

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Corsham Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>24 January 2013</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Grants</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 2 applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding.

To ask Councillors to support 1 Area Board Councillor Led Initiative outlined below.

To ask Councillors to allocate any underspend of community area grants to CATG projects.

1. Corsham One Mile Running Club - Award £350 towards a total project cost of £500 to provide medals and trophies to young people achieving targets set by the club.
2. Corsham Churches Food Bank- Award £500 towards a total project cost of £1,250 to increase storage space to store food in a safe and dry environment.
3. Area Board Councillor Led Initiative – To award £500 towards a total project cost of £2,300 to award swimmer Stephanie Millward the Freedom of the Town in recognition of her achievements in winning five medals (four silver and one bronze) at the 2012 Paralympics, and her work coaching and encouraging local children with their swimming, as well as her support of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.
4. To agree to transfer any underspend of Community Area Grants to CATG recommendations as outlined in the CATG report to Corsham Area Board amounting to £16,323.91 if all other grants are awarded.

## **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. Corsham Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of £43,772 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. 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.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision</li><li>• Corsham Community Area Plan</li><li>• Corsham Joint Strategic Needs Document</li><li>• CATG recommendations to Corsham Area Board</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 will be no further funding during 2012/2013 financial year.

## **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 Corsham Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants and area board councillor led initiatives are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Corsham Area Board will have a balance of £16,323.91.
- 4.3. Corsham Area Board is also being asked to agree to the balance of £16,323.91 being awarded to CATG to allocate to projects outlined in the CATG report.

## **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	Corsham One Mile Running Club	To provide medals and trophies to young people	£350

- 8.1.1 Award £350 towards a total project cost of £500 to provide medals and trophies to young people when they achieve targets set by the club.
- 8.1.2. This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13.
- 8.1.3. This application demonstrates a link to the community plan. “By offering young people a safe place to meet and offering a healthy lifestyle.”
- 8.1.4. This group is a locally formed not for profit group and is held in high regard by Corsham Town Council.
- 8.1.5. If the area board makes a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed until alternative funding can be found.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Corsham Churches Food Bank	To increase storage space	£500

- 8.2.1 Award £500 towards a total project cost of £1,250 to install additional storage to allow food to be stored safely.
- 8.2.2 This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13.
- 8.2.3 This is a not for profit organisation running a valued community facility.
- 8.2.4 Since this project has been started demand has increased dramatically and it is envisaged that it will get even greater when benefit cuts take effect
- 8.2.5 If the area board makes a decision not to fund the project it will be delayed until alternative funding can be found which might result in the project falling out of the time frame planned.

<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>Appendix 1 Grant application – One Mile Running Club</b> <b>Appendix 2 Grant application – Corsham Churches Food Bank</b> <b>Appendix 3 Area board councillor led initiative form</b> <b>Appendix 4 CATG report to Corsham Area Board (included elsewhere on the agenda)</b>
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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