

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Pewsey Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>10 September 2012</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Grants</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 4 applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding

1. Pewsey Parish Council – the production and publication of a Neighbourhood Development Plan, Seeking £500, Officer recommendation to approve £500.
2. Woodborough Social Club – New Boiler for the provision of heating and hot water, seeking £4,400, Officer recommendation to approve £4,400.
3. Little Bedwyn Playing Field Trust – Rebuild of Wall to Playing Field, seeking £4,000, Officer recommendation to approve £4,000 on condition that the remaining funds are raised.
4. Pewsey Vale Youth Football Club – under 14's football kit, seeking £323, Officer recommendation to approve £323.

## **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. Pewsey Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of £44,943 for community grants, small grants, community partnership core funding and area board/councillor led initiatives. The area board at its last meeting committed £9,772 which needs to be taken from this figure giving a starting balance in 2012/13 of £35,171 (see page 3 for current balance)
- 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. 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 9 May 2011 it was agreed that in respect of urgent matters and exceptional circumstances that may arise from time to time between meetings that the Pewsey Community Area Manager, in consultation with the Councillors of the Pewsey Area Board, be granted delegated authority to approve expenditure not exceeding £500 from the Pewsey Area Board budget. A report explaining any such decision and the reasons why it was considered to be urgent shall be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the Pewsey 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. Pewsey Area Board has a separate Community Area Transport Group (CATG) budget of £12,377 for 2012/13.

<p>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision</li> <li>• Pewsey 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 was in May 2012 and the second is contained in this report, the remaining will take place on;
  - 10 September 2012
  - 12 November 2012
  - 14 January 2013
  - Date to be confirmed March 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 Pewsey Area Board.
- 4.2. Since the last meeting a number of adjustments needed to be made to the balance, as follows:-

Balance following May grants - £30,405  
Plus reimbursement from Burbage Village Hall as project didn't go ahead £2,500  
Plus underspend from Jubilee Event held on 1 May £1,065  
Less money ring fenced for Pewsey Station Project £10,000  
Less Jubilee funding overpayment £25  
Less PCAP Second tranche (to be claimed in Sept/Oct/Nov) £4,494

Less amount awarded in July - £4,640

Balance £14,811

- 4.3. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Pewsey Area Board will have a balance of £5,589

## **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	Pewsey Parish Council	Neighbourhood Development Plan	£500

- 8.1.1. Officer recommendation to approve the sum of £500
- 8.1.2. This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13
- 8.1.3. This application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan Page 7 (affordable housing and local development), Page 11 (the economy, access to information) and page 33 (countryside and environment)
- 8.1.4. The applicant is Pewsey Parish Council who are matching funding with £500.
- 8.1.5. The total project costs are expected to be up to £1,000
- 8.1.6. The Neighbourhood Development Plan, in accordance with extensive community consultation, will set out the development within Pewsey parish and those other parishes who wish to be involved up until 2026. The plan will be in line with the Localism Act 2012 and Wiltshire Council's Guide to Neighbourhood Planning.
- 8.1.7. The project is being steered by a working group made up of a cross section of people from the community, including councillors, chamber of commerce, members of Pewsey Community Area Partnership, Chamber of Commerce, Youth Council etc. It has been running since 2011 at no cost but has reached the stage where funding will be required for the community consultation etc.
- 8.1.8. If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then the steering group could not run effective consultations or produce publicity and presentation materials, including the printed copies of the draft and final plans.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Woodborough Social Club	New Boiler	£4,400

8.2.1 Officer recommendation to award £4,400

8.2.2 This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13.

8.2.3 The application demonstrates a link to the community plan – page 9 – local facilities, page 12 – facilities for socially isolated, page 13 – facilities for older people, page 23 – supporting young people. There is no other venue in the area that would meet the needs of the learning disabled group that use the club – it meets fortnightly which prevents social isolation. There is an ethnic mix. The club is for relaxation and fun. Older people use the club for dancing and socialising. A parent/family night provides activities and fun for tots to teens and prevents parents from being isolated. There are eleven community groups that use the club.

8.2.4 The applicant is the Woodborough Social Club, a not for profit organisation with 17 people involved in its management.

8.2.5 The total project costs are £8,814 – a loan of £4,400 has been approved from Wadworth Brewery.

8.2.6 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then it will take much longer to raise the funds needed, if at all, and use of the hall will fall as it will be too cold in the winter.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	Little Bedwyn Playing Field Trust	Re-build of playing field wall	£4,000

8.3.1 Officer recommendation to award £4,000 on condition that the remaining funds are raised.

8.3.2 This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13.

8.3.3 The application demonstrates a link to the community plan – page 33, preservation of the natural environment, pages 4/5 – provision of a meeting place, which helps to maintain rural community, page 4 – supports sustainability and page 8 – investment in outdoor leisure facilities and play areas. The wall provides a safe boundary between the playing field and the main road. It is currently unsafe to use fully which detrimentally impacts on the community.

- 8.3.4 The applicant is Little Bedwyn Playing Field Trust, a not for profit organisation with 12 people involved in its management.
- 8.3.5 The total project costs are £12,399 – the Parish Council are contributing £400, and £1,450 is coming from reserves. There is £6,300 still to be raised through fundraising.
- 8.3.6 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then it will take much longer to raise the funds needed, if at all. It is hoped that this will encourage other potential funders to support the project.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4	Pewsey Vale Football Club	New team kit for the under 14s youth football teams	£323

- 8.4.1 Officer recommendation to award £323
- 8.4.2 This application meets the small funds grant criteria 2012/13.
- 8.4.3 As this is a small grant it doesn't need to demonstrate a link to the community plan, however this club is a well needed and well used facility for young people. The existing kit will be passed down to the under 13s team.
- 8.4.4 The applicant is the Pewsey Vale Youth Football Club, a not for profit organisation. The club provides organised football matches and training to approximately 100 young boys and girls from the Pewsey and surrounding villages.
- 8.4.5 The total project costs are £323

Appendices:	Grant application forms (available to view online at <a href="http://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=177&amp;MId=6119&amp;Ver=4">http://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=177&amp;MId=6119&amp;Ver=4</a> )
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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