

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Malmesbury Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>16 January 2013</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Funding</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask area board members to consider a councillor led project, endorse officer delegated expenditure, consider 'legacy' funding and provide clarification about funding for recent flood victims:

1. To consider a proposal a councillor led project to contribute £3,154 towards a young people's media project to raise awareness and encourage local people to participate in the Malmesbury Neighbourhood Planning referendum in May.
2. To approve officer delegated expenditure for room hire.
3. To consider an area board proposal to ring fence up to £5,000 for Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Partnership to deliver a range of 'legacy events' in 2013/14.
4. To confirm the extent of funding afforded to local organisations and individuals following the flooding in November 2012 to be distributed through officer delegation.

## **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. Malmesbury Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of **£40,593** 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 - £5,000 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 are considered at every area board.
- 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. Malmesbury area board would like to see funding applicants to seek funding from other sources in addition to coming to the area board, especially when larger amounts of funding are being sought.
- 1.13. The area board delegated authority to the Community Area Manager (in consultation with the area board councillors) on 10 November 2010, to approve expenditure up to £500 where it was necessary between meetings. Any such

expenditure would be reported at the next area board.

- 1.14. 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.
- 1.15. The 2012/2013 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website ([www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboard](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboard)) and paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager. A decision was 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.
- 1.16. 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.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this report</b>	Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13.  Report and Appendices for delegated decision by Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Communities and Housing
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## 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Malmesbury Area Board was allocated a budget of **£40,593** in 2012/13, to be allocated to Community Area Grants, Small Grants, Area Board/Councillor Led Initiatives and core funding for Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Partnership.
- 2.2. Malmesbury Area Board also had a 2012/13 budget of £4,929 for youth related projects which was not constrained by the criteria applied to Community Area Grants and Small Grants.
- 2.3. At the 4 July 2012 area board £13,930 was distributed, leaving a balance of £26,663.
- 2.4. Minety Village Hall relinquished their award of £811 made on 4 July and re-submitted their application in September, leaving a balance of £27,474.
- 2.5. At the 5 September area board £7,816 was distributed, leaving a balance of £19,658.
- 2.6. On 16 November the area board distributed £16,558. They used their 2012/13 youth funding as a contribution towards the skatepark. This left a balance of

£8,029. Since that time £29.80 was spent through officer delegation to pay for hall hire and £2,889 has been credited to the budget following an under-spend on the budget for expenses for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee event in Salisbury (awarded from the 2011/12 budget), leaving a balance of £10,888.

- 2.7. Minety Village Hall have notified the area board that they were successful in obtaining £5,000 from Awards for All and that the area board grant set aside was no longer required. The current balance is **£15,888**.
- 2.8. Councillors will need to ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation outlined in Section 1 of this report.
- 2.9. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in 2012/2013 are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.10. There is 1 funding round remaining for 2012/13. Deadlines for receipt of funding applications are as follows:

- **1 February 2013 for consideration on 6 March 2013 area board.**

### **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 Malmesbury Area Board.
- 4.2. If funding is awarded as outlined in the report, Malmesbury area board will have a balance of **£7,704** (excluding any decision about flooding allocations).

### **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 will be outlined in section 8, “Officer Recommendations” of the funding report.

## 8. Officer Recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding request
8.1.	Councillor Killane	Young people’s media project	£3,154

- 8.1.1. A request has been received from Councillor Killane to award £3,154 towards a young people’s media project the purpose of which is to raise public awareness and encourage local people to participate in the Malmesbury Neighbourhood Planning referendum in May, while providing a ‘real life’ skills based project for young people.
- 8.1.2. The purpose of councillor led project is to enable an area board to tackle sticky community issues and/or community identified priorities. It could be said that development of the Malmesbury Neighbourhood Plan has become a community priority for the parishes of Malmesbury, Brokenborough and St Paul Malmesbury Without and as a government ‘Front Runner’ it is important that the process is supported at a local level.
- 8.1.3. This project marks a collaboration between members of the Malmesbury Neighbourhood Steering Group and Malmesbury School, principally involving a group of 30, year 11 and 12 students in making short films about the Neighbourhood Plan, capturing the views of local people. These will be subsequently marketed within the community to encourage local people to vote in the referendum in May.
- 8.1.4. While Malmesbury School have already been involved in the Neighbourhood planning process, this project will broaden the scope of their involvement and interest in the future development of their community.
- 8.1.5. The community are fortunate in having considerable local film expertise which will result in students being provided with specialist support when undertaking this project.
- 8.1.6. The main costs are associated with the need to purchase specialist camera and recording equipment. It is suggested that councillors consider a condition to this grant to ensure this equipment is retained (perhaps by the school) for wider community use. It might be that students as well as community groups could use this equipment to enable them to film local events and club activities which could be subsequently views on the Malmesbury and Villages blog site.

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Funding
8.2.	Officer delegation	Room Hire for Cowbridge footpath and cycle route consultation in November	£30

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Funding
8.3.	Area Board	Ring fence funding to enable a range of 'legacy events' to be delivered through Malmesbury & Village Community Area Partnership working with the community in 2013.	Up to £5,000

8.3.1. Setting aside this funding is considered advisable as following the March area board the next meeting will not take place until July.

8.3.2. Allocating funding will enable planning and/or activities to take place.

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Funding
8.4.	Area Board	To confirm the type and extent of funding afforded to local organisations and individuals following the flooding in November 2012 to be distributed through officer delegation.	Each award not to exceed £500

<b>Appendices</b>	Appendix 1 Councillor led project – Young people's film project
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report other than those requested in the funding criteria e.g. estimates.

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