

Report to	Chippenham Area Board
Date of Meeting	12th September 2011
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 4 applications seeking 2011/12 Community Area Grant Funding and 2 Area Board Project/Councillor led initiatives. Officer recommendations:

1. Westlea Housing Association - Award £4,112 to create a fenced off area for football at Little Battens, Nr Allington Way, conditional upon planning permission being granted and the balance of funding being in place.
2. Happy Days Nursery - Award £2,303 to replace safety surfacing in the outside play area, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
3. Chippenham Sports Club– Award £1,000 to install toilet facilities for users of the Airdome & Astroturf pitch at Chippenham Sports Club, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
4. Wiltshire Wood Recycling – Award £922 to install dust extraction in the new workshop, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
5. Area Board Project – Award £740 to Purchase High Visibility Jackets & Vests for Door Staff, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
6. Area Board Project – Award £650 for the deployment of Taxi Marshalls in Chippenham in December 2011

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 15th 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. In addition to Community Area Grants, Councillors can submit an Area Board Project which differs from Community Area Grants in that they do not require match funding. Area Board Projects should not be used to avoid complying with Community Area Grant criteria.
- 1.6. Area Board Projects are designed to enable the Area Board to address community issues or projects identified in the Community Plan. An application form is used and quotes for project work have to be provided 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) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.
- 1.12. One application to this round has been withdrawn as funding has been secured from another source.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Board Grant Guidance 2011/12 ACCL-001-11 • Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12 • Chippenham Community Area Plan • Local Agreement for Wiltshire
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Chippenham Area Board has been allocated a 2011/2012 budget of **£68,917** for Community Area Grants, Community Partnership Core Funding and Area Board Projects.
- 2.2. The carry forward from the 2010/2011 budget is **£1,814**. This gives a **total budget of £70,731** for the 2011/2012 budget.
- 2.3. There will be 6 rounds of funding during 2011/12. The first was on 9th May, the second on 4th July, the third is contained in this report. The remaining deadlines for receipt of applications and dates they will be considered are as follows:
- 30th September for consideration on 14th November 2011
 - 18th November for consideration on 9th January 2012
 - 20th January for consideration on 5th March 2012
- 2.4. 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.
- 2.5. At the Area Board meeting on 9th May 2011, Councillors approved the award of £5,280 to Community Area Grants and £90 Area Board expenditure on trophies, frames and certificates for the Chippenham Area Board Community Awards leaving a balance of £65,361.
- 2.6. At the Area Board meeting on 4th July 2011, Councillors approved the award of £9,772 Community Partnership Core Funding and a Community Area Grant of £990 leaving a balance of **£54,599**.

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 budget allocated to the Chippenham Area Board.
- 4.2. If Councillors make awards to Community Area Grants and Area Board Projects in line with officer recommendations, Chippenham Area Board will have a **balance of £44,872.**

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	Westlea Housing Association	To create a fenced off area for football at Little Battens, Nr Allington Way	£4,112

- 8.1.1. Westlea Housing Association - Award £4,112 to create a fenced off area for football at Little Battens, Nr Allington Way, conditional upon planning permission being granted and the balance of funding being in place
- 8.1.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2011/12.
- 8.1.3. This application demonstrates link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan “insufficient outdoor sporting facilities and playing fields”.
- 8.1.4. This project demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire – “increase children and young people’s access to facilities and activities”.

8.1.5. Initial consultation carried out with local residents identified that a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) would be welcomed. As it has not been possible to secure funds for such a large project, an alternative project was proposed to install a fenced off area with goal posts and astro-turf goal ends.

8.1.6. This project will address one of the main issues in the area which is to provide a safe place for children and young people to play as the fenced and gated area will prevent dog fouling.

8.1.7. The applicant has consulted again with local residents and all those who have replied are in favour of the new project. Examples responses included:

- Really happy for it to go ahead
- The children need better facilities to keep them happy
- Great for the kids

8.1.8. Planning permission was applied for on 17th August 2011 reference number 11/02791/FUL

8.1.9. Westlea Housing Association is working closely with Chippenham Town Council to deliver this project.

8.1.10. Officers are of the opinion that this project will create a valuable amenity for local residents.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Happy Days Nursery	Replace safety surfacing in the outside play area	£2,303

8.2.1. Happy Days Nursery - Award £2,303 to replace safety surfacing in the outside play area, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.2.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2011/12.

8.2.3. This application demonstrates a link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan insufficient outdoor sporting facilities and playing fields”.

8.2.4. This project demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire “increase children and young people’s access to facilities and activities”.

8.2.5. An Ofsted inspection of the nursery recommended that applicant redevelop the outside play area to provide an area “that is rich and offers children opportunities to use their sense, be physically active and exuberant”. This is particularly important for some of the children who do not have a garden at home.

