

Report to	Chippenham Area Board
Date of Meeting	14th November 2011
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 3 applications seeking 2011/12 Community Area Grant Funding and 1 application seeking residual 2010/11 Performance Reward Grant Scheme funding. Officer recommendations:

1. Award Kington St Michael Diamond Jubilee £868 to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by giving all of the children in the parish a commemorative mug and planting an oak tree.
2. Award North Wiltshire Young Musicians £1,269 to set up an Intermediate Wind Band & a Boys Singing Group, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
3. Award Kington St Michael Parish Hall Committee £5,000, to install a permanent stone ramp to enable disabled access to the hall, conditional upon planning permission and the balance of funding being in place.
4. Award Relate Mid Wiltshire £8,158 to create a new service to support vulnerable children and young people experiencing emotional distress, conditional upon a funding contribution of £5,176 from participating schools.

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 which 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. One application to this round was withdrawn as it did not meet the funding criteria, and another was withdrawn in order to gather additional information and will reapply to the next funding round. The applicants have been referred to the Charities Information Bureau (CIB) for support to seek alternative funding sources.

- 1.11. 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.
- 1.12. 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

- Area Board Grant Guidance 2011/12 ACCL-001-11
- Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12
- Chippenham Community Area Plan
- Local Agreement for Wiltshire

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 on 12th September; the fourth is contained in this report. The remaining deadlines for receipt of applications and dates they will be considered are as follows:
- 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 meetings up to and including 4th July 2011, Councillors approved the award of £6,270 to Community Area Grants, £9,772 to Community Partnership Core Funding and £108 Area Board expenditure on trophies, frames and certificates for the Chippenham Area Board Community Awards leaving a balance of £54,581.
- 2.6. At the Area Board meeting on 12th September 2011, Councillors approved Community Area Grant awards of £8,337 and Area Board projects of £1,390 leaving a balance of £44,854.
- 2.7. On 29th September 2011 a previous applicant rescinded £1,081, part of an award that they were not able to spend due to unforeseen circumstances. This gives a balance of **£45,935**.

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 £38,798**.

4.3. If Councillors approve the award of £8,158 to Relate Mid Wiltshire, the balance of Area Board funding will not be altered as this award relates to residual Performance Rewards Grants Funding not Chippenham Area Board Funding.

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	Kington St Michael Diamond Jubilee	To commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by giving all of the children in the parish a commemorative mug and by planting an oak tree	£868

8.1.1. Kington St Michael Diamond Jubilee - Award £868 to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by giving all of the children in the parish a commemorative mug and planting an oak tree. *See Appendix 1*

8.1.2. This application largely meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2011/12 however; Councillors may be minded to consider that this application does not fully meet (h) "Projects which could reasonably be expected to secure finance by other means".

8.1.3. This project does not demonstrate a link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan.

8.1.4. This project is part of an inclusive event to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The event will take place on the 4th June 2012 and aims to raise funds to construct a tree lined Jubilee footpath.

8.1.5. Officers understand that there is wide community support for both the event and the project to provide commemorative mugs and trees. The event will provide an opportunity to encourage and increase the local community engagement in addition to raising funds for the footpath.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	North Wiltshire Young Musicians	To set up an Intermediate Wind Band & a Boys Singing Group	£1,269

8.2.1. North Wiltshire Young Musicians - Award £1,269 to set up an Intermediate Wind Band & a Boys Singing Group, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place. *See Appendix 2*

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 “Aims to increase support for community facilities and events and to encourage a range of cultural opportunities for both residents and visitors”.
- 8.2.4. This project demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire to create stronger and more inclusive communities “increase children and young people’s access to facilities and activities”, “provide strong foundations for children and young people’s development” & “encourage communities to take part in sporting and cultural activities and events that bring different age groups together”.
- 8.2.5. Officers are of the opinion that the wind band and singing group will provide a valuable opportunity for likeminded young people to enjoy music making and share music with others. Consultation with local families has identified a lack of local groups currently available for young people.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Kington St Michael Parish Hall Committee	To install a permanent stone ramp to enable disabled access to the hall	£5,000

- 8.3.1. Kington St Michael Parish Hall Committee - Award £5,000 to install a permanent stone ramp to enable disabled access to the hall, conditional upon planning permission and the balance of funding being in place. *See Appendix 3*
- 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 Kington St Michael Village Plan “Optimise use of the village hall for the parish”. The thriving community shop and postal point are identified as key resources for the parish.
- 8.3.4. This application demonstrates a direct link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan “Lack of funding for Community Halls & Village Halls”.
- 8.3.5. This application demonstrates links to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire “Help local communities to develop their own priorities and improvements” and “We help communities help themselves”.
- 8.3.6. Planning permission for this project was granted on 31st October 2010.
- 8.3.7. Kington St Michael Village Hall is an extremely well used facility in the village, integral to the variety of community services and facilities including the village shop and Post Point.

8.3.8. Officers are of the opinion that the installation of a permanent stone ramp is vital to the continued success of the village hall and local services for the community. The ramp will provide ease of access for hall and shop users and will also assist with moving large objects and deliveries in and out of the building.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	Relate Mid Wiltshire	To create a new service to support vulnerable children and young people experiencing emotional distress	£8,158

8.4.1. Relate Mid Wiltshire - Award £8,158 to create a new service to support vulnerable children and young people experiencing emotional distress, conditional upon a funding contribution of £5,176 from participating schools. *See Appendix 4*

8.4.2. Councillors are minded to note that this application relates to residual Performance Rewards Grants funding not Chippenham Area Board Funding. This application is not therefore required to meet the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2011/12.

8.4.3. Relate Mid Wiltshire submitted an application to the Performance Reward Grant Scheme for £25,500 on 20th December 2010. The application was considered by Chippenham Area Board on 14th January 2011. Chippenham Area Board supported the application and recommended it went forward for approval by the Performance Reward Grant (PRGS) Panel.

8.4.4. The PRGS Panel considered the application on 25th May 2011 and approved a contribution of £12,750, conditional upon participating schools agreeing to match fund the amount. The panel also specified that Chippenham Area Board should be provided with additional evidence that the project will be successful. *See Appendix 4a*

8.4.5. In May, due to uncertain funding situations some schools were unable to commit to the match funding that PRGS Panel specified.

8.4.6. As a result of this, Relate Mid Wiltshire has reviewed the project and submitted a revised application. *See Appendix 4.* 6 Primary Schools have expressed an interest in participating in the project. The schools contribution equates to approximately 39% of the total project costs.

8.4.7. Additional evidence has been provided by the Clinical Supervisor who wrote the national Relate Specification for Supportive Group Work.

8.4.8. Officers understand that this project received strong support when it was considered by the PRGS Panel. The project demonstrates a link to Chippenham & Villages Community Plan “Support for people to improve their own health”. It also demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire “Promoting Health & Wellbeing”.

8.4.9. Officers are of the opinion that the project will provide a valuable support for vulnerable children.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 grant application – Kington St Michael Diamond Jubilee Appendix 2 grant application – North Wiltshire Young Musicians Appendix 3 grant application – Kington St Michael Village Hall Committee Appendix 4 grant application – Relate Mid Wiltshire
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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