

## Item 11a

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Marlborough Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>6 September 2011</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Community Area Grants</b>

### **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 1 application seeking 20011/12 Community Area Grant Funding:

Baydon Firework Committee - £919

## 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. 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. Grant applicants are required to show evidence of fund raising to contribute to their project costs.
- 1.6. 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.
- 1.7. Funding applications will be considered at every area board meeting.
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. 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.
- 1.10. 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.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12</li><li>• Marlborough Community Area Plan 2004/14</li></ul>
---	---

## **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. The funding contained within this report forms the third round of funding during 2011/12.
- 2.3. Future rounds will be considered as follows:
  - 1 November 2011 (deadline for applications – 26 September)
  - 7 February 2012 (deadline for applications – 19 December)

## **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 board's budget allocated to the Marlborough Area Board.
- 4.2. Marlborough Area Board has been allocated a 2011/2012 budget of £45,527 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor-led initiatives. The carry forward from the 2010/2011 budget is £17,948 (this figure includes ring fenced funds of £3,331 for youth transport). This leaves a total budget of £63,475 for the 2011/2012 budget.
- 4.3. If the grant requests detailed in this report are awarded, Marlborough Area Board will have a balance of £48,841.

## **5. Legal Implications**

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

## **6. HR 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	Baydon Firework Committee	To purchase road and pedestrian safety items	£919

**8.1.1. It is recommended that Baydon Firework Committee is awarded £919 for the purchase various items to ensure road and pedestrian safety for the annual fireworks event.**

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

8.1.3. This application demonstrates direct links to the 2004-2014 Marlborough Community Plan in the following sections: to encourage community events that creates a sense of pride and well-being (section 8.5).

8.1.4. This project demonstrates links to Wiltshire Council's priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire that aims to help local communities build a strong and vibrant voluntary sector by involving local people in their communities

8.1.5. The Baydon Firework Committee organises a free annual community event for the residents of Baydon and other nearby villages. Last year over 620 people attended. This has highlighted the need for various safety measures to ensure attendees' safe arrival and departure from the event.

8.1.6. The committee organises fundraising events for two months before the event and visitors are invited to make donations on the night.

8.1.7. This grant will allow attendance at the event to grow which will increase the reserves held by the committee to ensure the event's future sustainability.

8.1.8. The committee has the support of the parish council who also make a donation for the purchase of fireworks and also arrange and fund the appropriate insurance cover.

8.1.9. If they are awarded the grant, the Baydon Firework Committee agrees to make the safety items available to other community groups.

8.1.10. If the area board decides not to award this grant, the Baydon Firework Committee will have to restrict the numbers of people attending the event to ensure health and safety requirements are met.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 Grant application – Baydon Firework Committee
-------------	--

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

Report Author	Julia Densham Tel: 01249 706496 E-mail: <a href="mailto:julia.densham@wiltshire.gov.uk">julia.densham@wiltshire.gov.uk</a>
---------------	--