8.2.6. Happy Days Nursery leases the premises from Ivy Lane School and currently has another 2 years left on the lease. The headmistress has provided an assurance that the lease will be extended for a further 5 years in 2013.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Chippenham Sports Club	Install toilet facilities for users of the Airdome & Astro turf pitch at Chippenham Sports Club	£1,000

8.3.1. Chippenham Sports Club - Award £1,000 to install toilet facilities for users of the Airdome & astro-turf pitch at Chippenham Sports Club, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.3.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2011/12.

8.3.3. This application demonstrates a direct link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan Update “Provide support to active and successful clubs”

8.3.4. This application demonstrates links to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire “Encourage communities to take part in sporting and cultural activities and events” and “increase children and young people’s access to facilities and activities”.

8.3.5. No planning permission is required for this project.

8.3.6. The lack of toilet facilities has been raised as a barrier to participation for some groups, and this is something that the applicant is very keen to address.

8.3.7. Wiltshire Council Sports Development Officer has confirmed that that Chippenham Sports Club consistently deliver a wide range of activities for the benefit of the local community and supports both Wiltshire Council’s and Sports England’s objective of increasing participation of adults, young people and children.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	Wiltshire Wood Recycling	Install dust extraction in the new workshop	£922

8.4.1. Wiltshire Wood Recycling - Award £922 to install dust extraction in the new workshop, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.4.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2011/12.

8.4.3. This application demonstrates a direct link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan “Maintain and expand manufacturing floor space”.

8.4.4. This application demonstrates links to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire: “Support local businesses”

8.4.5. No planning permission is required.

8.4.6. Wiltshire Wood Recycling began 5 years ago with 2 volunteers and has now grown to have 9 part time workers and several volunteers. They aim to:

- Divert Wood from landfill and offer to the public at affordable prices
- Provide volunteering and training opportunities for local people
- Provide employment opportunities for local people
- Share information by working with local schools and groups by attending environmental events and giving recycling presentations

8.4.7. Officers are of the opinion that the project to install dust extraction in the new workshop will enable the applicant to continue to expand, continue to divert wood from landfill and offer further opportunities for volunteering, training and employment.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5.	Area Board Project/Councillor led initiative	Purchase High Visibility Jackets & Vests for Door staff	£740

8.5.1. Funding is sought to cover 50% of the costs to purchase High Visibility Jackets & Vests for Door staff in Chippenham.

8.5.2. This application demonstrates a direct link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan “Anti social behaviour” and “Fear of Crime”.

- 8.5.3. This application demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council's priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire: "Reduce crime and anti social behaviour".
- 8.5.4. Chippenham Night Time Economy Group has identified the introduction of High Visibility Vests as the next step it would like to see implemented in Chippenham to address Crime and antisocial behaviour.
- 8.5.5. An application for the balance of funding has been submitted to Chippenham Town Council for consideration on 2nd November 2011.
- 8.5.6. The wearing of High Visibility Jackets & Vests has been introduced in Swindon where they are consistently worn by members of door staff. It has helped to identify responsible persons in the event of disorder and had a preventative effect.
- 8.5.7. Police Officers report that customers feel reassured when socialising in the town. Businesses report increased trade and there has been a reduction in violence against the person of 21% since the introduction of High Visibility clothing for door staff and the launch of Street Pastors.
- 8.5.8. Councillors may wish to note that the Night Time Economy Group has been shortlisted for a Voluntary & Community Sector Award in the "Partnership" category in recognition of achievements to date.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.6.	Taxi Marshalls	Deploy Taxi Marshalls in Chippenham in December 2011	£650

- 8.6.1. Funding is sought to contribute to the costs of deploying Taxi Marshalls in Chippenham on 5 Saturdays in December 2011.
- 8.6.2. This application demonstrates a direct link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan "Anti social behaviour" and "Fear of Crime".
- 8.6.3. This application demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council's priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire: "Reduce crime and anti social behaviour".
- 8.6.4. Following the success of Taxi Marshalls in Chippenham in December 2010, Chippenham Night Time Economy Group has agreed that Taxi Marshalls should be deployed again in December 2011.
- 8.6.5. The Night Time Economy Group has negotiated a lower price for the Marshalls than in previous years, and also received contributions from local traders.

8.6.6. As previously mentioned, Councillors may wish to note that the Night Time Economy Group has been shortlisted for a Voluntary & Community Sector Award in the “Partnership” category in recognition of achievements to date.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 grant application – Westlea Housing Association Appendix 2 grant application – Happy Days Nursery Appendix 3 grant application – Chippenham Sports Club Appendix 4 grant application – Wiltshire Wood Recycling Appendix 5 Area Board Project – High Visibility Jackets & Vests for Door staff Appendix 6 Area Board Project – Taxi Marshalls
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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