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| <b>Report to</b>       | <b>Marlborough Area Board</b> |
| <b>Date of Meeting</b> | <b>29 January 2013</b>        |
| <b>Title of Report</b> | <b>Community Area Grants</b>  |

To ask Councillors to consider seven applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding. Officer recommendations:

1. **The Greatwood Charity, nr Marlborough. Requested: £994.00.** To purchase new educational / learning material that will improve the standard of quality of courses run for young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN). Recommendation: Meets Criteria
2. **Marlborough Tennis Club, Marlborough. Requested: £998.00.** To purchase new, court-side lockers to be able to store tennis nets and other equipment close to the courts based at St John's School. This will allow the courts to be used more frequently and at times when tennis does not up part of the school's activities. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
3. **Inside Out, Marlborough. Requested: £960.00.** To fund a number of day trips and learning excursions for members of this group, who have learning difficulties, and their carers. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
4. **Kennet Community Transport. Requested: £5,000.00.** To form part of the deposit on a new community minibus to serve the people of Marlborough Community Area. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
5. **Transition Marlborough. Requested: £850.00.** To develop publicity for a range of activities carried out by Transition Marlborough, including community sales, thermal efficiency for residential properties, a series of public lectures and bursaries for environmentally themed training courses. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
6. **Marlborough Chamber of Commerce. Requested: £5,000.00.** To install a digital CCTV system on Marlborough High Street. Recommendation: Meets Criteria.
7. **Kennet Valley Arts Trust. Requested: £5,000.00.** To develop a series of performances, broadcast live from prestigious venues such as Covent Garden or the Bolshoi Ballet and shown to audiences in Marlborough Town Hall. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
8. **Grove Farm Woodland Skills and Survival Centre, Stitchcombe. Requested: £1,000.00.** To provide transport to the Centre so that young people at risk of exclusion, young offenders, looked after children and NEETs can participate in the outdoors education programmes run by the Centre and so gain confidence and earn qualifications. Recommendation: Does not meet criteria.

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| <b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13</li> <li>• Marlborough Community Area Plan, 2012-17</li> </ul> |
| <b>1. Background</b>  |   |
| <p>1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Community Services 15<sup>th</sup> April 2011. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance for funding</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1.3. The emphasis in the Coalition Government's Localism agenda supports the ethos of volunteering and community involvement. With this in mind Community Area Grants should be encouraged from and awarded to community and voluntary groups.</p> <p>1.4. Area boards will not consider 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.</p> <p>1.5. Officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, although the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on the Area Board.</p> <p>1.6. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.</p> <p>1.7. All applicants are encouraged to contact Charities Information Bureau who is working on behalf of Wiltshire Council to 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.</p> <p>1.8. 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.</p> <p>1.9. The 2012/2013 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (<a href="http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards">www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards</a>) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.</p> |   |

## 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 further rounds of funding at each of the Area Board meeting held during 2012/13. Dates of these meetings and the deadlines for applications are available on Wiltshire Council's website:  
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/marlbroughareboard.htm>

## 3. Environmental & Community Implications

- 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 Marlborough Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Marlborough Area Board will have a balance of £2,089 of its 2012/13 funding.

## 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 give all local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils 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 – "Officer Recommendations"

## 8. Officer Recommendations

| Ref | Applicant             | Project proposal                  | Funding requested |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 8.1 | The Greatwood Charity | To purchase new learning material | £994              |

- 8.1.1 The Greatwood Charity, nr Marlborough – Request £994.00 to purchase new learning material for use with young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN). The Greatwood Charity is part of a home for retired racehorses and other animals. The charity uses the care and respect for these animals as the basis for a number of

SEN programmes to help prepare young people for life in and out of the workplace. By caring, learning respect and kindness for the rescued horses, so the students' trust and ability for consideration towards others, as well as themselves increases. Raising students' aspirations, self-confidence and motivation steers them towards a brighter future. Greatwood educates children from the immediate community with children coming from St Peter's Junior School & St John's School - Marlborough as well as Preshute Primary School. Since 2006 Greatwood's SEN programmes have helped and educated over 3,000 disadvantaged children and young adults.

8.1.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.1.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2012-17, p19 "Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)".

8.1.4 Greatwoods application indicates that 1 in 5 children in Wiltshire has some form of SEN. The charity's programme of supporting and encouraging young people through contact and care of the animals the charity looks after seems successful and they are an Accredited Alternative Provider with Wiltshire Council, although they receive no funding from the Council. Their application indicates that Greatwood will work with up to 400 children and young people over a year and that they will come from 8 out of the 19 parishes in the Marlborough Community Area.

