

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Melksham Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>8 August 2012</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Community Area and Small Grants</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider seven applications seeking 2012/2013 Community Area Grant Funding.

1. **Bowerhill Residents Action Group** have applied for **£120** to purchase two trimmers. The recommendation is to award the funding.
2. **Bowerhill Busy Bees Patchwork Group** have applied for **£200** towards the purchase of a sewing machine. The recommendation is to award the funding.
3. **AFC Melksham** have applied for **£350** to provide coaching days for kids. The recommendation is to award the funding
4. **Poulshot Village Trust** have applied for **£304** to purchase a marquee for village events. The recommendation is to award the funding
5. **Melksham Council of Community Services** have applied for **£4944** towards a replacement engine for their assessable community bus. The recommendation is to award the funding
6. **The Golden Fleece Cricket Club** have applied for **£6834** towards the construction of a cricket pavilion. The recommendation is to award the funding up to £5000.
7. **Extended Services (Melksham Area)** have applied for **£2500** towards counselling for young people. The recommendation is to award the funding

## 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 recommendation of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the Leader, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Cabinet.
- 1.3. 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.
- 1.4. EXAMPLE Two applicants withdrew their applications and hope to reapply at a future date. One application did not meet the funding criteria and was referred to Charities Information Bureau (CIB) for support to seek funding from elsewhere. CIB work on behalf of Wiltshire Council to 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.
- 1.5. Funding applications will be considered at every other Area Board meeting.
- 1.6. Melksham Area Board has been allocated a 2012/13 budget of £49,762 for community grants, small grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives.
- 1.7. 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 volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.8. The 2010/2011 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website ([www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards)) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Area Grant Application Pack 2012/13</li><li>• Melksham Community Action Plan</li><li>• Grant applications</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.

## 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 Melksham Area Board.
- 4.2. If these community grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Melksham Area Board will have a balance of **£10,594**.

## 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	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	<b>Bowerhill Residents Action Group</b>	<b>Purchase of two strimmers for maintenance of picnic area.</b>	<b>£120</b>

- Recommendation is to award the funding.
- Application meets small grant criteria 2012/13.

- Locally agreed priorities: The funding for the strimmers will increase the enjoyment of the picnic area by keeping the grass under control.
- The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- The project involves using the two strimmers to make maintenance of the picnic area near the Kennet and Avon Canal easier. This picnic area was created by the Bowerhill Residents Action Group last year and it currently maintained using hand tools which are difficult for the member of the club, many of whom are senior citizens.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	<b>Bowerhill Busy Bees Patchwork Group</b>	<b>Purchase of a sewing machine</b>	<b>£200</b>

- Recommendation is to award the funding.
- Application meets small grant criteria 2012/13.
- Locally agreed priorities: The new sewing machine will allow new members without sewing machines to join the club.
- The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- The project involves the purchase of a modern sewing machine that can be stored in the village hall. This will mean the ladies (who meet once a fortnight) do not have to bring their own sewing machines to the club.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	<b>AFC Melksham</b>	<b>Coaching days for kids</b>	<b>£350</b>

- Recommendation is to award the funding.
- Application meets small grant criteria 2012/13.
- Locally agreed priorities: The coaching will allow participants to grow in the game

and encourage a healthy focused pursuit.

- The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- The project involves upskilling of young players to FA level one coaching by providing free coaching days for up to 300 kids.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
<b>8.3</b>	<b>Poulshot Village Trust</b>	<b>Gazebo for village events</b>	<b>£304</b>

- Recommendation is to award the funding.
- Application meets small grant criteria 2012/13.
- Locally agreed priorities: it will enable the village to continue to organise events that are designed to bring together the whole community.
- The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- The project involves the purchase of a gazebo for village events.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
<b>8.4</b>	<b>Melksham Council of Community Services</b>	<b>Replacement engine for accessible community bus</b>	<b>£4966</b>

- Recommendation is to award the funding.
- Application meets grant criteria 2012/13.
- This application does not demonstrate a link to the Melksham community plan.
- Locally agreed priorities: Reliable accessible transport for the elderly and disabled provides benefits for the vulnerable in our community, this is often the only way they can leave their house.
- The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- The project is involves the purchase and installation of a new engine for the community bus which is currently out of service for community day trips due to its

unreliable engine.

- Equality and inclusion issues are addressed by this project: focused on elderly and disabled.
- If the area board does not grant funding the club would have to fundraise or seek alternative funding sources.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
<b>8.4</b>	<b>The Golden Fleece Cricket Club</b>	<b>Towards the construction of a cricket pavilion</b>	<b>£6834</b>

- Recommendation is to award the funding up to £5000. Councillors are reminded that this group were awarded £3700 for the creation of the cricket field on 14/9/11.
- Application meets grant criteria 2012/13.
- This application demonstrates a link to the Melksham community plan – ‘increase recreation provision in the Melksham area’.
- Locally agreed priorities: The new pavilion will allow the club to continue to provide playing and practicing facilities under the umbrella of friendly village cricket.
- The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- The project is involves building a new cricket pavilion on the club’s new grounds adjacent to Whitley Golf Club. The lease on the club’s current field behind the Golden Fleece Public House, Shaw, expires in 2012 with no possibility of renewal. The new pavilion would complete the transformation of the current pasture field into a brand new sports facility.
- Equality and inclusion issues are addressed by this project: none
- If the area board does not grant funding the club would have to fundraise or seek alternative funding sources.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
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8.5	<b>Extended Services (Melksham Area)</b>	<b>Counseling for young people</b>	<b>£2500</b>
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- Recommendation is to award the funding.
- Application meets grant criteria 2012/13.
- This application demonstrates a link to the Melksham community plan – ‘encourage local support of disadvantaged young people and ensure convenient and accessible source of advice’.
- Locally agreed priorities: Schools and Social workers have informed us that there is a need. Children in need at present travel to Chippenham, Trowbridge or Devizes for this service. This means that only children who can afford to travel can receive this service
- The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- The project involves the provision of drop-in counselling services for children for 3 hours per week 42 weeks of the year. Relate will provide this services which is similar to Talk Zone which is available for children in other towns. Relate currently has capacity for provision of this service to commence in September 2012. Approximately 80 to 100 young people would benefit from the service.
- Equality and inclusion issues are addressed by this project: focused on young people.
- If the area board does not grant funding the club would have to fundraise or seek alternative funding sources.

<b>Appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 Grant application – BRAG Appendix 2 Grant application – Bowerhill Busy Bees Appendix 3 Grant application – AFC Melksham Appendix 4 Grant application – Poulshot Village Trust Appendix 5 Grant application – Melksham Council of Community Services Appendix 4 Grant application – Golden Fleece Cricket Club Appendix 5 Grant application – Extended Services (Melksham area)
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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