

Report to	Malmesbury Area Board
Date of Meeting	18 January 2012
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider officer recommendations in respect to 3 Community Area Grant applications and approve further officer expenditure.

1. All Saints Church, Oaksey Parochial Church Council (PCC) - award £1,982 towards repairs to the church footpath, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
2. The King's Day Nursery School – award £999 to provide flooring in a newly created basement room which will accommodate children attending the after school club.
3. Cotswold Water Park Trust – award £879 towards Willow Lantern Pageant 2012, “Creatures of the Night”.
4. Queen’s Diamond Jubilee event in Salisbury, showcasing Malmesbury community area – approve officer delegation of up to £500 towards the cost of a marquee.

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 (CAGs) should be encouraged from and awarded to community and voluntary groups.
- 1.4. Area boards will not consider Community Area Grant (CAG) 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 CAGs councillors can submit an Area Board/councillor led project, which differs from a CAG in that they do not require matched funding. They should, however, not be used to avoid complying with Community Area Grant criteria.
- 1.6. Area Board/councillor led project applications are designed to enable councillors to tackle 'sticky' community issues or projects identified in the Community Plan. An application form is used and estimates for project work have to be completed in a similar manner to the Community Area Grant scheme.
- 1.7. On 10 November 2010, Malmesbury area board approved that the Community Area Manager be given delegated authority of up to £500 per decision and that expenditure should be reported to the next area board meeting.
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.

- 1.10. All applicants are encouraged to contact and seek funding help from Charities Information Bureau who works 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.
- 1.11. 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.
- 1.13. All recipients of community area awards are expected to complete and return an evaluation form as soon as the project or activity has been completed and this should be accompanied by receipts and invoices, as well as photographs if possible. Failure to return the evaluation requested will preclude them from being considered for any future funding from the area board.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12 and Councillor Led Initiatives
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Malmesbury Area Board has been allocated a 2011/2012 budget of £40,593 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives.
- 2.2. The carry forward from the 2010/2011 budget is £9,717, resulting in a balance of £50,310 for distribution during 2011/2012.
- 2.3. At the 4 May 2011 area board, councillors approved 2011/12 core funding of £8,119 to Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Partnership, resulting in a balance of £42,191.
- 2.4. In addition at the 4 May 2011 area board £5,303 was distributed to young people (in a participative budgeting event) from a separate ring fenced youth/transport budget, leaving a balance of £2,756 for youth projects.
- 2.5. On 29 June 2011, the area board agreed that the 2011/12 young people's budget of £4,059 (from Cabinet) would be topped up to £6,000 and the balance of £815 was to be returned to the general area board budget.

- 2.6. At the 29 June 2011 area board, councillors approved distribution of £6,776 to community area grants and area board/councillor led initiatives leaving a balance of £36,230.
- 2.7. At the 7 September 2011 area board, councillors approved the distribution of £8,616 to community area grants and area board/councillor led initiatives leaving a balance of £27,614.
- 2.8. On the 9 November 2011 the area board approved a single community area grant of £4,653 leaving a balance of **£22,961**.
- 2.9. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in 2011/2012 are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.10. There are 6 funding rounds during 2011/12. The last remaining deadline for receipt of applications and date when they will be considered are as follows:

- **23 January 2012 for consideration on 7 March 2012**

3. Environmental & Community Implications

- 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 Malmesbury Area Board.
- 4.2. If funding is allocated in accordance with officer recommendations and delegated authority, Malmesbury area board will have a balance of **£18,601**.

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 council's equal opportunity to receive

funding towards community based projects and schemes, where they meet the funding criteria.

- 7.2. Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within “Officer Recommendations”.

8. Officer Recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	All Saints Church Oaksey, PCC	Repairs to the church footpath	£1,982