8.1.5 It should be noted that Greatwood's application showed the charity to hold free reserves of £260,000. This equals approximately 6 months running costs of the organisation. The applicant has confirmed that whilst these funds are unrestricted, they would be used for the core running costs of the education centre if required.

| Ref | Applicant               | Project proposal                   | Funding requested |
|-----|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 8.2 | Marlborough Tennis Club | To purchase new court-side lockers | £998              |

8.2.1 Marlborough Tennis Club, Marlborough – Request £998.00 to purchase new court-side lockers which will allow the tennis courts to be used more frequently.

8.2.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.2.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2012-17, p10 "access to sports facilities (for children & young people)" and "provision of and access to after-school activities". P17 "sports and leisure facilities (for adults)".

8.2.4 Marlborough Tennis Club currently has an agreement with St John's School to be able to use the school's tennis courts. At the moment, this is only possible during times when the school has tennis as one of its own sports activities: during the early summer. At other times of the year, nets and other court-side equipment are stored in the school and cannot be accessed by the Tennis Club, so they cannot use the courts for the rest of the year. By having secure lockers next to the tennis courts, the Club will be able to keep the nets they need close to the courts and access them at all times. This will allow the Club to play tennis through out the year. It will also allow the club to extend the provision of coaching. It has been found that young people

seem more confident in taking up a sport or activity, when it is provided in familiar surroundings. This means it is important to Marlborough Tennis Club to be able to use St John's facilities to encourage new, younger players.

8.2.5 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project Marlborough Tennis Club will be able to use St John's facilities for a limited period over the summer term only. This could also result in fewer young people taking up tennis and benefitting from coaching courses provided by the Club.

| Ref | Applicant               | Project proposal                           | Funding requested |
|-----|-------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 8.3 | Inside Out, Marlborough | To fund day trips for members of the group | £960              |

8.3.1 Inside Out, Marlborough – Request £960.00 to fund a number of day trips for members of the group, including one to the Minstead Training Project. This is a gardening and horticultural project solely run by people with learning difficulties. The project also encourages others with learning difficulties to take up gardening projects, which is known to be very therapeutic.

8.3.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.3.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2012-17, p13 "mental health issues". With the closure of the Wyvern Centre in 1998, there was left a gap in the local provision of vocational centres for people with learning difficulties. To fill this, a voluntary group was founded called Inside Out. This group has been running for about a year and a half, has 20 clients and is still growing. Inside out provides good social interaction for the members of the group and respite for members' carers and families. Inside Out is run by volunteers.

8.3.4 Inside Out would like to visit the Minstead Project and learn from that project: they feel there is much their members could learn from the visit as well as enjoy. The trip to Minstead would be an educational one, so to compliment it, Inside Out would also like to organise a fun trip either to the seaside or to an amusement park; to be decided by the group once the outcome of the funding is known.

8.3.5 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then Inside Out will not be able to find the money to pay for these trips themselves.

| Ref | Applicant                  | Project proposal                                       | Funding requested |
|-----|----------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 8.4 | Kennet Community Transport | To form part of the deposit on a new community minibus | £5,000.00         |

8.4.1 Kennet Community Transport – Request £5,000.00 as part of the deposit towards a new community minibus.

8.4.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.4.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2012-17, p13 “help in old age” and p15 “support for LINK scheme provision” and “reliance on private transport creating an unsustainable carbon footprint”. The organisation’s vehicle is used to provide transport into Marlborough from the surrounding district for elderly and disabled people so they can attend the day centres in the town. It is the only organisation in the Marlborough Community Area that provides this service. It operates a fully accessible vehicle.

8.4.4. The lease on Kennet Community Transport’s current minibus expires in March 2013 and the organisation is looking for a replacement vehicle. The organisation aims to raise the deposit for a new minibus that will be more reliable, more fuel efficient and will continue to serve the community for years to come.

8.4.5. Kennet Community Transport is also making an application to Tidworth Area Board for a similar amount of funding. A decision on that application will be made on 21 January 2013.

