

<b>Report to</b>	<b>South West Wiltshire Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>17 October 2012</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Grants</b>

## Purpose of Report

- To ask Councillors to consider 5 applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding.

<b>Application</b>	<b>Amount</b>
New flooring and repairs to furniture Applicant: Stourton & Kilmington Home Guard Club	£2,522
Raised beds and tools Applicant: Nadder Close Gardening Club	£613
Building materials for re-roofing the Pavilion Applicant: Barford St Martin Parish Council	£500
Training, software and technical support Applicant: East Knoyle Village Website	£250 – <b>SMALL GRANT</b>
New Christmas lights Applicant: Tisbury Business Association	£1,714

## **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. South West Wiltshire Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of £121,048 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](http://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. South West Wiltshire Area Board agreed to delegate powers to the Community Area Manager to make decisions on expenditure of up to £750 in the financial year, 2012/13. This was agreed at the Area Board meeting on 13 June 2012.
- 1.17. 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.
- 1.18. South West Wiltshire Area Board has a separate Community Area Transport Group (CATG) budget of £17,079 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>• Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026</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 are due to be 6 rounds of funding during 2012/13, including this meeting.

The deadline for submitting applications to the Community Area Manager is 4 weeks prior to the meeting. More information is available at:

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/southwestwiltshireareaboard.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/southwestwiltshireareaboard.htm)

### **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 South West Wiltshire Area Board. Grant applications totalling **£5,599** have been received for this meeting.
- 4.2. At the time of writing this report, South West Wiltshire Area Board currently has a balance of **£102,195** remaining for 2012/13.

### **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
mer/12/009	Stourton & Kilmington Home Guard Club	New flooring for main hall and repairs to existing furniture	£2,522

- 8.1.1. At the time of writing this report, clarification is currently being sought on the quotes provided in order to show a full breakdown of the works involved. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2012/13 grant criteria.
- 8.1.2. The application demonstrates a link to the Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026 (p10), as this facility potentially helps to build a stronger and more resilient community, fit for the future.
- 8.1.3. This project is to fund the cost of replacing the existing flooring surface of the main hall and carry out repairs to furniture as detailed in the application.

- 8.1.4. The club currently has 136 members, as well as many other users accessing both the facilities and activities such as bingo and skittles. The improved facilities will also be available for people to privately hire
- 8.1.5. The Area Board recognises the need to support and enhance local facilities for all the community.
- 8.1.6. If the Board does not fund this project then the community would continue to fundraise.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
tis/12/008	Nadder Close Gardening Club	Raised beds and tools in order to launch new club	£613

- 8.1.7. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2012/13 grant criteria. The club has received £250 start up funding from the Housing Management team within Wiltshire Council, which would restrict any award from the Area Board to £750 if there is no matched funding.
- 8.1.8. The application demonstrates a link to South West Wiltshire Area Board's local priorities, as it seeks to address health issues relating to the aging population.
- 8.1.9. This project is to install a new raised flowerbed, to enable residents at Nadder Close to take part in gardening. Tools are also included to assist with the work.
- 8.1.10. Wiltshire Council Housing Management have offered various sheltered housing complexes start-up funding for residents interested in gardening to pursue their hobby and enhance the communal areas of their scheme. The project also aims to enable people to be sociable and get out in the fresh air.
- 8.1.11. The Area Board recognises the need to support and enhance local activities for all the community.
- 8.1.12. If the Board does not fund this project then the community would continue to fundraise.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
wil/12/002	Barford St Martin Parish Council	Building materials for emergency re-roofing the Pavilion	£500

- 8.1.13. Projects are not awarded funding from the Area Board retrospectively. However, in this case the Parish Council was forced to carry out emergency repairs in January/February 2012 due to high winds. Funding intended for another community project was used to cover the immediate cost. It has been agreed by the Area Board Chairman that a retrospective application will be considered on this occasion. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the remaining 2012/13 grant criteria.
- 8.1.14. The application demonstrates a link to the Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026

(p10), as the Pavilion potentially helps to build a stronger and more resilient community, fit for the future.

8.1.15. Parish Councillors authorised immediate repair which involved total reroofing with light weight slate tiles. The wooden walls are in the process of being redressed.

8.1.16. The Parish Council wishes to preserve the Pavilion as a meeting place for local community groups, especially with a lack of other local venues to fulfil this purpose.

8.1.17. The Area Board recognises the need to support and enhance local facilities for all the community.

8.1.18. If the Area Board does not fund this project then the local community will continue to fundraise.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
mer/12/010	East Knoyle Village Website	Training, software and technical support for new website	£250 – <b>SMALL GRANT</b>

8.1.19. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2012/13 small grant criteria.

8.1.20. The application demonstrates a link to South West Wiltshire Area Board's local priorities, as it complements increased broadband speeds/reception.

8.1.21. This project is to enable a team of local volunteers to act as website editors and co-ordinators. The website aims to promote events and activities happening in the parish.

8.1.22. A new community website for East Knoyle should complement the recent launch of a community blogsite for the South West Wiltshire Area.

8.1.23. The Area Board recognises the need to support the local community.

8.1.24. If the Area Board does not fund this project then the local community will continue to fundraise.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
tis/12/009	Tisbury Business Association	New Christmas lights in time for the 'Tiz the Season' festive event	£1,714

8.1.25. At the time of writing this report the following is still outstanding:

- Copy of the organisation's constitution and accounts
- 2<sup>nd</sup> quote for works to be done

Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the remaining 2012/13 grant criteria.

8.1.26. The application demonstrates a link to South West Wiltshire Area Board's local

priorities, as it assists the promotion of small/medium sized businesses in the area and promotes tourism.

- 8.1.27. This project is to replace the current lights, which are either out of date or faulty, with new energy saving LEDs, which have a projected life span of 10 years.
- 8.1.28. The chosen suppliers will be providing ½ day training as part of the package, to enable members of the local community to put them up in future years.
- 8.1.29. The Area Board recognises the need to support and enhance local activities for all the community
- 8.1.30. If the Area Board does not fund this project then the local community will continue to fundraise.

<b>Appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 Grant application – Stourton & Kilmington Home Guard Club Appendix 2 Grant application – Nadder Close Gardening Club Appendix 3 Grant application – Barford St Martin Parish Council Appendix 4 Small Grant application – East Knoyle Village Website Appendix 5 Grant application – Tisbury Business Association Appendix 6 Community Planning Event report submitted to South West Wiltshire Area Board for meeting held on 13 June 2012.
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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