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| <b>Report to</b>       | <b>Corsham Area Board</b>    |
| <b>Date of Meeting</b> | <b>18 August 2011</b>        |
| <b>Title of Report</b> | <b>Community Area Grants</b> |

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider two applications seeking 2011/12 Community Area Grant Funding

1. Potley Youth Group – Award £2,660 to enable the group to provide meaningful activities for young people in the catchment area.
2. Infusion Dance Group – Award £716 to enable the group to purchase video recording equipment to document a dance project looking at life in Box for young people. The project will share the film with the local community.

## 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 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. 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 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. Corsham Area Board has been allocated a 2011/2012 budget of £43,840 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives.
- 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 schemes.
- 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.

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| <b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12</li><li>• Corsham Community Area Plan</li></ul> |
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## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2011/2012 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be 4 further rounds of funding during 2011/12. These will take place on;
  - Thursday 20 October 2011
  - Thursday 1 December 2011
  - Thursday 2 February 2012
  - Thursday 22 March 2012

## **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 Corsham Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Corsham Area Board will have a balance of £19,532.12

## **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

| Ref | Applicant          | Project proposal   | Funding requested |
|-----|--------------------|--|-------------------|
| 8.1 | Potley Youth Group | To enable the group to provide meaningful activities for young people in the catchment area. | £2,660            |

- 8.1.1. Potley Youth Group – To award £2,660 to enable the group to provide a series of events and activities for young people. Conditional upon the balance of the funding being in place.
- 8.1.2. This application meets the grant criteria for 2011/12.
- 8.1.3. This application demonstrates a link to the Corsham Area Community Plan “Activities for young people”
- 8.1.4. This is a not for profit organisation and contributes to Wiltshire Council’s desired outcomes of providing meaningful leisure time activities for young people in Potley and Pockeridge.
- 8.1.5. This group is well respected by Wiltshire Councillors on the Corsham Area Board.
- 8.1.6. Youth Action Wiltshire are supporting this group and have every confidence that they will deliver what they have set out in their application. They have also stated that this represents value for money over a 12 month period.
- 8.1.7. A decision not to fund this project will probably result in it some of the programme not happening owing to limited funding opportunities.

| Ref  | Applicant              | Project proposal  | Funding requested |
|------|------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 8.2. | Infusion Dance Project | To enable the group to purchase video recording equipment | £716              |

8.2.1. Infusion Dance Project – To award £716 to enable the group to purchase video recording equipment to document a dance project looking at life in Box for young people. The project will share the film with the local community and bring the findings back to the Corsham Area Board.

8.2.2. This application meets the grant criteria for 2011/2012.

8.2.3. This application demonstrates a link to the Corsham Area Community Plan  
 “Education and lifelong learning” and “Places to meet”  
 “Transport, access and traffic”  
 “culture, recreation, heritage and arts”

8.2.4. Infusion Dance Group is a not for profit organisation.

8.2.5. This project will be of direct benefit to a large number of young people in Box and will inform the local population of the views of young people

8.2.6. This project is supported by Box Parish Council.

8.2.7. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund this project then it will be delayed until other funds are identified.

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| <b>Appendices:</b> | <b>Appendix 1 Grant application – Potley Youth Group</b><br><b>Appendix 2 Grant application - Infusion Dance Group</b> |
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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