

Report to	Name of Area Board
Date of Meeting	23rd July 2012
Title of Report	Area Board Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider three applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding

1. **Potterne Cricket Club** – Funding to replace the match play artificial pitch. They are seeking £4,000

Recommended for consideration for approval

2. **Kennet Young Musicians** – Funding to replace worn out or broken instruments. They are seeking £344

Recommended for consideration for approval conditional

3. **Devizes Town Council**– Funding to purchase two-way radios for community use. They are seeking £800

Recommended for consideration for approval

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 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. Devizes Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of £58,192 for community 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 rarely 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 sticky community issues and/or community identified priorities. Cabinet have emphasised that they do not wish these 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. Paper copies of funding applications no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce paper. They are however available on the Wiltshire Council web site with the area board agenda papers and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.13. The 2012/2013 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) and paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.
- 1.14. 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.
- 1.15. 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.
- 1.16. A budget ring-fenced for the needs of young people will again be made available in 2012/2013. How this will be allocated will be the decision of the area board.
- 1.17. Devizes Area Board has a separate Community Area Transport Group (CATG) budget of £15,751 for 2012/13. £5,779 has also been carried forward from 2011/12. There is also an additional budget for youth activities of £5,819

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision• Devizes Community Area Plan
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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. Applications and supporting documents should be with the Community Area Manager at least 4 weeks before the meeting date. Future rounds of funding will take place at the following area board meetings:
 - September 24th 2012
 - November 26th 2012
 - January 28th 2013
 - March 25th 2013

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 Devizes Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Devizes Area Board will have a balance of £37,963. However a request by DCAP for £11,638 will be made at the July area board meeting. If granted, the balance will be £26,325

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	1. Potterne Cricket Club	Replace Match Play Artificial Pitch	£4k towards a project costing £8k

8.1.1. This application is recommended for consideration for approval

8.1.2. The grants criteria for 2012/13 is met by this grant

8.1.3. The application contributes to the community plan as it contributes towards improving leisure and recreational activities

8.1.4. The project is to replace their artificial match pitch which is used by juniors to practice on and to fulfil most of their fixtures. There are @100 junior members, a third of who are girls. The current pitch will very soon be unusable and it would be impossible to sustain such a large number of junior members.

8.1.5. The project is being sponsored by the Cricket Foundation who will also provide £4k of match funding. One of the conditions of their support is that they decide who the contractors will be and this is why there is only one quote provided for the work

8.1.6. If the award is not made then the project may not go ahead and the junior membership can't be sustained

9. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.1	Kennet Young Musicians	Devizes and District Wind Band	£344 towards a project costing £1,376

9.1.1. This application is recommended for consideration for approval

9.1.2. The grants criteria for 2012/13 is met

9.1.3. The application addresses the community plan as it helps increase cultural activities and provides more for young people to do

9.1.4. The project is to replace old and broken instruments which the members can borrow for free. The key new instrument will be a tenor saxophone which will have a life span of around 30 years.

- 9.1.5. There is a small annual subscription which covers the cost of tuition.
- 9.1.6. Currently there are about 35 members of the band who also regularly play concerts. The new instruments will encourage new members to join.
- 9.1.7. Funding towards the project has already been secured from Plain Action who are providing £1,332
- 9.1.8. If the award is not made then unless other funding can be found, not all the instruments can be purchased.

10. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
10.1	Devizes Town Council	Purchase of two-way radios for community use	£800 towards a project cost of £1,600

- 10.1.1. The officer's recommendation is that this application should be considered for approval.
- 10.1.2. The project aims to address the problem that most large outdoor events in the Devizes area require the use of two-way radios. Often in the past this has meant the need to hire them which can be expensive. The project will allow the radios to be loaned out to the event organisers.
- 10.1.3. The application addresses the community plan by contributing to a sense of belonging and to tourism
- 10.1.4. Devizes Town Council are providing 50% match funding and will maintain the radios
- 10.1.5. If the award is not made then the radios will need to be hired instead which will be more expensive and more difficult.

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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