

## **Agenda Item 12**

### **Community Area Grants**

#### **Purpose of Report**

To ask councillors to consider three applications seeking the following funding from 2011/12 Area Board Grants:

1. Westbury Art Group application for £324 to purchase a storage cupboard for materials.
2. Bratton Pavilion Management Committee application for £525 to upgrade toilet facilities
3. Leigh Park Community Association application for £8,000 towards the construction of a community centre on Leigh Park. Note this is an area board led application.

#### **1. Background**

1.1 Area boards have authority to approve grants under powers delegated to the area boards by the leader of Wiltshire Council (13 May 2009). Under the terms of that delegation area boards must operate within the policies set by the leader and/or the council. Wiltshire Council has adopted an Area Grants Policy, with funding criteria, to which the area boards must adhere.

1.2 In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any recommendation of an area board that was contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the leader, the appropriate cabinet member or the Cabinet.

1.3 In 2011/12 the Westbury Area Board was allocated a budget of £40,447. At the area board meeting of February 3 2011, the decision was taken to roll over unspent totals of £7492 making a total of £47,939. Following the approval of grant funding at the area board in October, we currently have **£30,573** remaining for this financial year.

#### **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 before 31 March 2012.

2.2 Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting until 31 March 2012.

#### **3. Environmental Impact of the Proposals**

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 Westbury Area Board.

4.2 If the grant application is approved, there will be **£21,724** left in the Westbury area board budget for 2011/12.

#### **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**

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Westbury Art Group	The purchase of storage cupboard in which to keep art materials	£ 324

8.1.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets 2011/12 grant criteria.

8.1.2 The art group meets weekly at the parish hall. However it has no specific storage space for its materials and work. The cupboard will be housed in the store room of the parish hall. The art group supports the development of a thriving leisure and cultural environment and vibrant community life as identified in the Westbury Area Community Plan (P. 26)

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
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<b>Bratton Pavilion Management Committee</b>	The pavilion on the village green is used by a variety of local community groups but the toilet facilities need upgrading. It is hoped the refurbished facility will attract more users to the pavilion, and provide them with a more useable and more hygienic toilet area. It will also offer improved disabled toilet facilities, and will incorporate a baby changing area.	£525
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8.2.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets 2011/12 grant criteria.

8.2.2 The pavilion is used by a variety of village groups for event ranging from meetings to parties. The project demonstrates links to the Local Agreement for Wiltshire ambition "Building Resilient Communities".

Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
<b>Leigh Park Community Association</b>	To help fund the construction of a community centre at Leigh Park	£8,000

See separate grant form for detail.