

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Malmesbury Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>7 September 2011</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Funding</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask councillors to consider officer recommendations in respect to 3 Community Area Grant applications and 1 Area Board/councillor led initiative:

1. Malmesbury Bowls Club – award £1,495 towards the replacement of a heating boiler in the club house, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
2. Luckington Children’s Playground Charity – award £3,959 towards the second phase of the playground, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
3. Minety Village Hall – award £1,162 towards provision of UPVC cladding to the outside of the building, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
4. To improve parking for residents in Glovers Court, Malmesbury, through transfer of ownership of the land to Westlea Housing Association – award £2,000 towards legal and advertising costs of a ‘Stopping up Order’, conditional on the balance of legal and advertising costs being matched by Westlea Housing Association and when the land is transferred Westlea will be financially responsible for installing bollards and policing the parking.

## **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 (15 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 (CAGs) should be encouraged from and awarded to community and voluntary groups.
- 1.4. Area boards will not consider Community Area Grant (CAG) 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. In addition to CAGs councillors can submit an Area Board/councillor led project, which differs from a CAG in that they do not require matched funding. They should, however, not used to avoid complying with Community Area Grant criteria.
- 1.6. Area Board/councillor led project applications are designed to enable councillors to tackle 'sticky' community issues or projects identified in the Community Plan. An application form is used and estimates for project work have to be completed in a similar manner to the Community Area Grant scheme.
- 1.7. 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.
- 1.8. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.9. 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.

- 1.10. 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.
- 1.11. 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.
- 1.12. All recipients of community area awards are expected to complete and return an evaluation form as soon as the project or activity has been completed and this should be accompanied by receipts and invoices, as well as photographs if possible. Failure to return the evaluation requested will preclude them from being considered for any future funding from the area board.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this report</b>	Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12
--	---

## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. Malmesbury Area Board has been allocated a 2011/2012 budget of £40,593 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives.
- 2.2. The carry forward from the 2010/2011 budget is £9,717, resulting in a balance of £50,310 for distribution during 2011/2012.
- 2.3. At the 4 May 2011 area board, councillors approved 2011/12 core funding of £8,119 to Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Partnership, resulting in a balance of £42,191.
- 2.4. In addition at the 4 May 2011 area board £5,303 was distributed to young people (in a participative budgeting event) from a separate ring fenced youth/transport budget, leaving a balance of £2,756 for youth projects.
- 2.5. On 29 June 2011, the area board agreed that the 2011/12 young people's budget of £4,059 (from Cabinet) would be topped up to £6,000 and the balance of £815 was to be returned to the general area board budget.
- 2.6. At the 29 June 2011 area board, councillors approved distribution of £6,776 to community area grants and area board/councillor led initiatives leaving a balance of **£36,230**.

2.7. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in 2011/2012 are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.

2.8. There are 6 funding rounds during 2011/12. The remaining deadlines for receipt of applications and dates when they will be considered are as follows:

- **26 September 2011 for consideration on 9 November 2011**
- 28 November 2011 for consideration on 18 January 2012
- 23 January 2012 for consideration on 7 March 2012

### **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 Malmesbury Area Board.

4.2. If grants are awarded in accordance with officer recommendations Malmesbury area board will have a balance of **£27,614**

### **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, where they meet the funding criteria.

7.2. Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within "Officer Recommendations".

## 8. Officer Recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Malmesbury Bowls Club	Replacement of the heating boiler in the club house	£1,495

- 8.1.1. Officers recommend that Malmesbury Bowls Club is awarded £1,495 towards the replacement of a heating boiler in their club house, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
- 8.1.2. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2011/12 grant criteria.
- 8.1.3. There are specific references in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan 2009-2013 in respect to maintaining community facilities, providing facilities other than the town hall for events and activities. Mention is also made to more affordable activities for young adults and families and integrating young and old people.
- 8.1.4. The new club committee is doing its best to widen its membership, by becoming a pool venue and in so doing encouraging a younger social membership. It is also holding fund raising events with a music evening and an open ladies versus men bowls event, where proceeds will support the boiler fund.
- 8.1.5. The applicant is requesting 50% of the total cost of this work, with £400 worth of work being 'in kind' indicating a significant community contribution to ensure that this project is completed.
- 8.1.6. Failure to support this project may lead to a delay in this work being completed before the winter which would lead to a reduction in club revenue from inability of the venue to be used. While the club does hold some free reserves, these are modest and need to be built up through fund raising events and membership fees.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Luckington Children's Playground Charity	Second phase of the playground	£3,959

- 8.2.1. Officers recommend that Luckington Children's Playground Charity is awarded £3,959 towards the second phase of the playground, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.

