

Report to	Corsham Area Board
Date of Meeting	2 February 2012
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider three applications seeking 20011/12 Community Area Grant Funding:

1. Corsham Food Bank. Award £961 to enable the group to purchase custom made collection bins and an advertising board.
2. Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme based in Corsham. Award £984 to purchase 8 expedition packs to enable young people to participate in the scheme.
3. Revolution Arts. Award £1,500 to develop a musical in Corsham.

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 (27 February 2010). 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 as to 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 voluntary groups.
- 1.4. 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.
- 1.5. 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.
- 1.6. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.7. Corsham Area Board has been allocated a 2011/2012 budget of £43,840 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives.
- 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 2010/2011 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 20011/2012• Corsham 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 1 further round of funding during 2011/12. This will take place on
 - Thursday 22 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 Corsham Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Corsham Area Board will have a balance of £2,019.

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 8.1	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
	Corsham Churches Food Bank	To purchase custom made collection bins and advertising board	£961

- 8.1.1. Corsham Churches Food Bank – Award £962 to enable the group to purchase custom made collection bins and advertising board.
- 8.1.2. Officers are of the opinion that this meets the grant criteria for 2011 / 2012.
- 8.1.3. This applicant provides a direct link to the Corsham Community Area Plan “Community Cohesion”.
- 8.1.4. This application is from a newly formed not for profit organisation and is trying to help those less fortunate in the community area.
- 8.1.5. This group collects food from supermarkets and other outlets and gives it to people at risk or in crisis in the community area.
- 8.1.6. If the Area Board decides not to fund this project it might result in the project being delayed while looking for alternative funding opportunities.

Ref 8.2	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
	Corsham Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme	Purchase 8 expedition packs	£984

- 8.2.1 Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme based in Corsham – Award £984 to purchase 8 Expedition packs to enable those less fortunate to participate in the scheme.
- 8.2.2 Officers are of the opinion that this meets the grant criteria for 2011 / 2012.
- 8.2.3 This applicant provides a direct link to the Corsham Community Area Plan “Activities for young people”.
- 8.2.4 This application is from not for profit organisation and has the full support of Corsham Town Council in their ambitions.
- 8.2.5 This project will offer all children male and female the opportunity to get involved in grass roots activities and build self esteem and confidence. It also encourages young people to put something back into the community.
- 8.2.6 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project it might result in the project being delayed while looking for alternative funding opportunities.

Ref 8.3	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
	Revolution Arts Corsham	To develop a stage production	£1,500

8.3.1 Revolution Arts Corsham – Award £1,500 to enable the group to develop a stage production that will also develop the skills of local people.

8.3.2 Officers are of the opinion that this meets the grant criteria for 2011 / 2012.

8.3.3 This applicant provides a direct link to the Corsham Community Area Plan “Enhancing and developing cultural activities”.

8.3.4 This application is from a newly formed not for profit organisation and has the full support of Corsham Town Council in their ambitions.

8.3.5 This project will offer local people the opportunity to get involved in grass roots cultural activities, developing their skills in a range of skills associated with stage production and touring.

8.3.6 Wiltshire Council’s Senior Arts Development Officer is supportive of this project.

8.3.7 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project it might result in the project being delayed while looking for alternative funding opportunities.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 Grant application – Corsham Churches Food Bank Appendix 2 Grant application Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme Appendix 3 Grant application Revolution Arts
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

Report Author	Dave Roberts, Corsham Community Area Manager Tel:07979318504 E-mail dave.roberts@wiltshire.gov.uk
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