

Report to	Pewsey Area Board
Date of Meeting	14 January 2013
Title of Report	Area Board Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 6 applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding

1. Easton Royal Orchard and Woodland Project – creating woodland and mixed orchard areas to produce fruit, nuts, berries and seeds for harvest, use and wildlife, education and training. Seeking £1,500 - Officer recommendation approval. 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. Home Start Kennet – raising the organisation's profile in Pewsey (where they have recently relocated) through the production and dissemination of promotional material. Seeking £349.30 – Officer recommendation approval. This is a 'small grant' and does not require match funding.
3. Pewsey Parish Council – seeking a contribution of £500 towards a scheme to provide 8 defibrillators in the village of Pewsey – Officer recommendation approval **but only IF** the area board feels that this is a priority for them, as other villages may follow suit. If agreed to be funded then a condition of the grant is evidence is provided of an integrated approach to ensure that the whole community is made aware of the locations of these machines, and how to use them. A marketing plan may be used for this purpose.
4. Manningford Parish Council – the installation of a bench at a bus stop in Manningford next to the village hall – seeking £225 - Officer recommendation approval.
5. Rosie Rovers – improvements to the shower facilities at Burbage Village Hall through the provision of a thermostat – Seeking £960 - Officer recommendation approval.
6. Burbage and Easton Royal Cricket Club – the purchase of a new mower to cut the wicket, and a new electronic score board – Seeking £5,000 – Officer recommendation – defer to next appropriate meeting due to lack of funding for all applications in this round.

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.

<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 was to be 6 rounds of funding during 2012/2013. The first was in May 2012 and the fifth is contained in this report, the remaining will take place at the March meeting but only if there is sufficient funds available.

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 spent for Leonard Cheshire/Meadow Court Project £1,500
Less money for Pewsey Station Project £5,000
Less Jubilee funding overpayment £25
Plus reimburse money unspent from Wilton Windmill £481

Less amount awarded in July - £4,640
Less amount awarded in September - £9,223
Less amount awarded in November - £13,165
Balance £3,630

- 4.3. If the applications are determined in line with the officer's recommendations, the area board will have a balance of zero (96p).

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	Easton Royal Orchard and Woodland Project	Creating woodland and mixed orchard areas to produce fruit, nuts, berries and seeds for harvest, use and wildlife, education and training in orchard and woodland care, horticultural skills and techniques for tree form, flowers and fruit production, seasonal plant and fruit development.	£1,500

- 8.1.1. The officer recommendation is approval. 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 Pages 25-35. The project will work with young children to enable them to care for the environment. It will involve the youth council and school in planning, planting and care, natural wild life, conservation, support for crafts, leisure, diversionary activities for the young and access to the facility for the area's cluster schools.
- 8.1.4. The applicant is Easton Royal Orchard and Woodland Project which is a not for profit organisation with a management committee of 5
- 8.1.5. The total project costs are £3,000. The project committee is putting £400 towards it and aiming to fundraise the remaining £500 needed. There is £600 worth of in kind contribution through the donation of trees.
- 8.1.6. If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then it would be significantly delayed whilst alternative funding is sought and would miss the spring planting season.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Home Start Kennet	Funding for promotional materials to raise the profile of the organisation in Pewsey	£349.30

8.2.1 The officer recommendation is for approval.

8.2.2 This application meets the grant criteria for the small grants scheme 2012/13.

8.2.3 The application demonstrates a link to the community plan – Page 11 – access to information, Page 17 – facilities and opportunities for people who are socially isolated, Page 13 – lack of parent involvement and voice in issues that relate to their children’s wellbeing, lack of access to services and information for parents.

8.2.4 The applicant is Home-Start Kennet, a registered charity number 1106736.

8.2.5 The total project costs are £349.30 being the cost of business cards, ID badges, display materials, leaflets, posters and display stands for leaflets in surgeries etc.

8.2.6 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then with their current resources they would not be able to finance the items requested in the bid. This would mean that fewer needy families in the Pewsey area would be made aware of and could benefit from this service. They might also fail to reach referrers who might know of vulnerable families which need their help. They would be less likely to attract volunteers if the service does not have a higher profile.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	Pewsey Parish Council	A contribution towards a project to provide 8 defibrillators in the village of Pewsey	£500

8.3.1 The officer recommendation is for approval providing the area board feels that this is a priority for them, as other villages may follow suit. It should also be noted that these devices have a lifetime of just seven years. A condition of the grant should be that there is an integrated approach to ensure that the whole community is made aware of the locations of these machines, and how to use them. A marketing plan may be used for this purpose.

