

ITEM No. 13

Report to	Pewsey Area Board
Date of Meeting	7 November 2011
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

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

1. Super Strings, promoting string playing for children between 5 and 18 to include community based workshops and a large BBC concert with over 100 children playing in a world premier performance as part of the Cultural Olympiad Festival 2012. Seeking £4,060 – Office recommendation to award £4,060 on condition that the project receives approval from Marlborough, Bradford on Avon and Devizes Area Boards.
2. Wilton Cricket Club – improvement of the practice net area and investment in new kit for youth training and club cricket. Officer recommendation to award £1,000.

In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, **however, the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.**

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 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. 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.
- 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 sources.
- 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) 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">• Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12• Pewsey Community Area Plan
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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. There will be six rounds of funding during 2011/12. The fourth is contained in this report the remaining will take place on;
 - 9 January 2012
 - 12 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 Pewsey Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Pewsey Area Board will have a balance of £20,784

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.

8. Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within section 8 – “Officer Recommendations”.

Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1 (pew.11.014)	Super Strings	Promoting string playing for children between 5 and 18 to	£4,060

		include community based workshops and a large BBC concert with over 100 children playing in a world premier performance as part of the Cultural Olympiad Festival 2012	
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- 8.1.1. Award £4,060 as the application meets the grant criteria 2011/12 on condition that the project receives approval from Marlborough, Bradford on Avon and Devizes Area Boards.
- 8.1.2. The project demonstrates links to the Community Plan Community Plan on page 22-28 in widening opportunities for young people, in diversionary activities for young people and in supporting the Arts.
- 8.1.3. The applicant is Superstrings which is a not for profit organisation with a management group of 6. The group is contributing £7,120 from its own fundraising/reserves and seeking £12,180 from the Devizes, Marlborough and Bradford-on-Avon area boards (£4,060 each). The group are also applying to a number of other foundations/trusts of £10,000. This is part of a wider project including the above mentioned area boards. The total project cost across the four areas is £33,360
- 8.1.4. The costs of the project are mainly for the cost of musicians and workshops. Approximately 50 children from the community area will be involved, with approximately 20 involved in the March performance.
- 8.1.5. The project is promoting string playing for children between the ages of 5 and 18, encouraging young people to engage in group music making through community based workshops followed by larger workshops in 3 community areas with outstanding folk musicians.

There will be a large scale BBC concert in Swindon with over 100 children playing in a world premier performance of a commissioned work – this will contribute to the Cultural Olympiad Festival 2012. Peter Tyas, Head of Arts and Heritage is in support of the project.

The second phase of the project will see a second performance in the Wiltshire Music Centre – funding for this will be sought from private donors. Additionally there will be an opportunity for all children participating in the regular parish sessions to play together in a third major concert in 2013.

- 8.1.6. If the area board did not fund the project it will be scaled down considerably. The workshops in local parishes would not go ahead nor the follow on activity after March 2012 in Schools. Board funding in this project will enable Superstrings to reach out to children who are less interested in playing in an orchestra but would benefit from and enjoy playing traditional music and tunes in a relaxed and positive environment.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2 (Pew.11.012)	Wilton Cricket Club	Improvement of the practice net area and investment in more kit for youth training and club cricket	£1,000

8.2.1 The Officer recommendation is for approval as the application meets the grant criteria 2011/12

8.2.2 The application demonstrates links to the Community Plan as follows:-

Page 26 section 6.6 and 6.7 – increase the availability of activities for 8-12 year olds – improving sports facilities.

8.2.3 The applicant is the Wilton Cricket Club which is a not for profit organisation managed by a committee of 8 volunteers.

8.2.4 The project is for the purchase of equipment to improve the practice net area, together with practice mat, balls, bats, pads and gloves.

8.2.5 The total cost of the project is £1,000.

Appendices – Grant application forms

(available to view online at <http://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=177&MId=5360&Ver=4>)

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

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