

**Report to** Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board  
**Date of Meeting** 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2012  
**Title of Report** Community Area Grants

## Purpose of Report

To consider 5 applications for community area grant funding, totalling £11,822.

A summary of the applications together with the Community Area Manager's recommendation is set out below.

<b>Application (and amount requested)</b>		<b>Recommendation</b>
10	Wootton Bassett Friends of Guiding: Refurbishment of Guide Hut - £2,916	<i>Approve</i>
11	Bath Spa University: Developing emotional resilience in schools - £5,000	<i>Approve</i>
12	Trustees of Purton Millennium Hall (Purton Parish Council): To provide new tables and trolley for Millennium Hall - £664	<i>Approve</i>
13	Lyneham Village Hall Committee: To provide block paving around Village Hall - £2743	<i>Approve</i>
14	Lyneham & Bradenstoke Parish Council: RAF Memorial Stone, Bench Seat and Landscaping - £500	<i>Approve</i>
<b>Total requested:</b>		<b>£11,822</b>
<b>Prior to consideration of these applications the Area Board's discretionary fund balance stands at:</b>		<b>£15,496</b>
<b>If all applications are approved the Board's balance will be:</b>		<b>£3,674</b>

## **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. Under the terms of the delegation, Area Boards are required to follow the [Community Area Grant guidance and funding criteria](#).
- 1.2. 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.
- 1.3. The Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board was allocated a discretionary budget for 2011/2012 of £51,680. In addition the Board carried forward funding from 2010/2011 of £6,769. This gave a total budget at the beginning of the financial year of £58,449. During the year, the Area Board has allocated or committed £42,953, leaving a balance remaining for allocation of £15,496.
- 1.4. A decision has been made in 2010/2011 that paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce the volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies available upon request.

## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded satisfy the criteria set by the Council and are made to projects that can proceed within a year of the award being made.

## **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. Financial provision has been made to cover this expenditure. If grants are awarded in line with the Community Area Manager's recommendations, the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board will have a remaining balance of £3,674.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

## **6. Human Resources Implications**

- 6.1. There are no specific human resources implications related to this report.

## **7. Equality and Inclusion Implications**

- 7.1. Community Area Grants give all local community and voluntary groups an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

## 8. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Royal Wootton Bassett Friends of Guiding	Refurbishment of Guide Hut	£2,916

8.1.1. The refurbishment of the guide hut facilities will help improve the lack of youth facilities in the area. All of the works are essential to ensure the continued operation of the activities offered at the hall.

8.1.2. This application fails to meet the Council's grant criteria. Because the application seeks more than £1,000 from the Board the applicants are required to provide match funding. In this case the applicants are contributing £1,000 towards the cost of the works, leaving a shortfall of £958. The application shows that the Royal Wootton Bassett Friends of Guiding hold free reserves of £2,505. In the circumstances the contribution of £1,000 is a sizeable amount. Seeking an additional £958 would leave the Group with a very low reserve, putting it at financial risk from unforeseen contingencies that may occur during the year. In view of this, it is recommended that the Board accepts the contribution of £1,000, waives the requirements of the criteria in respect of match funding and awards the grant as requested to enable this worthwhile local project to proceed.

8.1.3. It is **recommended** that, taking into account of the circumstances set out at 8.1.2 above, the Royal Wootton Bassett Friends of Guiding is awarded a grant of £2, 916 to assist with the upgrading of the hall lighting, replacement of a storage heater and the refurbishment of dated kitchen facilities.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
9	Bath Spa University	Developing emotional resilience in local schools	£5,000

8.2.1 This project builds on a pilot scheme in Melksham where children's centre and school staff, youth workers, parents and peer mentors have been trained in emotional coaching, a parenting technique, which has been used successfully in communities within the USA. The project seeks to replicate this work in the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade community area. There is already a strong tradition of multi-agency working in Wootton Bassett; the extended schools cluster, local young people's development centres, Spurgeons Trust (children's centres), and Wiltshire Police will be involved with the project. The project will be supported by Bath Spa University in terms of staff time, expertise and evaluation/dissemination, until August 2013. This bid will cover the costs of training, network meetings and some staff release, for the first phase, in local schools and settings. Findings will be reported back to the Area Board by December 2012.