8.3.2 This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13.

8.3.3 The application demonstrates a link to the community plan – Page 12 – 3.3 access to medical services, Page 14 – poor service provided by the ambulance service to this rural community area.

8.3.4 The applicant is Pewsey Parish Council who is giving a contribution of £1,900 plus

a bequest of £1,900. £3,800 has been given by Friends of Savernake Hospital and £1,900 by Pewsey Running Club.

8.3.5 The total project costs are £15,200 which is for the purchase of 8 defibrillators which includes maintenance and training. Fundraising will continue for the rest of the machines. As the area board are being asked to contribute towards this project there is no requirement for the match funding to be in place before the project commences.

8.3.6 The public health office of Wiltshire Council suggests that the best use of these machines is where there are lots of people. However if the community feel that they would benefit from such machines, and that they are able to achieve funding for them, then this is a worthwhile project. They do however recommend that as many people as possible are made aware of the whereabouts of them, as for them to be effective, there needs to be somebody a) with the person experiencing cardiac arrest, b) be aware of the location of the nearest defibrillator and c) be willing to use it. The applicant therefore needs to demonstrate an integrated approach to include the whole community in this project.

8.3.7 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then it would continue to seek fundraising from other sources.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4	Manningford Parish Council	Installation costs of a bench for the bus stop (the bench was donated by a resident to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee)	£225

8.4.1 The officer recommendation is for approval.

8.4.2 This application meets the community area grant criteria 2012/13.

8.4.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Pewsey Community Plan Page 16 – Bus Services

8.4.4 The application is for the installation costs of a bench for the bus stop outside of the village hall.

8.4.5 The applicant is the Manningford Parish Council.

8.4.6 Currently residents have to stand and wait for the Connect2 service, the times of which can vary considerably according to the traffic, which can be difficult for older residents. The bench itself was donated by a resident.

8.4.7 The total project costs are £450 – the Parish Council is contributing £225

8.4.8 If the area board decided not to award a grant then it would be some time before

the funds could be generated. As the bench was a donation from a member of the community for the Jubilee the Parish Council would like it installed as soon as possible.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5	Rosie Rovers Football Club	Improve shower facilities at Burbage Village Hall	£225

8.5.1 The officer recommendation is for approval.

8.5.2 This application meets the community area grant criteria 2012/13.

8.5.3 The application is for the purchase and installation of a new thermostat for the away showers at Burbage Village Hall.

8.5.4 The application demonstrates a link to the community plan – Page 8 – 1.5 lack of investment in outdoor facilities, page 23 – 5.7 supporting young people, page 25 – 6.7 improving facilities, page 29 – 7.4 giving young people opportunities to be involved.

8.5.5 The applicant is Rosie Rovers – a not for profit organisation with a management committee of 4.

8.5.6 This is the team's second season. Previously local football players had to travel to Swindon, Newbury, Salisbury or Andover to play for a team on a Sunday. The village had no team representing within the Swindon teams so this team was formed. Unfortunately the Swindon Football League had cause to contact the team as opposition teams had complained about the showers, as these currently do not meet the leagues standards.

8.5.7 The total project costs are £960

8.5.8 If the area board decided not to award a grant the team would have to relocate away from the village and would likely fold.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.6	Burbage and Easton Royal Cricket Club	Purchase of a scoreboard and mower	£5,000

8.6.1 The officer recommendation is for deferral. The reason for this is that the area board does not currently have sufficient funds to cover this project alone, and other projects requesting smaller amounts would miss out. It is felt that the club could

operate without the new equipment for a while longer.

8.6.2 This application meets the community area grant criteria 2012/13.

8.6.3 The application is for the purchase of a new electronic scoreboard and a mower for the wicket

8.6.4 The application demonstrates a link to the community plan – Page 24 – lack of opportunities for young people, improving sports facilities, diversionary activities for children.

8.6.5 The applicant is Burbage and Easton Royal Cricket Club – a not for profit organisation with a management committee of 15.

8.6.6 The club has Clubmark status and has a large junior coaching programme that provides opportunities for children aged 8 and upwards. There is currently no satisfactory mower to cut the wicket, the current one is costly and doesn't provide a good, safe surface to play on.

8.6.7 The total project costs are £10,000

8.6.8 If the area board decided not to award a grant the club would find it difficult to grow and provide good quality facilities for the community.

Appendices:	Grant application forms (available to view online at http://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=177&MId=6123&Ver=4)
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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