

Report to **Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board**
Date of Meeting **28th March, 2012**
Title of Report **2012 Year of Celebrations: Grant Applications**

Purpose of Report

To consider applications for grant funding.

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

Application (and amount requested)	Recommendation
1. Christ Church Broad Town: Flower Festival and Scarecrow Trail (£250)	<i>Approve</i>
2. The High Bailiff of The Hundred and Borough of Cricklade: Cricklade Diamond Jubilee Celebrations (£960)	<i>Approve</i>
3. Sacred Heart Flower Group, Royal Wootton Bassett Flower Festival (£400)	<i>Approve</i>
4. SPLASH 'Push the Boat Out' (£2000)	<i>Refuse</i>
5. Diamond Jubilee Community Working Party: Community Festival (£1855)	<i>Approve</i>
6. Wootton Bassett Flower Club: Jubilee Flower Displays (£200)	<i>Approve</i>
7. Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church: Flower Festival (£200)	<i>Approve</i>
8. North Wilts Rural Crafts (Bodger White): Community Coppicing Start-up (£2,200)	<i>Refuse</i>

Total requested:	£8,065
Prior to consideration of these applications the Area Board's Year of Celebrations grants fund balance stands at:	£9,400
If all applications are approved the Board's balance will be:	£1,335

Background

1. The Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board has set aside £10,000 to support small scale local events and activities linked to the Olympics, the Olympic Torch Relay and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. The purpose of the scheme is to encourage activities that will complement and add to the local celebrations in the area.
2. In accordance with the Council's grants guidance, officers are required to provide recommendations in their report. However, the decision on each application rests with the democratically elected members of the Area Board.
3. Of the £10,000 set aside by the Board for applications, £600 has already been allocated leaving a balance of £9,400 available to support the applications set out in this report.

Main Considerations

4. Councillors will need to be satisfied that all grants awarded support and enhance the Olympic and Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Environmental & Community Implications

5. The Area Boards is seeking to broaden community participation in the Year of Celebrations and foster a strong community spirit throughout the area that will help build stronger and more resilient communities.

Financial Implications

6. Financial provision has been made to cover this expenditure.

Legal Implications

7. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

Human Resources Implications

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

Equality and Inclusion Implications

9. The Board is seeking to extend funding opportunities to all sections of the local community and will endeavour to target those groups less able or less likely to attend Area Board meetings.

Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
1	Christ Church Broad Town	Flower Festival and Scarecrow Trail	£250

10. The Flower Ladies from Christ Church in Broad Town are planning an evening social event in a tent, a flower festival in the church and a scarecrow trail throughout village. Refreshments will be available all weekend. The festivities are planned to take place on 13th, 14th and 15th July 2012 between the Diamond Jubilee and the start of the Olympic Games.

11. It is **recommended** that the Flower Ladies from Christ Church, Broad Town are **awarded** £250 to support the Flower Festival and Scarecrow Trail in the village.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
2	The High Bailiff of The Hundred and Borough of Cricklade	Diamond Jubilee Celebrations	£960

12. This application is submitted by Wiltshire's only surviving Court Leet. The Court's ancient duties are to this day enshrined in legislation, with the Lord of the Manor acting as the Queen's representative through the Court's Officers. The project aims to provide every school child under the age of eleven with a commemorative Mug for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee at a special event to be held on 31st May 2012 to replicate a similar ceremony organised by the Court on the occasion of the Coronation. Events will then proceed with the proclamation of a loyal Toast to the Queen on 3rd June 2012 following a celebration service in Cricklade - something the Court has organised on every significant Royal occasion. There will be a Jubilee Dance on 4th June 2012 which will incorporate the lighting of a Beacon. Cricklade is to be one of the 2012 Beacons that will be lit on this evening. This requires the manufacture and installation of a Beacon to commemorate the Queens Jubilee as a lasting and re-useable structure.
13. It is **recommended** that the High Bailiff of The Hundred and Borough of Cricklade and the Officers of the Court Leet are **awarded** a grant of £960 to support the Cricklade Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
3	Sacred Heart Flower Group	Royal Wootton Bassett Flower Festival	£400

14. This application is for a flower festival to be held over the Diamond Jubilee celebration weekend of 2/3/4th June 2012. This event will link with the St Bartholomew flower festival previously supported by the Board. The event will be open daily during the Jubilee weekend to support other activities in Royal Wootton Bassett including the street event in the High Street on 3rd June. Guided tours of the flower festival will be on offer and refreshments and plant/craft stalls will be available for visitors. The group is also organising a children's competition for the design of a window box or miniature garden suitable for the Queen's Jubilee that will be open to all primary schools and play groups in Royal Wootton Bassett with entries displayed during the Jubilee Flower Festival at Sacred Heart Church Hall.
15. It is **recommended** that the Sacred Heart Flower Group is **awarded** a grant of £400 to support its part in the Royal Wootton Bassett Flower Festival.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
4	SPLASH	'Push the Boat Out' in Royal Wootton Bassett	£2,000

