

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Chippenham Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> July 2012</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Funding</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 2 applications for Community Area Grant funding and the application from the Community Partnership for Core Funding :

1. Award Castle Combe Village Hall Committee £420 towards the installation of Double Glazed windows in the village Hall.
2. Award Eco-Kids North Wilts £909 for the Eco - Enterprise School Farmers Market project.
3. Award Chippenham & Villages Area Partnership (ChAP) Core Funding £13,780

## 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 Adult Care, Communities and Housing (4<sup>th</sup> April 2012). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2012/2013.
- 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 and the nurturing of resilient communities. With this in mind Community Area Grants (CAGs) should be encouraged from and awarded to community and voluntary groups. Likewise, Small Grants (new this year) should be awarded to similar groups, as well as un-constituted groups of people wanting to improve things near to where they live.
- 1.4. Chippenham Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of **£68,917** for Community Area Grants, Small Grants, Community Partnership core funding and Area Board/Councillor Led initiatives.
- 1.5. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1,000 - £5000 will be required to find matched funding. The Area Board will not normally award more than £5,000.
- 1.6. Small Grants, new for this year will fund up to £350, where the total cost of the project does not exceed £350. This grant is aimed at enabling groups (including those not formally constituted) to implement projects, involving local people to make their community a better place to live.
- 1.7. 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.
- 1.8. In addition to CAGs and Small Grants, Councillors can submit an Area Board/Councillor Led Initiative. This enables Area Boards to tackle community issues and/or community identified priorities. Cabinet has emphasised that it does not wish these applications to be used to avoid complying with Community Area Grant criteria or for filling gaps where there are council service shortfalls. The application process and form has been updated to bring it in line with the other grants.

- 1.9. Officers are required to provide recommendations in their funding reports (except in the case of Area Board/Councillor led initiatives), although the decision to support applications is made by Wiltshire Councillors on the Area Board.
- 1.10. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.11. Applicants are encouraged to contact and seek funding help from Charities Information Bureau (CIB) who work on behalf of Wiltshire Council. CIB 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.
- 1.12. The 2012/2013 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website ([www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards)) and paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.
- 1.13. A decision was 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 volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.14. All recipients of Area Board funding 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. This applies to all grants made by the Area Board.
- 1.15. On 30<sup>th</sup> April, Chippenham Area Board took the decision to delegate responsibility to the Community Area Manager, in consultation with the Area Board Chairman and/or Vice Chairman, to approve expenditure of up to £1,000 between Area Board meetings.
- 1.16. The delegated power is only intended to be used for matters of urgency which cannot wait until the next meeting of the Area Board and would not be used as a matter of routine. The majority of decisions will continue to be taken at a public meeting
- 1.17. A budget of £6,900 ring-fenced for the needs of young people has again been made available in 2012/2013. This will be allocated using the "Participatory Budgeting" method.
- 1.18. Chippenham Area Board has a separate Community Area Transport Group (CATG) budget of £39,587 for 2012/13.
- 1.19. At the Area Board meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> April, Councillors approved the award of £2,000 towards the Olympic Torch Day Celebrations. Cheques were issued to the winners of the Chippenham Area Board Community Awards totalling £200. This leaves a balance of Area Board Funding of **£66,717** for 2012/13.

<p><b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision</li> <li>• Chippenham and Villages Community Area Plan</li> </ul>
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## 2. Main Considerations

2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2012/13 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.

2.2. There will be 6 rounds of funding during 2012/2013. The first took place on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2012, the second is contained in this report and the remaining will take place on:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2012                      deadline for applications 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2012
- 5<sup>th</sup> November 2012                      deadline for applications 24<sup>th</sup> September 2012
- 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013                         deadline for applications 26<sup>th</sup> November 2012
- 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013                         deadline for applications 21<sup>st</sup> January 2013

2.3. Chippenham Area Board was allocated a 2012/2013 budget of **£68,917** for Community Area Grants, Small Grants, Community Partnership core funding and Area Board/Councillor Led initiatives.

## 3. Environmental & Community Implications

3.1. Area Board Grants 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 Chippenham Area Board.

4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Chippenham Area Board will have a balance of **£51,608**.

## 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 and Small Grants will give 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 section 8 – "Officer Recommendations".

## 8. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Castle Combe Village Hall Committee	Installation of Double Glazing in the Village Hall	£420

- 8.1.1. Castle Combe Village Hall Committee – Award £420 towards the installation of Double Glazed windows in the village Hall.
- 8.1.2. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets Community Area Grant criteria for 2012/13.
- 8.1.3. This application demonstrates links to the Community Plan which notes "the importance of a community hall to the strength and vibrancy of villages in particular", "More grants to small parishes for energy efficiency measures in public buildings" and "Increase support for community facilities and events".
- 8.1.4. The applicant has secured 50% of the total cost of the project from village hall reserves.
- 8.1.5. Chippenham Area Board contributed to the installation of double glazing and insulation in May 2010.
- 8.1.6. Officers are informed that no Building Regulations consent or Conservation Area consents are required.
- 8.1.7. The Village Hall Committee is keen to continue their drive to reduce running costs for the hall, and the installation of the windows will greatly assist with this.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Eco Kids North Wilts	Eco - Enterprise School Farmers Market project	£909

- 8.2.1 Eco Kids North Wilts – Award £909 for the Eco - Enterprise School Farmers Market project.
- 8.2.2 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets Community Area Grant criteria for 2012/13.
- 8.2.3 This application demonstrates links to the Community Plan “Chippenham needs to maintain its character and attraction as an important Wiltshire market town” and “Increase support for community facilities and events”.
- 8.2.4 The applicant is collaborating with the Extended Services Manager for Chippenham and 21 local schools on this project as the environment has been identified as a priority.
- 8.2.5 The project will provide the children with an opportunity to learn to grow vegetables, recycle unused materials and make regional traditional crafts.
- 8.2.6 Officers are of the opinion that this project will provide a valuable opportunity for children to compliment their academic learning with skills in promotion, enterprise and business activities.
- 8.2.7 The project will also encourage collaboration between school children/students and local businesses.
- 8.2.8 It is hoped that this event might become an annual feature for the town and local schools.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	Chippenham & Villages Area Partnership	Core Funding – see work plan	£13,780

- 8.3.1 Chippenham & Villages Area Partnership (ChAP) – Award £13,783 Core Funding.
- 8.3.2 Note recommendation in separate report, Appendix 3.

<b>Appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 - Grant application, Castle Combe Village Hall Committee Appendix 2 - Grant application, Eco Kids North Wilts Appendix 3 – Report from Community Partnership Officer, ChAP Work plan
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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