

Report to	Trowbridge Area Board
Date of Meeting	17 January 2012
Title of Report	Community Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider:

1. Five applications seeking Community Area Grant Funding (Appendix 1)
 - 1.1 The Big Community Grow - £2,286 requested towards children's activities for the Trowbridge Apple Festival
 - 1.2 The Big Community Grow - £880 requested for "Lets Grow" at Children's Centres
 - 1.3 The Sunday Club - £992 requested for the Sunday Club revamp project
 - 1.4 Trowbridge in Bloom - £1,720 requested for South West in Bloom Seminar 2013
 - 1.5 Trowbridge Initiative - £5,000 requested for Supporting Tourism in Trowbridge
2. One Councillor led grant application (Appendix 1)
 - 2.1 Councillor Helen Osborn – Defibrillator at Trowbridge Civic Centre – £2,100 requested

Total Amount requested = £12,978

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. 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.
- 1.5. 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.
- 1.6. 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.
- 1.7. 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.
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. Funding applications will be considered at every ordinary Area Board meeting.

- 1.10. 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.
- 1.11. 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.
- 1.12. 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. 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.
- 1.14. Trowbridge Area Board has a 2012/2013 budget of £78,681 for community grants, small grants, community partnership core funding and area board/councillor led initiatives. Community Area Board grants and Area Board projects totalling £49,191 have been allocated so far:
- TCAF Funding - £15,556 allocated
 - Wiltshire Mind – £1,816 for a pilot six month art therapy course -
 - World Evangelism Bible Church – £5,000 for a project to help address post traumatic disorders relating to the terminally ill
 - Friends of Southwick Country Park – £899 for free activities in Southwick Country Park
 - Cllr Peter Fuller Area Board bid - £2,220 for Trowbridge Area Campus consultation
 - Trowbridge Sea Cadet Unit – £5,000 to purchase a minibus
 - Trowbridge Town Council – £5,000 to run an Active Sports and Play Festival
 - Wiltshire People First – £500 for an Oral History & DVD project about the lives of people with learning disabilities
 - Trowbridge Town Football Club – £1,000 to purchase a mower
 - Trowbridge Town Team – £500 to run a Dickensian Market in Trowbridge
 - Trowbridge Town Team – £5,000 to purchase umbrellas for a new Trowbridge Market
 - Seymour TARA Community Hub – £350 to purchase relaxed seating for the Hub
 - Bradley Gardens Residents Association – £200 to run a Hallowe'en event
 - Trowbridge Rugby Football Club - £5,000 towards additional sports pitches
 - Gloucester Road Allotment Association - £800 for drainage
 - Hilperton School & Community Recorder Consort - £350 requested to develop a recorder music library

1.15. This gives a current remaining total of £29,490 available to allocate

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report

- Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision
- Trowbridge Community Area Plan

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 Impact of the Proposals

3.1. 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 budget allocated to the Trowbridge Area Board.

4.2. If community area grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Trowbridge Area Board will have a balance of £22,822 (£20,722 if the Councillor led application is awarded)

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 Diversity Implications

7.1. Community Area Grants give local community and voluntary groups, 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 where appropriate.

8. Community Area and Small Grant Applications

The full applications are available at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards

Applicant 8.1	Project summary	Funding requested
The Big Community Grow	Towards childrens activities as part of the Trowbridge Apple Festival	£2,286

- 8.1.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria.
- 8.1.2 The applicant demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Themes 6 Environment & 7 Education & Lifelong Learning.
- 8.1.3 The applicant will be contributing £2,375 towards the project
- 8.1.4 **It is recommended that a grant of £2,286 is approved**

Applicant 8.2	Project summary	Funding requested
The Big Community Grow	To work with families at 2 Children's Centres growing plants/food	£880

- 8.2.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria,
- 8.2.2 The applicant demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Theme 6 Environment & 7 Education & Lifelong Learning
- 8.2.3 The applicant is not contributing any other funding towards the project
- 8.2.4 **It is recommended that a grant of £440 is approved on condition that 4 Children, the Charity which operates the Children's Centres who will benefit from this project, fund the remaining £440 towards the project.**

Applicant 8.3	Project summary	Funding requested
The Sunday Club	To re-establish the Sunday Club, for a pilot period, at a new venue with new catering and health related activities	£992

- 8.3.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria.
- 8.3.2 The applicant demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Themes 8 Health & Social Care & 5 Sport & Active Leisure
- 8.3.3 The applicant is contributing over 50% of the funding towards the project
- 8.3.4 **It is recommended that a grant of £992 is approved.**

Applicant 8.4	Project summary	Funding requested
Trowbridge in Bloom	To host the annual South West in Bloom Seminar	£1,720

- 8.4.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria.
- 8.4.2 The applicant demonstrates indirect links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Theme 6 Environment
- 8.4.3 The applicant is contributing over 50% of the funding towards the project
- 8.4.4 **It is recommended that a grant of £1,720 is not approved as community benefit of the seminar is minimal**

Applicant 8.5	Project summary	Funding requested
Trowbridge Initiative	To support Tourism in Trowbridge	£5,000

8.5.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria.

8.5.2 The applicant demonstrates indirect links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Theme 1 Economy

8.5.3 The applicant is contributing over 50% of the funding towards the project

8.5.4 It is recommended that a grant of £2,050 specifically for the BrownSigns is approved. The other items should seek sponsorship direct from the local Businesses who will benefit.

9. Area Board Project Applications

Applicant 9.1	Project summary	Funding requested
Submitted by Councillor Helen Osborn	To provide a defibrillator at Trowbridge Civic Centre	£2,100

9.1.1 Councillors will need to consider whether the application meets one or more of the following:

- Evidence of community need
- Clear links to the community plan
- Evidence that it addresses an on-going issue that has been logged via the Community Issues System

9.1.2 It is recommended the Area Board considers the Area Board project application to determine whether to allocate funding from the Area Board budget.

10. Recommendations

10.1 It is recommended that the Area Board agrees to the recommendations for the Community Area applications contained within paragraphs 8.1.4, 8.2.4, 8.3.4 & 8.4.4 of this report.

10.2 It is recommended that the Area Board determines whether to allocate funding from the Area Board budget towards Councillor led application 9.1.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 - Community Area & Councillor led grant applications
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