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| Report to | Pewsey Area Board |
| Date of Meeting | 13 November 2012 |
| Title of Report | Area Board Grants |

Purpose of Report

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

1. Shalbourne Tennis Club – refurbish tennis court (to enable new club to start up), seeking £5,000. The officer recommendation is to approve an amount as determined by the area board (due to limited funds). A condition of the grant is that the remainder of the funding to enable the project to proceed is in place before the money can be claimed.
2. Wilcot Cricket Club – replace astro turf, seeking £4,360. The officer recommendation is to approve an amount as determined by the area board (due to limited funds). A condition of the grant is that the remainder of the funding to enable the project to proceed is in place before the money can be claimed.
3. Great Bedwyn Cricket Club – to provide coaching and practice equipment for senior and junior. To purchase seed germination sheet for cricket square, seeking £831, The officer recommendation is to approve an amount as determined by the area board (due to limited funds). A condition of the grant is that the remainder of the funding to enable the project to proceed is in place before the money can be claimed (if members decide to award less than requested).
4. The Bouverie Hall Committee – to purchase new chairs, seeking £2,974. The officer recommendation is to approve an amount as determined by the area board (due to limited funds). A condition of the grant is that the remainder of the funding to enable the project to proceed is in place before the money can be claimed (if members decide to award less than requested).

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. 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) 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.

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| <p>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision • Pewsey 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 (providing funds are available). The first was in May 2012 and the fourth is contained in this report, the remaining will take place on;
 - 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 £797

Plus money not spend for Leonard Cheshire/Meadow Court Project £1,500

Less money ring fenced for Pewsey Station Project £10,000 (*altered to £5k at last CATG*)

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

Less amount awarded in September - £9223

Balance £11,820

- 4.3. Pewsey Area Board's balance is dependent on the decision on the levels of funding made by the area board at the meeting.

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 | Shalbourne Tennis Club | Refurbish Tennis Court (to enable new club to start up) | £5000 |

8.1.1. The officer recommendation is to approve an amount as determined by the area board (due to limited funds). A condition of the grant is that the remainder of the funding to enable the project to proceed is in place before the money can be claimed.

8.1.2. This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13

8.1.3. This application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan Page 12 – Lack of appropriate facilities and opportunities for people who are socially isolated, Page 14, Activities for older people, Increasing levels of obesity, Page 24 – Lack of activities for young people aged between 8 and 12, Page 25 – Improving sports, play and leisure facilities, page 25 – diversionary activities for young people.

8.1.4. The applicant is Shalbourne Tennis Club, a not for profit organisation with a committee of 4.

8.1.5. The total project costs are £17,715. The Club is putting £215 towards the project and £12,500 has been confirmed from Section 106 funding. As this is a new club there are no reserves.

8.1.6. If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then it would be significantly delayed whilst alternative funding is sought.

| Ref | Applicant | Project proposal | Funding requested |
|-----|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 8.2 | Wilcot Cricket Club | Replace old astro turf | £4,360 |

8.2.1 The officer recommendation is to approve an amount as determined by the area

board (due to limited funds). A condition of the grant is that the remainder of the funding to enable the project to proceed is in place before the money can be claimed (if members decide to award less than requested).

8.2.2 This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13.

8.2.3 The application demonstrates a link to the community plan –Page 14, Activities for older people, Increasing levels of obesity, Page 24 – Lack of activities for young people aged between 8 and 12, Page 25 – Improving sports, play and leisure facilities, page 25 – diversionary activities for young people.

8.2.4 The applicant is the Wilcot Cricket Club, a not for profit organisation with 16 people involved in its management.

8.2.5 The total project costs are £8,720 – £1,360 is hoped to be raised through fundraising, and an application has been submitted for £3,000 from the Lords Taverners

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 pitch will diminish and there will be no where for juniors to play as the existing artificial pitch is completely worn out.

| Ref | Applicant | Project proposal | Funding requested |
|-----|---------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 8.3 | Great Bedwyn Cricket Club | The purchase of Cricket Coaching Equipment and Grass Germination Sheet | £831 |

8.3.1 The officer recommendation is to approve an amount as determined by the area board (due to limited funds). A condition of the grant is that the remainder of the funding to enable the project to proceed is in place before the money can be claimed (if members decide to award less than requested).

8.3.2 This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13.

8.3.3 The application demonstrates a link to the community plan – Page 14, Activities for older people, Increasing levels of obesity, Page 24 – Lack of activities for young people aged between 8 and 12, Page 25 – Improving sports, play and leisure facilities, page 25 – diversionary activities for young people.

8.3.4 The applicant is Great Bedwyn Cricket Club, a not for profit organisation with 16 people involved in its management.

8.3.5 The total project costs are £831 – there are no other contributions. The Club has reserves but these are to be put towards a new pavilion.

8.3.6 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then it would not be able to proceed. The Club would have to look at other fundraising either internally or externally.

| Ref | Applicant | Project proposal | Funding requested |
|-----|--------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 8.4 | Bouverie Hall, Pewsey | New chairs and trolleys (144 chairs and 6 trolleys) | £2974 |

8.4.1 The officer recommendation is to approve an amount as determined by the area board (due to limited funds). A condition of the grant is that the remainder of the funding to enable the project to proceed is in place before the money can be claimed (if members decide to award less than requested).

8.4.2 This application meets the small funds grant criteria 2012/13.

8.4.3 The application doesn't demonstrate a specific link to the community plan, however village halls are an important amenity for the people of Pewsey and surrounding area. It is a very well used community resource.

8.4.4 The applicant is the Bouverie Hall Committee, a not for profit organisation.

8.4.5 The existing chairs are very heavy and cumbersome, and difficult for elderly users to move and stack. They are also falling into disrepair.

8.4.6 The total project costs are £5,974 – the Committee is contributing £3,000 from its reserves. The rest of the reserves are set aside for any urgent repairs to the windows, roof, divider etc that may be required at any time as the hall is now 25 years old.

8.4.7 If the area board decided not to award a grant then the committee would have to purchase chairs piecemeal and there would be a mixed variety. There is also the chance that the company would cease producing the range.

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| Appendices: | Grant application forms (available to view online at http://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=177&MId=6121&Ver=4) |
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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