past and present dance and music as well as offering a range of participative arts and musical activities. Previous festivals

have shown it brings local talent to the fore and brings the community together.

This application links to Wiltshire Council priorities of engaging with local people and with the aims of the Westbury area community plan (Improving economy/tourism P.9).

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Westbury Scouts</b>	Replacement of storage building alongside the Scout Hall. The proposal is to clear a space alongside the new building, including removing a tree stump, and to lay a concrete base. They will then erect a prefabricated metal garage on this base. Up till now storage of some camping and other equipment, including gas bottles, continued in an old railway wagon situated alongside the new Scout Hall. That wagon was becoming derelict and beyond repair and was an eyesore – it has been dismantled and removed.	£ 897

8.2.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets 2011/12 grant criteria but would recommend that any grant funding allocated should be subject to the grant of planning permission.

8.2.2 The 1<sup>st</sup> Westbury Scouts provide a variety of activities for more than 100 young people. This application links to Wiltshire Council priorities of improving young people's participation in positive activities.