- 8.2.2. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2011/12 grant criteria
- 8.2.3. The second phase of the playground will include the provision of a slide, tyre swing, 2 picnic benches, adding to the play trail and installing new safety gates as requested by ROSPA.
- 8.2.4. Phase one was undertaken earlier in the year and involved provision of a new junior fort, a climbing wall, double zip wires and balancing bars at a total cost of £16,137 which was funded largely from their reserves. While this facility is owned and managed by a community group the parish council did contribute funding to phase one of the project.
- 8.2.5. It should be noted that young people living in the parish of Luckington and Alderton have been consulted about the type of equipment they would like to have in their play ground.
- 8.2.6. The local community are very active in undertaking and supporting community events to ensure funding is available not only to purchase equipment, but also to maintain the facility. In a small community such as Luckington and Alderton this should be applauded.
- 8.2.7. The applicant is seeking 50% of the total cost of the project.
- 8.2.8. A decision not to help fund this application would not only delay this phase of the project, but fail to recognise the considerable financial contribution made by the community to phase one.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Minety Village Hall	UPVC cladding to the outside of the hall	£1,162

- 8.3.1. Officers recommend that Minety Village Hall is awarded £1,162 towards provision of UPVC cladding to the outside of the hall, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
- 8.3.2. There is specific reference in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan 2009-2013 in respect to desire for village hall facilities to be improved.
- 8.3.3. The wood cladding on the exterior of the hall has become shabby and is in need of refurbishment and it has been agreed that UPVC cladding should be fitted to improve the appearance and reduce future maintenance costs.
- 8.3.4. The front entrance way and post supporting the doorway will be

replaced with white UPVC, while the wooden cladding on the roof apex will be covered with UPVC cladding. The need to obtain planning permission to undertake this work is currently being investigated and the applicant accepts that any grant would be conditional on planning permission being received.

- 8.3.5. The hall is regularly used by about 180 people each week, with a further 60 using it on a monthly basis and is an important community facility within Minety.
- 8.3.6. The village hall management group are undertaking a programme of refurbishments to the hall. In March 2011 the area board awarded the village hall £1,504 towards the cost of toilet improvements. Phase three will be the largest phase of work (costing nearly £22,000), to which the management group have sought support from the Charities Information Bureau and as a consequence are approaching other funders and not the area board.
- 8.3.7. The applicant is seeking 50% of the total cost of this project, with the remainder being contributed from village hall reserves.
- 8.3.8. A decision not to fund this application may could lead to a delay in proceeding with this project as the applicant have to seek funding from elsewhere or fund from their reserves. A decision to do the latter would diminish their modest reserves which could otherwise act as leverage for phase three of the project.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	Area board/councillor led initiative	Legal and advertising costs for a 'Stopping Up Order', to enable transfer of land at Glovers Court to Westlea Housing Association	£2,000

- 8.4.1. Funding is sought to cover 50% of the cost of legal and advertising costs involved in a 'Stopping Up Order' to enable transfer of land at Glovers Court to Westlea Housing Association. This will stop indiscriminate parking in the 7 bays in the road into Glovers Court which at times restrict access to residents.
- 8.4.2. The application (which addresses community issue 1074), demonstrates links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan 2009-2013 in that it meets a desire to improve parking enforcement, provide support for carers, and provide support for the elderly and vulnerable people to be cared for in their own homes.

- 8.4.3. Glovers Court provides sheltered and supported housing for predominately older people in 24 units. Residents have a variety of disabilities and some require care (visiting up to 3 times a day), and/or need easy access to their own car or that provided by volunteers and should not be required to walk far.
- 8.4.4. Currently the area is used by other local residents in the wider area including local businesses and vehicles when owners are on holiday. The area housing the bins have been blocked preventing collection and dropped kerbs and disabled parking bays have been blocked.
- 8.4.5. To enable Westlea to be take on the responsibility of the parking bays a stopping up order will first need to be applied for through the Magistrates Court by Wiltshire Council (which is responsible for highway) on the parking bays to remove the highway status, the parking bays can then be transferred to Westlea who will be able to apply parking restrictions on the bays.
- 8.4.6. Prior to this application being brought to the area board Malmesbury Town council has been consulted.
- 8.4.7. A decision not to fund this initiative will lead to considerable difficulties for older and vulnerable members of the Glovers Court community.

<b>Appendices</b>	Appendix 1 Grant application – Malmesbury Bowls Club Appendix 2 Grant application – Luckington Children’s Playground Charity Appendix 3 Grant application – Minety Village Hall Appendix 3 Area Board Initiative application – Glovers Court
-------------------	---

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report other than those requested in the funding criteria e.g. estimates.

<b>Report Author</b>	Miranda Gilmour, Community Area Manager Tel: 01672 515742 Mobile:07990 505882 E-mail: <a href="mailto:miranda.gilmour@wiltshire.gov.uk">miranda.gilmour@wiltshire.gov.uk</a>
----------------------	---