16. SPLASH will be well known to members of the Board for the excellent range of activities it provides for vulnerable and marginalised children. This project aims to provide days of fun and achievement on the river, for young people aged 11 – 16 years and will include kayaking, canoeing and raft building in a safe and organised environment. This project will give young people from Royal Wootton Bassett the opportunity to join in and celebrate their achievements with opportunities to gain new skills make new friends and achieve their own Paddle Power Certificate. Events are planned to take place over the summer and October school holidays and will involve four days of activities. The aims of the project are:
- To increase opportunities for young people to participate in positive activities
 - To improve young people's personal and social skills
 - To reduce negative and anti social behaviour
 - To introduce young people to new environments
 - To signpost young people to mainstream activities
 - To achieve basic paddle power entry certificate
 - To improve team work
 - To increase self esteem
17. When considering this application, Members will have to take into account that there is no indication of the number of children expected to take part in this event and that there is a projected shortfall in project funding with no indication of how this will be raised. If the additional funding is not forthcoming a reduced scheme will be provided. There is also no clear link with the Olympic or Diamond Jubilee festivities taking place in the area. SPLASH exists to run holiday schemes for vulnerable children across Wiltshire and this application relates to the ongoing running costs of that programme. The match funding shown in the application is derived solely from organisational costs. Normally, this application would fail to meet the Community Area Grants criteria and would be recommended for refusal.
18. Members will need to be satisfied that this project falls within the remit of the Year of Celebrations grants scheme, that there will be a significant benefit to the area and that the proposed activities will go ahead as stated in the light of the funding shortfall.
19. It is **recommended** that in view of uncertainties regarding the numbers of participants, the funding shortfall and the lack of a clear link with the Jubilee or Olympic celebrations in the area this application is **refused**.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
5	Royal Wootton Bassett Diamond Jubilee Festival Committee	Community Festival, High Street, Royal Wootton Bassett	£1855

20. This application is for a community festival to be held in the high Street in Royal Wootton Bassett with the aim of maintaining local community spirit and encouraging family participation. The event is organised by the community and will showcase local community groups and High Street businesses. The funding requested will help to pay for the cost of the required road closure, event insurance and main events stage.
21. This application provides a good fit with the Board's aspirations to encourage events and activities that will help to bring local communities together in a spirit of celebration. It is considered that the festival will have a beneficial and lasting impact by helping to build a strong sense of belonging and togetherness in the Town.
22. It is **recommended** that Royal Wootton Bassett Diamond Jubilee Festival Committee is **awarded** £1,855 towards the cost of the Diamond Jubilee Festival.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
6	Royal Wootton Bassett Flower Club	Jubilee Flower Displays	£200

23. The Royal Wootton Bassett Flower Club are planning to take part in the local Jubilee festivities by providing floral displays and exhibits in High Streets shop windows. This will enhance the sense of occasion associated with the other activities taking place and link into the Flower Festival events organised by other groups in the Town. The exhibition will coincide with the Olympic Torch relay and the Jubilee Festival in the high Street.
24. It is **recommended** that the Royal Wootton Bassett Flower Club is **awarded** £200 to support the Jubilee Flower Displays in the High Street.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
7	Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church	Royal Wootton Bassett Festival of Flowers	£200

25. This application forms part of the 'Three Churches Festival of Flowers' in Royal Wootton Bassett. This will see the Methodist, Anglican and Catholic churches in the Town come together to produce floral displays in the churches with refreshments and activities throughout the Town.
26. It is **recommended** that the Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church is **awarded** a grant of £200 to support Royal Wootton Bassett Festival of Flowers.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8	North Wilts Rural Crafts (Bodger White)	Community Coppicing Start-up	£2,200

27. This is an interesting application that seeks funding to help start up a sustainable woodland crafts enterprise, teaching traditional woodsman crafts to a range of community groups and young people. The aim is to revive and promote traditional woodland crafts and bring them to a modern audience and market. With a particular emphasis on coppicing, the applicant aims to raise awareness and local interest in traditional woodlands, woodland management and natural heritage. It is anticipated that the project will help to generate increased interest in bringing derelict woodlands back into productive and beneficial use that will contribute to better environmental, social and economic outcomes by providing jobs, leisure activities and conservation projects.
28. It is indicated that the applicant would be working with local schools to provide courses that will provide vocational training based on woodland and rural crafts. However, there is little detail about how this would work in practice and whether the support of the local schools has been obtained. It is considered that this is essential before the Board could consider making a grant at the level requested. In addition, the application falls outside of the scope of the current 'Year of Festivities' grants scheme as it does not demonstrate a link with the Olympic Torch relay or the Jubilee celebrations.
29. It is considered that there is considerable merit in the proposal but that a lot of further work is needed by the applicant to demonstrate the viability of the enterprise and the support that will be needed from local schools – a business plan and testimonials confirming the viability and sustainability of the enterprise would be required. It is considered that the applicant should seek help and advice from Wiltshire Business Support Service to take this project forward.
30. It is **recommended** that the application from North Wilts Rural Crafts is **refused** for the reasons outlined at paragraphs 28 and 29 above and the applicant be advised to contact Wiltshire Business Support Service for advice on setting up a new enterprise of this nature (contact Chris Simpson at Wessex Association of Chambers of Commerce on 07730 870189 or 01225 355553).

Background papers:	Grant Application – Christ Church Broad Town Grant Application – The High Bailiff of Cricklade Grant Application – Sacred Heart Flower Group Grant Application – SPLASH Grant Application – Diamond Jubilee Community Working Party Grant Application – Wootton Bassett Flower Club Grant Application – Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church Grant Application – North Wilts Rural Crafts (Bodger White)
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