- 8.1.1. Officers recommend that All Saints Church Oaksey, Parochial Church Council (PCC) are awarded £1,982 towards repairs to the church footpath, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
- 8.1.2. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2011/12 grant criteria.
- 8.1.3. Although the Community Area Grants criteria exclude applications for religious activities, this footpath is used by the wider community as the path forms the only route available as the main road running parallel to the church is too narrow to accommodate a footpath.
- 8.1.4. There are specific references in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan 2009-2013 in respect to providing more pavements and thus improving the safety of pedestrians. Provision of footpaths encourages walking over the use of cars and this is evident by parents walking their children to/from school (which adjoins the church).
- 8.1.5. The path was last re-surfaced over 30 years ago and damage by tree roots has recently made the path difficult to negotiate by older people, wheelchair and pushchair users and those with a visual impairment. The trees have been removed to prevent future problems.
- 8.1.6. The applicant should be applauded for investigating a range of funding options with the support of Charities Information Bureau before approaching the area board. The PCC together with the Wiltshire Historic Church Trust are contributing 50% of the cost, the area board 38% and the remainder funded by the parish council.
- 8.1.7. A decision not to help fund this application would probably lead to a delay in the work being completed while further funding is sought.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	The King's Day Nursery School	Flooring in a newly created basement room accommodating the after school club	£999

- 8.2.1. Officers recommend that The King's Day Nursery School is awarded £999 to provide flooring in a newly created basement room which will accommodate children attending the after school club.
- 8.2.2. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2011/12 grant criteria.
- 8.2.3. There are specific references in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan 2009-2013 in respect to supporting early years, toddler groups and pre-schools.
- 8.2.4. Provision of affordable afterschool care for children up to the age of eleven, between the end of school and 6.00pm does help to support working parents and so indirectly supports the local economy and family well-being. The nursery also provides a holiday club between 9.00am and 3.00pm.
- 8.2.5. The Crazy Kings Club was started in August 2010 and it is now proving to be successful with bookings from Malmesbury, St Joseph's RC and Lea and Garsdon primary schools. Children are collected from all three schools on most days a week and the club is fully booked on a Tuesday.
- 8.2.6. The Nursery is a not for profit charitable organisation and undertakes fundraising for special projects such as this. Part of the project has involved removing a dividing wall and will include painting the room, which a working party of parents are involved in.
- 8.2.7. Officers believe that while expansion plans are to be encouraged the nursery's management committee need to ensure that in future a proportion of their income is set aside to allow for plans such as this.
- 8.2.8. A decision not to fund this application would probably lead to a delay in the work being completed while funding-raising was undertaken.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Cotswold Water Park Trust	Willow Lantern Pageant 2012, "Creatures of the Night".	£879

- 8.3.1. Officers recommend that Cotswold Water Park Trust is awarded £879 towards the Willow Lantern Pageant 2012, "Creatures of the Night".
- 8.3.2. Officers are of the opinion that the application is border line in meeting the 2011/12 grant criteria as the applicant did receive funding from the area board last year to undertake a similar project. The applicant suggests that because it is reaching out to new groups in the Wiltshire area it should be considered as a 'new' project and because it is aimed at new groups of young people from the villages. Officers are inclined to accept the application.
- 8.3.3. The Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan 2009-2013 contains references from adults and young people for the need to provide affordable activities for families and young people living in the villages.
- 8.3.4. The theme in 2012 "Creatures of the Night" will help to develop an interest in wildlife such as night flying insects (especially moths) and birds, glow-worms and night time mammals including bats. The addition of a Samba band at the parade is in response to the 2011 evaluation.
- 8.3.5. The applicant, a charitable trust has sought funding from a number of sources, some successful, others not. Currently the majority of the funding is being contributed from Gloucester district and parish councils.
- 8.3.6. The festival will be offered to communities in Wiltshire, Gloucester and Swindon. Whilst the pageant in 2012 will see a similar level of Gloucestershire Groups (9) and Swindon (2) there is an anticipated increased participation level of Wiltshire community groups from 5 to 8 with the programme being extended to include Minety Guides, Brownies as well as the primary school. Discussions are also taking place with groups in Malmesbury to see whether they wish to participate.
- 8.3.7. A decision not to help fund this application may result in the inability of the Trust to extend this activity to Minety and Malmesbury young people.

8.4. Jubilee Funding

8.4.1. Delegated authority is sought by the Community Area Manager to fund a marquee for an event celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee event in Salisbury next year.

8.4.2. Malmesbury community area is being asked to showcase the best from their community area at this event – a project being led by Councillor Toby Sturgis.

Appendices	Appendix 1 Grant Application – All Saints Church Oaksey, PCC Appendix 2 Grant Application – The King's Day Nursery School Appendix 3 Grant Application – Cotswold Water Park Trust
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report other than those requested in the funding criteria e.g. estimates.

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