8.2.2 The Bath Spa team have already found significant qualitative improvements in relationships, confidence and better self-control - between children and adults in Melksham. Quantitative measures are also being developed. In Hull, where a similar approach was used, there was a 75% reduction in verbal abuse, 57% in physical violence, 76% in racist incidents and 80% in fixed term exclusions.

8.2.3 The project aims to engage with children, family members and other stakeholders in the area. The work addresses local priorities relating to children and young people, community safety and aims to improve confidence at school (KS2/4) and personal resilience. In these respects, the project addresses priorities set out in the Royal Wootton Bassett Joint Strategic Assessment.

8.2.4 Insofar as this project relates to a one-off discreet project in the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Community Area, the application meets the funding criteria, although it should be noted that:

- County-wide projects are not eligible for funding under the Community Area Grants Scheme - projects must relate to the community area concerned.
- Ongoing costs associated with subsequent phases of this project will not be eligible for further funding from the Area Board - Community Area Grants are not available for ongoing revenue costs associated with projects or services.

8.2.5 It is **recommended** that, subject to the points set out in 8.2.4 above, Bath Spa University is awarded a grant of £5,000 to support the emotional resilience project in local schools.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	Trustees of Purton Millennium Hall (Purton Parish Council)	To provide additional tables and storage trolley for the Purton Millennium Hall	£664

8.3.1 This application seeks to purchase additional tables and a storage trolley for the Purton Millennium Hall. These will be smaller tables to complement the existing full size trestles to enable a more flexible use of the hall and respond to the needs of different user groups.

8.3.2 The hall is an important local asset and the project aims to encourage cultural and leisure activities in the area supporting the priorities of the Community Plan (pp22/23)

8.3.3 This application meets the Council's grant criteria, although it should be noted that parish and town councils are expected to make a 50% cash contribution in respect of their own applications. In this case, the applicants are the trustees of the hall and even though the trustees are the parish councillors, the trust is a separate legal entity.

8.3.4 It is **recommended** that the Trustees of Purton Millennium Hall is awarded a grant of £664 for additional tables and a storage trolley.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
9	Lyneham Village Hall Committee	To provide block paving around Village Hall	£2,743

- 9.1.1. The enhancement of the hall surroundings will reduce ongoing future maintenance and improve accessibility for users of this important community asset. The hall is well used and provides an important local venue for a wide range of community activities.
- 9.1.2. Subject to the confirmation of funding from Lyneham Parish Council of £1,742, this application meets the Council's funding criteria.
- 9.1.3. It is **recommended** that Lyneham Village Hall Committee is awarded £2,743 to secure the provision of block paving around the hall, subject to the following condition:

**Condition:** *This award is subject to the confirmation of funding in the sum of £1,742 from Lyneham Parish Council.*

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
10	Lyneham & Bradenstoke Parish Council	RAF Memorial Stone, Bench Seat and Landscaping	£500

- 10.1.1. The Parish Council has set aside £2,500 from its Reserves for this project and the RAF at Lyneham has donated a further £500. It is considered that Wiltshire Council would wish to be associated with the project that commemorates a wider association throughout Wiltshire. The stone is proposed to be made of Portland Stone with a carved inscription. It is anticipated that a bench will be placed adjacent to the memorial and flower beds will be planted nearby, both to be maintained by the Parish Council. It is important that this commemorative stone is erected before the RAF leaves Lyneham in December 2012. It was also felt appropriate that the stone is erected during the Diamond Jubilee celebrations and to form part of those celebrations.
- 10.1.2. The application meets the Council's funding criteria and would provide a lasting memorial to the contribution made to Wiltshire by the RAF and the deep support from the community during the recent repatriations.
- 10.1.3. It is **recommended** that Lyneham & Bradenstoke Parish Council is awarded £500 towards the cost of the RAF Memorial Stone, Bench Seat and Landscaping

<b>Background papers:</b>	Grant Application – Royal Wootton Bassett Friends of Guiding Grant Application – Bath Spa University Grant Application – Trustees of Purton Millennium Hall Grant Application – Lyneham Village Hall Committee Grant Application – Lyneham & Bradenstoke Parish Council
---------------------------	---

<b>Report Author</b>	Steve Milton, Head of Community Governance Tel: 01722 434255 <a href="mailto:steve.milton@wiltshire.gov.uk">steve.milton@wiltshire.gov.uk</a>
----------------------	--