

Report to	Southern Wiltshire Area Board
Title of Report	Community Area Grants – Area Board Meeting 15 March 2010

Purpose of Report

To request that Councillors consider 9 applications seeking 2009/10 and 2010/11 Community Area Grant Funding.

1. Application: Play Equipment – Pitton and Farley Parish Council

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Pitton and Farley Parish Council	Play Equipment	£615

- 1.1 The full application is attached
- 1.2 The application meets grant criteria 2009/10
- 1.3 The application demonstrates links to the Community Plan
- 1.4 The application meets Wiltshire Council priorities
- 1.5 Summary details about the applicant:

Parish Council.

- 1.6 Summary details about the project:

To provide additional equipment for the children's play area in Pitton.

The parish plan process and consultation between Pitton ward councillors and parents has displayed the need for this equipment and will help enhance the recreational activities available to a large amount of children.

A letter of objection was received regarding this application from a local resident who lives opposite the play area citing various problems with the overall proposal of the parish council; a negative impact on amenity, poor value for money and increased risk of injury to the children.

- 1.7 What will happen if the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project
Not known.

Recommendation:

Grant from 2009/10 budget

2. Application: Conserving Water – Morgan’s vale and Woodfalls Primary School

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Morgan’s vale and Woodfalls Primary School	Procurement of 6 water butts	£430

2.1 The full application is attached

2.2 The application meets grant criteria 2009/10.

2.3 The application demonstrates links to the Community Plan

2.4 The application meets Wiltshire Council priorities

2.5 Summary details about the applicant:

Morgan’s Vale and Woodfalls Primary School

2.6 Summary details about the project:

To buy and install 6 water butts and carry out a water conservation project with the students.

This is a valuable project and is in line with the issue set out on page 14 of the Southern Area Community Plan 2004 – 2009 about protecting the natural environment .

The applicants display £3864 of uncommitted funds in their reserves. Therefore the area board might like to fund half of the funds requested.

2.7 What will happen if the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project?

Not known.

Recommendation:

Grant £215 from 2009/10 budget

3. Application: Ebbles Valley Short Mat Bowls Club – Replacement of bowls mat

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Ebbles Valley Short Mat Bowls Club	Replacement of bowls carpets	£720

3.1 The full application is attached

3.2 The application meets grant criteria 2009/10.

3.3 The application does not demonstrate a links to the Community Plan

3.4 The application does not meet Wiltshire Council priorities

3.5 Summary details about the applicant:

Short Mat Bowls Club

3.6 Summary details about the project:

The grant application is to pay for 1 bowls mat. The applicants need a further 2 mats which will be brought from club funds. This provides a facility for all ages to engage in short mat bowls. The club make use of the village hall and provides recreational activities for older people.

3.7 What will happen if the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project?

The club would only buy one carpet and continue to fundraise.

Recommendation:

Grant in full from 08/09 budget

4. Application: Laverstock Gardening Club – Bulbs and Plants

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Laverstock Gardening Club	Bulbs and Plants	£100

4.1 The full application is attached

4.2 The application meets grant criteria 2009/10.

4.3 The application does not demonstrates tangible links to the Community Plan

4.4 The application does not meet Wiltshire Council priorities

4.5 Summary details about the applicant:

Laverstock Gardening Club.

4.6 Summary details about the project:

The project is to provide funds to buy 10 wild primroses and 2 trays of natural lifted bluebells.

This is a relatively small request which could adequately be covered by the reserves held of £1264.72.

4.7 What will happen if the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project?

Not known.

Recommendation:

Refuse

Reason: Lack of community benefit and access to reserves held.

5. Application: Downton Museum and Archive – Conservation of historical documents

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Downton Museum and Archive	Conservation of historical documents	£890

5.1 The full application is attached

5.2 The application meets grant criteria 2009/10.

5.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan

5.4 The application does not directly meet Wiltshire Council priorities.

5.5 Summary details about the applicant:

Downton Museum and Archive

5.6 Summary details about the project:

The grant application is to pay for the storage boxes and archival pockets. This project has received full support from the Wiltshire Council Library Service see input below:

I am fully in support of the Downton Museum and Archive in my role of Community Librarian at Downton Library and act as Secretary to the Museum in my own time.