8.4.6 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then Kennet Community Transport will only be able to put down a smaller deposit on the new vehicle. This will mean the leasing element will be larger, which will cost Kennet Community Transport more in the long term.

| Ref | Applicant              | Project proposal   | Funding requested |
|-----|------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 8.5 | Transition Marlborough | To develop publicity for a range of activities carried out by Transition Marlborough | £850.00           |

8.5.1 Transition Marlborough – Request £850.00 To develop publicity for a range of activities carried out by Transition Marlborough, including their regular community sales, thermal efficiency for residential properties such as improving household insulation, a series of public lectures and providing subsidies/bursaries for environmentally themed training courses.

8.5.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.5.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2012-17, p15 “inadequate public transport exacerbates rural isolation” and “reliance on private transport creating an unsustainable carbon footprint”. P23 “growing dependence on large food-mile products” and “lack of funding for environmental projects”. P25 “fuel poverty and domestic safety”. Although seen as an affluent area, Marlborough Community Area does suffer from poor public transport connections, fuel poverty, elements of rural isolation and contains one of Wiltshire’s most deprived areas (Indices of Multiple Deprivation, 2010). These different projects from Transition Marlborough aim to help alleviate some of these factors through awareness raising and other practical solutions.

8.5.4. Transition Marlborough is an increasingly active local environmental organisation that promotes a more sustainable and environmentally aware community. It runs a number of events and activities aiming to do this. Currently it is focusing on

improved public transport for residents and has been in discussion with Stagecoach buses and First Great Western trains, increasing energy awareness and is looking at bulk buying of fuels for the community in order to tackle fuel poverty and looking at the provision of more sustainable food sources for the community.

8.5.5 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then many of these small areas of work from Transition Marlborough may not go ahead. This may result in people who need this information the most missing out on important help through the advice on offer.

| Ref | Applicant                       | Project proposal  | Funding requested |
|-----|---------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 8.6 | Marlborough Chamber of Commerce | To install a digital CCTV system on Marlborough High Street | £5,000.00         |

8.6.1 Marlborough Chamber of Commerce – Request £5,000.00 To install a digital CCTV system covering the area of Marlborough High Street. This will operate 24 hours per day, seven days per week. The images recorded will be used by police to detect any crime or anti-social behaviour taking place in the area covered. The system will also give reassurance to residents and traders in the town.

8.6.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.6.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2012-17, p16 “Maintaining a vibrant and health High Street”. P25 “tackling anti-social behaviour” and “real crime levels perceived to be higher than statistics”. Marlborough is one of the few towns in Wiltshire without a CCTV system covering the centre and shopping areas of the town. This project aims to install a system so that problems can be addressed resulting in residents and traders feeling more secure.

8.6.4 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then installation of a CCTV system may not go ahead. If it does, it might need a greater proportion of funding from Marlborough Town Council creating a larger call on the town council’s reserves.

| Ref | Applicant                | Project proposal   | Funding requested |
|-----|--------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 8.7 | Kennet Valley Arts Trust | To develop a series of live broadcasts, shown in the Town hall, from arts venues elsewhere | £5,000.00         |

8.7.1 Kennet Valley Arts Trust (KVAT) – Request £5,000.00 To develop a series of performances, broadcast live from prestigious venues such as Covent Garden or the Bolshoi Ballet and shown to audiences in Marlborough Town Hall. This will involve new technology bringing the “feel” of the live performance to the Town Hall to be enjoyed by audiences.

8.7.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.7.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2012-17, p17 “lack of entertainment and cultural facilities”. P29 “creation of a viable / sustainable cinema in Marlborough”. As a result of their developing adult film programme at the Town Hall KVAT has identified that there is interest in increasing the diversity of what is offered. Showing live performances through broadcast technology is a way to bring world renowned cultural events direct to the Marlborough Community Area, without the expense of physically hosting it locally. Whilst this aspect will need to be developed, it could lead to themed evenings, ‘meal deals’ and links with other businesses from the Marlborough area, benefitting both residents and local traders.

8.7.4. This application shows a great deal of vision for arts and culture in the Marlborough Community Area. It is responding to a

8.7.5 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project then the opportunity to bring world class cultural performances “live” to Marlborough will be lost. Local residents wishing to see such performances will need to travel out of the community area to see them and similar shows.

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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| <b>Appendices:</b> | Appendix 1 grant application – The Greatwood Charity<br>Appendix 2 grant application – Marlborough Tennis Club<br>Appendix 3 grant application – Inside Out, Marlborough<br>Appendix 4 grant application – Kennet Community Transport<br>Appendix 5 grant application – Transition Marlborough, Marlborough<br>Appendix 6 grant application – Marlborough Chamber of Commerce<br>Appendix 7 grant application – Kennet Valley Arts Trust |
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