The Museum project has been running for several years now and we have worked with the local primary school on several occasions. The current exhibition ('Dinosaurs') was staged specifically to tie in with a class topic and visit by pupils both to learn library skills and to explore the local history resources.

Last year we had a class visit when the topic was local rivers and again the museum's collection was used to show the children archival photographs of the floods in Downton in the early 20th and later records of the building of flood defences as well as using library resources

At the end of March the Museum and Library are working with Salisbury Museum to stage an exhibition to celebrate '150 years of Salisbury Museum'. It is intended as a part of this to work with learning resources officer at Salisbury Museum to offer special events for local children (the exhibition will feature the Downton Villa so our theme will loosely based on the 'Romans').

The Museum has become an important and integral part of the library in Downton. The committee members organise a programme of exhibitions throughout the year to reflect aspects of the history of Downton. The library has provided 2 showcases located in the upstairs room in which displays can be staged and these have proved of great interest to both library users and visitors to the village. We also have a limited amount of storage for artefacts, etc.

A series of very successful autumn lectures on historical topics relevant to Downton and the surrounding area has been established (due to lack of space in the library these have been held in other local venues as they have attracted large audiences) .

The volunteers on the committee are keen to make the Museum a success and are working hard to catalogue and preserve the materials which have already been collected in a professional manner. Through my experience with Mere Museum (of which I am also the secretary) I have been able to advise Downton on the correct forms and procedures laid down for Museums .

5.7 What will happen if the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project?

Not known.

Recommendation:

Grant in full from 09/10 budget

6. Application: Downton Moot – Reparation to boundary wall

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Downton Moot	Reparation to boundary wall	£925.55

6.1 The full application is attached

6.2 The application meets grant criteria 2009/10.

6.3 The application demonstrates links to the Community Plan

6.4 The application does not directly meet Wiltshire Council priorities

6.5 Summary details about the applicant:

Downton Moot, 8 acre landscape garden in Downton, is run by Downton Moot Preservation Trust.

6.6 Summary details about the project:

The grant application is to provide the costs of repair to the boundary wall. As this facility is of interest for local communities for recreation and also for tourists visiting the area the work on the boundary wall will improve the experience for visitors. The organisation however recently received funding from SWAG so therefore it is reasonable to request that the area board funds half of this project.

6.7 What will happen if the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project?

Not known.

Recommendation:

Grant £463 (half of requested amount) from 09/10 budget

7. Application: Clear Way – Bridleway/Footpath/Cycleway clearance

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Clear Way, Laverstock	Bridleway/Footpath/Cycleway clearance	£1140

- 7.1 The full application is attached
- 7.2 The application meets grant criteria 2009/10.
- 7.3 The application demonstrates links to the Community Plan
- 7.4 The application meets Wiltshire Council priorities
- 7.5 Summary details about the applicant:

Clear Way is a new community group set up to clear the footpaths and bridleways using local volunteers.

- 7.6 Summary details about the project:

The grant application is for a Brushcutter and associated training to use the machinery in order to gain the licences to use the machinery. This initiative has support of the Senior Rights of Way Warden for the area who states:

I fully support the bid for a number of reasons.

The rural paths in the Laverstock/ Milford area are heavily used by the public generally - dog walkers and ramblers/ health walking groups, pedal cyclists and equestrians. There is a greater pressure of use than ever before, especially on these urban fringe paths. There can be a problem when perhaps a horse rider meets a mountain bike or meets someone walking a dog and it would be much more accommodating if the full widths of these routes were available as there would be physically enough room for folk to pass.

Cleared routes are to the benefit of all and it also gives great PR for the group doing the work. The Ramblers do a lot of work on Public Rights Of Way of all status, not just for their own purposes and it helps to break down mild prejudices that build up. User groups are often "blinkered" to consider only their own rights but this scheme sets out to help all users.

I can assist in the first instance by getting in and clearing out a lot of the dead elm trees that seem to be very common in the area we are talking about. These bare trunks are always collapsing across the paths here when there is a strong wind so that would resolve another recurring issue. We have a professional chipper which will make short work of the material we take down and these chippings can also be put down on the surface in any soft areas. Once that is done and we can get to the softer/ smaller growth then that is where the Clear Way team come into their own as from then on, they will be able to keep the routes open with the equipment that they are requesting (Once they are trained to use it!). It will be a great bit of self help as they themselves can monitor when the annual growth is becoming a problem and they can then clear it- perfect. Another benefit to opening up these routes is to let more air and light onto the surfaces. This will help to dry it out and therefore reduce the amount of wear to the surface.

I am glad also that the horse riders are forming this group as they are a user group that are not represented in and around Salisbury. The Ramblers/ health walkers/cyclists have all tapped into the system. COGS the cycling opportunity group meet regularly with officers in Salisbury Joint Transportation (I'm not sure if it is still called that?) the same applies to the Walking Forum that meets regularly and I have been part of that Forum for 15 years or so. Horse riders do not have a collective voice and perhaps this bid might encourage an umbrella group for equestrians on the urban fringes all around Salisbury.

Certainly Karen and her friend Judy have become the local British Horse Society representatives which is great so they will get future support and advice from a national body and it also demonstrates their commitment to this project.

From our point of view, a bit of time and labour in opening up these routes (obviously being sensitive to bird nesting) would pay real dividends as the Clear Way group could then keep them open.

It's all good positive stuff.

This is a new group there could be some reservations over the sustainability of the project if circumstances were to change regarding the members or machinery was to be damaged for example. There also could be reservations over the actual necessity of the group to buy extra machinery when Wiltshire Council is responsible for keeping the rights of way clear. The above issues and extent of community benefit should be considered by the board.

7.7 What will happen if the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project?

Not known.

Recommendation:

No recommendation pending discussion by members

8. Release of funding: Memorial Ground Trust, Whiteparish – Play equipment

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Memorial Ground Trust, Whiteparish	Play equipment	£1000

8.1 The full application is attached

8.2 The application meets grant criteria 2009/10.

8.3 The application demonstrates links to the Community Plan

8.4 The application meets Wiltshire Council priorities

8.5 Summary details about the applicant:

Memorial Ground Trust, Whiteparish.

8.6 Summary details about the project:

The project is to provide funds to install a toddlers' slide and hexagonal climber at the Memorial Trust Ground. This is a good project which benefits from a healthy amount of matched funding from the trust's funds and R2.

However, it appears in the annual accounts provided by the applicant that the surplus for the year 2009 was £17,126. In principle this is a worthy project but the accounts show that the trust has sufficient funds to pay for this play equipment.

8.7 What will happen if the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project?

Not known.

Recommendation:

Pending clarification of reserves

9. Release of funding: Downton Football Club – Upgraded floodlighting

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Downton Football Club	Upgraded floodlighting on the main pitch	£2840

9.1 The full application is attached

9.2 The application meets grant criteria 2009/10.

9.3 The application demonstrates a links to the Community Plan

9.4 The application does not meet Wiltshire Council priorities

9.5 Summary details about the applicant:

Downton Football Club

9.6 Summary details about the project:

The grant application is to pay for the upgrade of the floodlights at Downton Football Ground. This work is necessary in order for the club to remain eligible for the league. There are currently floodlights which do not meet the league standards and also generate light pollution the new lights would limit light pollution.

9.7 What will happen if the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project?

Not known.

Recommendation:

Grant in full from 2010/11 budget

Budget Update:

Amount left to be allocated by 31 March 2010 is £3,531, however this money CAN be carried over to the next financial year.

Next year's budget (2010/11) will be £41,087